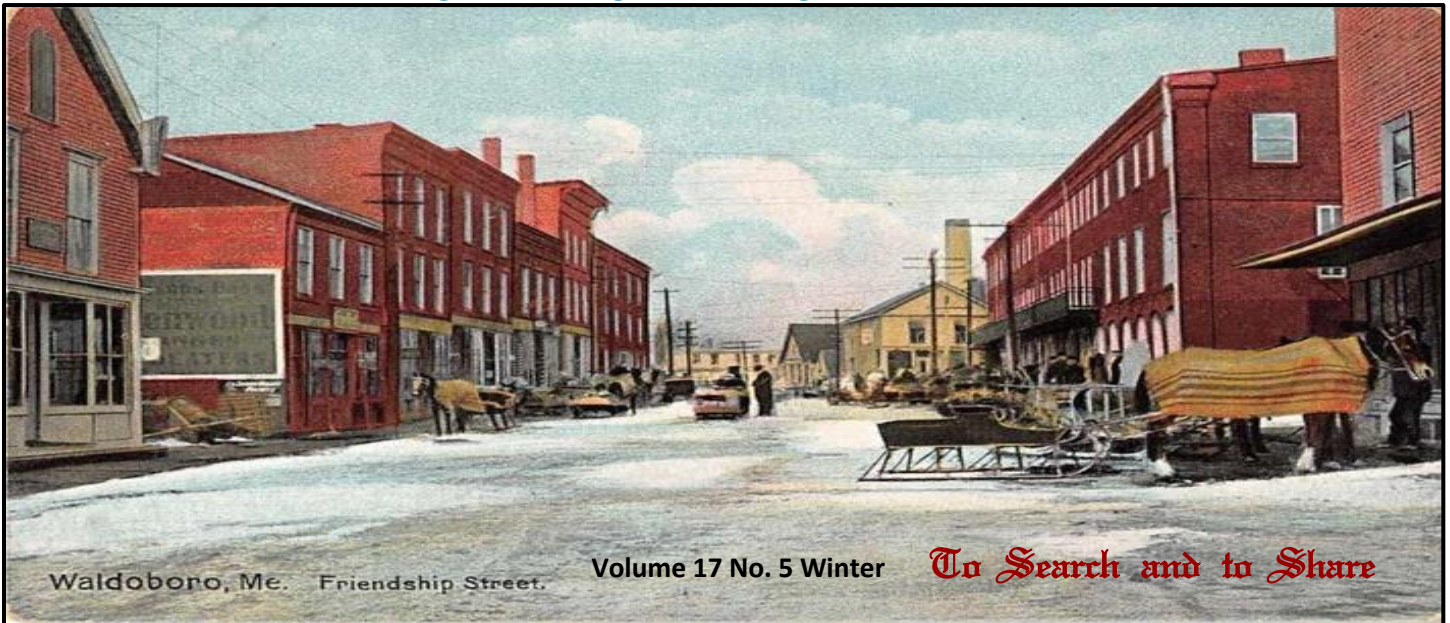


Old Broad Bay Family History Association Newsletter



Post Card – Printed in Germany by The Hugh C. Leighton Manufacturers, Portland, ME.

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Presidential Musings,

Welcome to the Winter Edition of the Old Broad Bay Family History Association's Newsletter. On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, allow me to wish you all a happy and healthy New Year. Winter arrived early in New England before the Winter Solstice with cold and snow. However, we have enjoyed very moderate weather since Christmas. In fact, as I write this, we are enjoying a January thaw with temperatures in the 60's. It won't last, but it gives us some brief relief from Winter weather and cuts down on our heating bills!

The loons that grace the lakes of Maine with their tuxedo-like plumage and mysterious calls spend their Winters immediately offshore in the ocean. Deirdre and I have been driving to the local beach to watch them bobbing in the waves of Plum Island Sound. Their Winter colors are muted and their calls are silent, yet the sight of them makes us anxious for the summer season in Maine, and what a season it will be. As I am sure you know, the year 2020 is the bicentennial year for Maine's statehood. Many celebrations are in the planning stage in Waldoboro and throughout the state. In the Spring edition of the newsletter I will share with you what our group is doing to celebrate the bicentennial.

Our annual meeting will be held on August 1st, 2020. I hope all of you can attend. If you are planning to come to Maine, I suggest you make your reservations as early as possible because there are several events in the area around the date of our meeting and reservations can become scarce. I have not finalized plans for a speaker and venue, but I will share

these details in the next newsletter.

A Y-DNA TEST: THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE, BUT FIRST IT WILL MAKE YOU MISERABLE!

DNA tests have certainly revolutionized genealogical research. While traditional documentary research is still the primary tool of researchers, DNA tests have broken down many brick walls for people, and I am one of them.

These revelations can be life changing and also bitter-sweet, presenting a host of personal dilemmas. As I researched the various lines of my family background, I made some interesting and fun discoveries. I was able to verify and expand on the oral histories of my various family lineages. I also discovered a Hessian soldier in Waldoboro, a patriot who served at Lexington-Concord and Bunker Hill, a great and a great-great grandfather from 19th century Ireland who “took the Queen’s shilling” and served in the British Army throughout the British Empire. However, my research into my Putnam lineage was always stymied by a mystery man, my great grandfather **Joseph Putnam**. The Putnam Family oral history I learned as a child was buttressed by heirlooms and some of my research. My only problem was my great grandfather’s information did not make any sense and I was unable to verify any important information (i.e. birth, death, parents) about him. Over the years I became suspicious that the sparse and contradictory information he left behind seemed to suggest that he was trying to conceal his true identity. When Y-DNA testing became available I readily jumped at the chance to break down my brick wall. If you are not acquainted with genetic genealogy, Y-DNA is DNA passed down exclusively to male heirs through the paternal line. When my Y-DNA results came back there was no one named Putnam who had a close or distant match with me. All of my close and long-distance matches were to males with the surname of **Rice**. I was surprised and a bit sad, but not shocked. My investigative doubts were validated, something or someone was not what they appeared to be.

As I continue my genealogical Journey I have been assisted by a member of the OBBFHA Board of Directors, **Dale Gunn**. Dale is also on the governing board of the **Edmund Rice Association**, a group of descendants of Edmund Rice, a 1638 immigrant to Massachusetts Bay Colony. I have made some progress in figuring out how a Rice became a Putnam, but I am not certain of anything as I write these lines. The dilemma I face is how to break this knowledge to my family. Many of my cousins and siblings are quite elderly and take a great pride in their Putnam lineage. Sharing this information would understandably shock and upset them. I think divulging it would be unnecessarily cruel and result in no good ending. I am sure the younger folk would be interested, but I fear they would share it with their elders. I guess I will keep things under my hat for a while as I decide how and when to share this information. As you continue on your genealogical journey let me warn you to wear your hardhat as you endeavor to break down your own genealogical brick walls, the bricks might land on you and they can hurt!

QUERIES:

Christopher Johnston wrote to me inquiring if any of our members could provide some information, anecdotes, pictures etc. of a piece of land at the end of Dutch Neck called Butter Point. Chris was wondering how the property came to be called Butter Point. Chris’ grandparents, Ken and Polly Cobb, purchased the property and buildings during the 1960’s. The house had formerly been the Butter Point Farm and Inn during the early days of the twentieth century. If any of our members have some information about Butter Point or the inn please contact Chris at christopherleejohnston@gmail.com.

In closing, I would like to thank Walter Ulmer for a very generous monetary donation. I would also like to thank members **Tracy Gross Ott**, **Anette Ruppel Rodriguez** and **Jean Lawrence** for contributing articles for the newsletter. We are lucky to have such gifted writers in our group! I strongly encourage every member to consider submitting an article, poem or picture to the newsletter. Pat and I can assist you with editing if you desire. As always, a special thanks to our editor Pat Kriso and her sisters, Becky Boyd and Carol Thompson, for covering all the costs associated with the printing and distribution of the newsletter.

KEEP ON SEARCHING AND SHARING!

Could you have German "Hessian" Roots in your Family Tree?

by Anette Ruppel Rodrigues

During the American Revolutionary War, Great Britain turned to different German principalities to fill the need for soldiers. This was a common practice and Great Britain and those German principalities had been allied during the Seven-Years-War, known in North America as the French & Indian War. Between 1776 and 1783, about 30,000 German troops fought alongside the British against the Americans. Since about 20,000 came from Hesse-Cassel and Hesse-Hanau, those German troops are generally called "Hessians". From 1782 – 1783, at Fort George on Penobscot Bay, in today's Castine, there were also so-called "Hessians" stationed - about 200 troops from Braunschweig (Brunswick) and about 200 troops from Ansbach-Bayreuth. But there were also others who came to Maine as prisoners of War and most decided to stay.

In addition to those German soldiers in the lists at the end of this article, there is a chance that more remained in the Broad Bay/Waldoboro region after July 1783. In a letter Captain Henrich Urban Cleve of the Braunschweig (Brunswick) troops wrote to his superior Major General von Riedesel in Quebec in answer to von Riedesel's suggestion Cleve send letters of amnesty to Broad Bay to any Braunschweig deserters if they come to Fort George:

"I have often considered sending emissaries to Broadbay and other places nearby where there are men of our corps with all types of documents of identifications and bring them back into my detachment. I could not dare this, however, nor did I want to. To tell the truth, most of these men are real scoundrels (according to Suthoff's report) who are no longer staunch patriots. They would probably just come by here and allow themselves to be accepted again into their corps only to make another desertion plot and again desert with 6 or more men.¹

The Suthoff Cleve mentioned is Heinrich Andreas Suthoff who presented himself to Cleve on December 16, 1782 and requested to rejoin a Braunschweig regiment in order to be able to return to Germany after the war. He had been taken prisoner on October 7, 1777 at Col. Breyman's camp.ⁱⁱ

The lists of deserters, or soldiers who had received permission to stay behind in North America, had been available at different presentations I gave over the years. I have not given up hope that more descendants can be found. As an example, I like to mention a request I received from a young Husson University student, Corey Herbest, in February 2018 – more than 20 years after I started searching. He found out that he is descended from a "Hessian" soldier who had been stationed at Fort George. The chances are very likely that his first Maine ancestor John Herbest of Albion is the son of **Johann Adam Herbst**, who had been missing from the Braunschweig troops by 22 May 1783. Aside from the soldiers who deserted from Fort George or may have received permission to stay in the summer of 1783, there are also some "Hessians" who found their way to Broad Bay/Waldoboro and surrounding towns after the several reverses in British warfare. (Bennington August 1777, Freeman's Farm September 1777, Saratoga October 1777). On October 4, 1777 Thomas Waterman of Broad Bay with Prince Gorham and Benjamin Crocker of Plymouth requested six men for the salt works to the Eastward.ⁱⁱⁱ This put the responsibility of feeding and housing the prisoners on the petitioner and removed it from the Commissary of Prisoner responsibility.

On October 17, 1777 the British General John Burgoyne capitulated with close to 6,000 troops, of those about 40% were troops from Hesse-Hanau and Brunswick. On October 25, 1777, John Martin Schaffer of Waldoboro petitioned the Commissary of Prisoners in Boston requesting three Hessians or Brunswick prisoners, one for himself, one for Thomas Waterman, Esq., and one for Captain Andrew Schench (Schenck). This being a common request he just needed to add that he wants them on the usual terms. The council directed the Commissary of

Prisoners “to deliver to John Martin Schaffer three German prisoners as soon as any shall be discharged from work on Governours Island to be employed as Servants – if they should consent thereto – said Schaffer engaging to support them and to allow them reasonable wages for their Labour and to return them when the Council of this State shall call for them & to pay the Expense of carrying them – The said Commissary to take a Receipt of the said Schaffer for that Purpose – In ^o Avery Dy Secy.” ³

The name associated with this transaction that Jasper Stahl lists is **Heinrich Isense (Henry Esancy or Isence or Esensa or Easinsy)** as being paroled to Andrew Schenck. Isence, a member of the Brunswick cavalry under Colonel Baum, was taken prisoner at Bennington, in New York State in August of 1777. He is listed in the 1790 census as **Easinsy, Henry**. There seemed to have been a lively trade in prisoners to the Waldoboro region. According to Jasper Stahl, **Andreas Suchfort (Sukeforth)** was paroled to Philip Robbins of Union, and **John Peter Walter** was paroled to General McCobb. But in the book “Broad Bay Pioneers”, Suchfort is listed as having been paroled to Andrew Schenck. ^{iv} In 1778, **Dr. John Godfrey** (possibly **Johannes Gottfried**) **Borneman** is also listed in “Broad Bay Pioneers” as having arrived as a prisoner of war having been surrendered by Burgoyne on October 17, 1777 at Saratoga. Stahl lists in passing on page 537 of Volume I of “History of Old Broad Bay and Waldoboro” three more Hessians without additional information as to where, when, or why they came to Waldoboro: **Krow (Krau or Krause), John Haendel** and **William Icholar**. ^v

Most of these paroled Hessian prisoners of war seemed to have had some impact on their new home, because different town histories devote space to them: Heinrich Isense (Henry Esensa, Henry Easinsy) and Andreas Suchfort (Andrew Sukeforth) are both listed in “History of the Town of Union” by John Langdon Sibley. Heinrich Isense is mentioned as working with his friend Andreas Andrew/Andrass Suchfort/Sukforth. The different spellings of Heinrich Isense's name fits in nicely with the German pronunciation that could be achieved by those different spellings since English is fond of the "silent e" at the end of words and German definitely wants to hear it pronounced. Dr. John Godfrey Bornemann was also a member of Burgoyne's Convention troops. He is listed as a medical officer, and in the year 1800 became one of the incorporators of the German Protestant Society in Waldoboro. **John Peter Walter (Walder or Walther)** who had been paroled to General McCobb was born in Braunschweig (Brunswick), Germany. He was well educated and spoke several languages. ^{vi} **Dr. Ernst Frederick Philip Theobald**, was born on December 2nd 1750 in Dörnigheim, near Frankfurt, Germany. ^{vii} Theobald had studied medicine and theology and graduated from the University of Göttingen in Germany. He was naturalized November 21, 1788. ^{viii}

Fortunately, there are online resources related to census data. An inquiry of Casey Twist, MLIS at Fogler Library at the University of Maine concerning the 1790 and other census gave the following online information: PDF version online through [census.gov](https://www.census.gov). Lincoln County where Waldoboro was located starts on page 32.

Link to head of households listed by town for 1790:

https://www.maineancestry.com/census_guide.asp?censusyear=1790&county=lincoln

Using Heinrich Isense as an example we find that he appears in the census under slightly different spelling and also in different locations:

In the 1790 Census he is Henry Easinsy living in Barretstown Plantation in Hancock County

In the 1800 Census he is Henry Easency living in Union, Lincoln County

In addition to the census records, the late Robert carver Brooks found a document in a British archive in which Heinrich Isense's name is listed in an account at Fort George April 24, 1780 among 18 "Dutchman from Broad Bay" "For work done in getting Lime Stone and Loading the Brig Molly Transport & Cutting Wood".

I look forward to hearing from others who discover that their ancestors came to the Waldoboro region as allies to the British Crown and decided to stay in the New World.

Anette Ruppel Rodrigues – unserM@aol.com or anette.rodrigues@maine.edu

Listing of Brunswick deserters: (compiled by Robert C. Brooks)

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Age:</u>	<u>Date deserted:</u>	<u>Future whereabouts:</u>
Müller, Joh. Ax.	25 y 5 mo	10 October 1782	
Müller, Andr.	20 y 7 mo	10 October 1782	
Schilling, Carl Chr. Ludwig	23 y 7 mo	26 October 1782	<i>He married Hanna Blagdon and settled in Maine. Other spelling of his name "Skilling".</i>
Kayser, Joh. Wilh.	23 y 10 mo	26 October 1782	
Hildebrand, Ands.	29 y 8 mo	26 October 1782	<i>received land grants in St. Andrews, and St. Stephen, New Brunswick</i>
Görsch, Joh. Andr.	25 y	3 March 1783	
Ahrend, Joh. Fr.	19 y	3 March 1783	
Wuth, Joh. Mich.	26 y	15 April 1783	

Listing of Brunswick deserters (from Lion G. Miles' list)

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Date deserted:</u>
Bartholomaei, Johannes	19 May 1783
Herbst, Adam	22 May 1783
Fricke, Johann Heinrich	27 May 1783

Brunswick soldiers who received discharges on 14 July 1783 (from Robert C. Brooks' list)

Dupenack, Carl	<i>received land grants in St. Andrews and St. Stephen, New Brunswick</i>
Ridchefskey, Wilhelm	
Ritter, Hieronymus	<i>received land grants in St. Andrews and St. Stephen, New Brunswick</i>
Scheel, Friedrich	
Gude, Georg (deserted 14 July 1783)	
Krähan, Christian (listed as deserted 19 July 1783)	
Guth, Friedrich (listed as deserted 22 July 1783, possibly wrong date as Brunswickers may have been at sea)	

Additional names Capt. Cleve mentioned in letters to his Duke:

*"Musketeers **Rosenhahn** and **Bogg** have incurred suspicion of having broken into Lieutenant von Anshield's quarters. ... I'm am willing to take the two scoundrels on board, but I shall send them back ashore as soon as possible and leave them to their own fate. These are both young fellows, one is a painter, the other a tailor; they can take care of themselves."*

Fort George, Penobscot April 24, 1783, Journal of JSHA, Vol 6, No. 4 page 63

*"A few days before embarkation, I have still seen myself compelled to chase from the detachment a bad scoundrel and very wicked arguer by the name of **Hummelmann** with a passport after having him run the gauntlet 12 times."*

Fort George, Penobscot July 17, 1783, Journal of JSHA, Vol 6, No. 4, page 67

Ansbach-Bayreuther listed as missing from Penobscot on May 1, 1783

(From List compiled by Robert C. Brooks)

Name:

Bramm/Pramm, Johann Baptist - Jäger *(May be the Bram who attempted to desert in Halifax, but returned there again?) [A.R.]*

Edel, Johann Conrad - Musician

Gemmel/Gömmel, Carl – Jäger

Gundling, Daniel – Jäger – Musician

Hyenne/Hyene, Johann Anton – Jäger

Reinhard, Carl Friedrich – Jäger

Schmalenberg, Peter – Jäger

Segeritz, Michael- Jäger

Steinrück/Steinreich, Michael – Jäger

Treu, Johann Carl – Jäger

Wagner, Johann Heinrich – Musician

Welt/Weld, Blasius – Jäger

*(Pleusus Welt listed in the 1790 Census at Broad Bay-Waldoboro)
David Putnam is one of his descendants.*

¹From Letter written by Capt. Henrich Urban Cleve to Major General von Riedesel, Fort George, 26 March 1783, Journal of the Johannes Schwalm Historical Association, Volume 7, number 1, 2001 pg.61.

²Supplement No. 1 of Cleve's letter to Duke Carl Wilhelm Ferdinand written at Fort George, Penobscot, Jan. 15, 1783, Journal of the Johannes Schwalm Historical Association, Volume 7, number 1, 2001 pg. 55

³ From the Records of Massachusetts Bay concerning Brunswick Army Prisoners from the Battle of Bennington. This compilation by Robert M. Webler appeared in "The HESSIANS: Journal of the Johannes Schwalm Historical Association, Vol 8, 2005, page 55

⁴ James Phinney Baxter, edited. *Documentary History of the State of Maine Vol. XV containing the Baxter Manuscripts* (Vol. XV Maine Historical Society, Portland LaFavor-Tower Company 1910) 266-267

⁵ Jasper Stahl lists biographical information about Dr. Theobald in his *History of Old Broad Bay and Waldoboro*, copyright 1956, which is reprinted almost word for word in *Broad Bay Pioneers* by Wilford W. Whitaker and Gary T. Horlacher, copyright 1998.

⁶ Wilford W. Whitaker and Gary T. Horlacher, *Broad Bay Pioneers - 18th Century German-Speaking Settlers of Present-Day Waldoboro, Maine* (Picton Press Rockport, Maine c. 1998) 603

⁷ Samuel Miller, *History of the Town of Waldoboro, Maine*, (Emmerson Printer, Wiscasset, 1910), 86

⁸The following information found in a class album in "History of Dresden, Maine", by Jonathan Bowman, Esq."Charles Edwin Allen, *History of Dresden, Maine*, (Kennebec Journal Print Shop, Augusta, Maine, 1931) 330 "I Philip Theobald, born 2nd day of December 1750 in Doernigheim, near Frankfort upon the Main River in Germany, was married to Sally Tittal, born 7th day of Feb. 1762 in Pownalborough, on the 22nd day of Feb. 1781, by Jonathan Bowman, Esq."Charles Edwin Allen, *History of Dresden, Maine*, (Kennebec Journal Print Shop, Augusta, Maine, 1931) 330



Happy Valentine's Day

Happy Presidents Day



Bertha's Gift

The daughter of Captain Smouse, who died so young
Bertha's heritage was sloops and trade.
She grew under her loving mother's care
And learned by heart the arts to run a home.

The family grew from four to ten in time
When lawyer Reed captured her mother's hand.
He built the famed mansion on the hill
And entertained there many political friends.

Within this seaport town, she lived and grew
And learned to love those who plowed the seas.
She also knew the men who harvested trees
And others who tilled the rugged land.

Her mother's wealth and the Colonel's political rise
Brought to the home visitors from far and wide.
She poured their tea and quietly sat by
And listened to the political statehood fight.

In 1819, called was the Constitutional Convention.
And though his party was not a favored one,
Stepfather Reed rode off to lay the State's foundation
And gain a place in history for himself.

Charged was the Colonel's group to create a seal.
And so ideas were shared for the time
When designs would be voted up or down
And a recommendation would come forth.

Bertha's needlework skills came to the Colonel's mind,
So he challenged her to create a seal
That clearly would have a political appeal
And win for him the applause and fame he desired.

She set her needle to work and with a flare
Place plowman and mariner beside a shield
Upon which a white pine and resting moose are seen.
Atop was placed the North Star and Latin word Dirigo.

With Bertha's needlework design in hand,
Reed's day was made when his submission won
Acceptance to become the new state's seal
And in years to come a place on the flag of Maine.

They say behind the success of many men
Are women supporting and adding their ideas.
Bertha's gift to maine, long overlooked,
Has stood time's tes for over a hundred years.



Present Day Flag



State Seal

To Whom it may concern: As has been my practice in previous submissions for competition, I do not wish to relinquish the
Ownership and license for my creative work to GFWC. Jean Lawrence February 27, 2019

This is a poem I wrote depicting the gift of Bertha Smouse: the design for the State of Maine Seal adopted in 1820 at the Constitutional Convention. The poem won First Prize in the GFWC Maine literary contest in May.

Since Maine is celebrating its **Bicentennial of Statehood** this year, the WHS is joining the commemoration Activities by giving a special presentation of Bertha, her work, and the politics of the day regarding Statehood and Waldoboro. This will be held in the Waldoboro Public Library at 1:30 P.M. on Saturday, March 14. It will be followed with a Community Supper also supported by the WHS and the local VFW Soule Shuman Post #4525, on Mill Street Waldoboro. The supper, open to the community, will be the traditional Baked Beans Saturday night supper with beverages, dessert and fixings. WHS plans to erect a sign of recognition for Betha's Gift on the old Reed Mansion site; hopefully, on Waldoboro Day, June 20. We are applying to the State for a grant to support the creation and erection of the sign. The State requires a show of support for grants, and we are appreciative of the OBBFHA, through its Board, the VFW and the Library for supporting our plans.

Since they were of the Smouse and Kinsell families, Bertha's parents were first generation children of original German settlers. Therefore, it seems appropriate that Bertha should be recognized within the town in which she was born and lived, and where she created the embroidery visual of the State Seal of Maine.

I wrote a longer article on Bertha and it was published in the Maine Memories Magazine for the State Capital Issue last November. Bertha is one of my favorite ladies from Waldoboro. Her husband, Dr. G. Brown built the house on the corner of Main and School Street (called Stahl's Tavern and now occupied by the Ted Wooster family) and they lived there before selling it. More than likely the land was originally a part of the Col. Reed holdings. Her husband's practice took them to several different places over the years; he is described by Dr. Jasper Stahl as a "medical rolling stone."

[Waldoboro's Role in Creation of State of Maine Seal](#)

by Jean Lawrence, president Waldoborough Historical Society

I was awakened on Wednesday, February 13, 2019 by a phone call from Bill Maxwell, vice president of the Waldoborough Historical Society. His call was to inform me that I needed to be on the telephone with Rick Tyler and George Hale of Station 101.3 Bangor to give information on Waldoboro's role in the creation of the State Seal presently on the State of Maine Flag. By this time, many readers of this article have listened to the almost 13 minutes of my response to Bill's request and the announcers' question: "How do you feel about changing the flag?" as well as the many responses by phone or on Face Book.

I have long supported the study of history, and I do not believe in the trend of "re-writing" history. Rather, as an educational supporter of the value of a humanities approach to learning, I believe that we need to look at the handprints of civilization on the walls of time and learn from them.

Waldoboro's Bertha Smouse designed the State Seal as a favor to her stepfather Col. Isaac G. Reed who was a delegate to the Maine Constitutional Convention. His party having been out of favor when the vote for statehood was taken, Reed was placed on a lesser committee: seal design. He asked Bertha, an accomplished needlewoman, to create a design for submission. Her design contains representations of a mariner and a farmer standing beside a pine tree under which is a moose. The North Star is above the word "Dirigo" (I lead, Latin). A banner with MAINE is at the bottom of the seal.

Reed took Bertha's design back to committee and when it was accepted for presentation and then adopted in 1820, he took the many congratulatory messages as his own. A man of political prowess and a Federalist (conservative/Tory), Reed, a lawyer who bragged that he "held the votes of his townspeople in his hand," enjoyed the fact that he had had a hand in the State's future, even if it was only a shield. For years, Bertha's contribution to our state flag officially adopted in 1909 and which has flown for the past 108 years with no amendment to it, has been a source of pride for those citizens of Waldoboro who have studied their local history.

Presently, Rep. Janice Cooper, Democrat from Yarmouth, has proposed that MRSA 206 State Flag be changed to an earlier design of a White Pine Tree with a blue North star on a buff background. The amendment proposal is now in committee. Various supporters of Rep. Cooper say that the present seal is generic, easily mistaken, looks too much like other state flags, and was influenced by the blue flags of the Maine militia who fought in the Civil War. Bethany Field, owner of the Maine Flag Company, found an earlier flag design and has done much to advertise the old design by making these flags to sell in her company. Another supporter tried in 1991 and again in 1997 to have the present flag changed but lost. Maine is only one of two states to have its own mariner flag. Adopted in 1939, it has a pine tree with an anchor around it and the word “Dirigo” above and can be identified from both sides when being flown at sea. This flag is close in design to the proposed flag.

Waldoboro citizens who would like to support keeping the State Flag as it has been since 1909 should bone up on this amendment and contact their legislators. Is such a change important enough for our State’s legislators to spend time debating what has already been defeated twice previously? Read the information that is presently being published and share your opinion with your elected officials.

Her proposal was defeated, and the flag that has flown for 110 years continues and the state seal is still on all state documents.

***Webinars and Podcasts and Blogs, Oh My!**

By Tracie Gross Ott

“Follow the yellow brick road!” “Follow the yellow brick road!” “Follow the yellow brick road!”

Most of us have watched the classic movie, “*The Wizard of Oz.*” ... Along their ever-challenging journey, Dorothy and her dog Toto encounter the Scarecrow, the Tin Man, and the Cowardly Lion. Each in need of something different; a way home, a brain, a heart, and courage respectively, granted *at a cost* by the powerful and wonderful Wizard, the expert.

I know this comparison might sound a bit “corny” but, do you ever feel yourself struggling with obstacles along the path? The experts who present these webinars and podcasts and blogs can grant you *free of charge* what you’re seeking in the comfort of your own home and on your own time.

The list below represents numerous opportunities I used for learning during 2019. Each offers *sign-up* using your email address and the majority provide the *search* feature. Check back for future offerings.

WEBINARS

1. AMERICAN ANCESTORS NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

(<https://www.americanancestors.org/education/online-classes>). *Since 1845, the New England Historic Genealogical Society [nation’s oldest] has been the country’s leading research center for genealogists and family historians of every skill level; with 25,000 members worldwide. Now, with its growing database collection, NEHGS is truly a national – and an international – resource for family history.*

Webinars are FREE and open to the public. Watch Archival: Expert Webinars, Lectures, and How-To Videos from NEHGS. (<https://www.americanancestors.org/education/learning-resources/watch>). **Register for a FREE Guest account** to watch select how-to videos, webinars and courses

. Examples:

- Jan. 16, 2020: “Boston Research and Records” David Allen Lambert.
- Dec. 19, 2019: “Using DNA Tools in American AncestREES” Tom Dreyer. American AncestREES is an online genealogy tree experience, offers several unique features including cutting-edge DNA tools.

- Oct. 24, 2019: “Finding Family History in Library Catalogs” Trenton Carls & Anne Meringolo. Libraries are teeming with published and unpublished resources about your ancestor’s life, localities, and family.

What's New at AmericanAncestors.org Webinar Series:

Stay up to date with what’s new at AmericanAncestors.org with this quarterly webinar series. Hear about new databases, search features, and resources only available at (americanancestors.org). **Thursdays:** January 9, April 9, July 9, 2020 @ 3:00 - 4:00 PM EST.

2. ROOTSTECH (<https://www.rootstech.org/>).

*Celebrating 10 years of RootsTech. Feb. 26-29, 2020 conference “Discover the Story of You” hosted by FamilySearch. Topics include DNA, Technology, Heirloom, LDS Resources, Census, and Genealogy. **You must create an account to access. Register or Log in** using your “FamilySearch account”*

Or, select "RootsTech account". For more info: (<https://www.rootstech.org/blog/10-reasons-to-attend-rootstech-2020>). The 2019 *FREE* LIVESTREAM schedule was posted at least two weeks prior to the conference. Each day six sessions were *streamed live* and *FREE to the public*. **Check back periodically to find the 2020 schedule.** Once the conference is over, recordings of these sessions will be posted on the RootsTech website for a *limited time* (generally until the next RootsTech conference). *Limited time - numerous timeframe exceptions:* **FREE VIDEO ARCHIVE - WATCH PAST SESSIONS** (<https://www.rootstech.org/video-archive>). Search by: Year (2015-2019) -and/or- Topic (video & blogs, 2017-2019).

* Title for the article thought of by Diane Young, October 4, 2019.

3. GERMANIC GENEALOGY SOCIETY (<https://ggsmn.org/>).

***FREE live-streaming monthly webinars are open to the public; attendance is limited.** Sign into the Webinar early. GGS (est. 1979) is a branch of the Minnesota Genealogical Society (1981), and offers information, educational opportunities, publications, and association with others researching German roots, including areas outside of the current borders of Germany. There are links to partnership organizations too. Our goal is to help you learn how to find and use records of your German-speaking ancestors. 2020 schedule has not been posted as of January 3, 2020.*

Examples:

- May 23, 2019: “Finding and Using German Church Records” Michael Lacopo. Learn to track down German church records (the proper parish), how to decipher them and how to overcome the fear of Old German script.
- Jan. 24, 2019: "The Palatine Immigrants – Tracing and Locating 18th Century German Immigrants Online" Luana Darby. (Intermediate, Advanced). Discover how to track your Palatine ancestors who traveled from Germany to the colonies in the 1700s, using techniques that will assist you in determining their place of origin. Use migration patterns of their family and friends to help you in your research. Learn more about online sources of original records for this area that you can research from home.
- Nov. 1, 2018: "From the Alps to the Rhine: Beginning Your Swiss Research" Daniel Jones, MS, AG. Discover the records available online for Switzerland, and other resources.

4.A. LEGACY FAMILY TREE (https://familytreewebinars.com/archived_webinars_free.php).

Different organizations (see 4.B.) and individuals provide and present the webinars, discussing a wide variety of topics in addition to, featuring genealogical research in countries outside of the United States.

2020 schedule in English: (<https://familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars-multireg.php>).

Examples:

- Jan. 15, 2020: “Vetting Published Genealogies for Research” Shannon Combs-Bennett.
- Feb. 19, 2020: “Newspapers for People of Color Genealogy Research” Nicka Smith.
- July 22, 2020: “50 More Websites Every Genealogist Should Know” Gena Philibert-Ortega.

4.B. BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION OF GENEALOGISTS (BCG) (<https://bcgcertification.org/>).

*Incorporated in 1964, BCG an independent, not-for-profit certifying body nationally and internationally recognized. Genealogical practice advances our understanding of history. BCG also promotes ethics and standards through skillbuilding lectures at national conferences, through seminars, and webinars. FREE Webinars Livestreaming in 2020. Register here. (<https://bcgcertification.org/bcg-2020-free-webinars/>). Monthly, 3rd Tuesday @ 8 PM ET. Unable to attend live? A recording is available **for the next 7 days** – **FREE**. NOTE: Partnership with Legacy Family Tree.*

Examples:

- May 19, 2020: “Discover the Holdings of German Archives” Teresa Steinkamp McMillin, CG.
- April 16, 2019: “Transcribing Documents: There Is More Than Meets the Eye!” LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson, J.D., LL.M., CG[®], CGLSM.
- March 19, 2019: “The Five-story Fall: Correlating Indirect and Direct Evidence to Extend the Pedigree” Debra S. Mieszala, CG[®].

5. U.S. STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY WEBSITES (JAN. 9, 2020).

Found surfing the “net” and word-of-mouth. You must pre-register to get the link to attend.

FREE Live-streaming and open to the public. Days & Times Vary. Check websites for future webinars.

CALIFORNIA-SOUTHERN (<http://www.scgsgenealogy.com/>). **Wed. Jan. 15:** “A Million Ways to Die in the Colonies: Death and Burial in Colonial America” Daniel Earl. Check back for future webinars.

CONNECTICUT (www.csginc.org). **Sat. Feb. 15:** “Dower and Dowry: Women, Property, and Legal Records” Judy G. Russell. Unable to attend the live presentation? A webinar link will be sent to those who pre-registered.

DELAWARE (<https://delgensoc.org/eventListings.php?nm=38>). **Sat. Jan. 25:** “Making the Most of Your DNA Matches with Ancestry” Diahan Southard. Live presentation via webinar. **FREE** and open to the public. **Must register to get the link.**

FLORIDA (<https://flsgs.org/>). Our next webinar will be on **Thursday, Jan. 16:** *Title & Subject Not Posted.*

FLORIDA – Villages G.S. (<https://vgsfl.org/eventListings.php?nm=117&page=1&nr=50&ec=29&tf=A>).

March 9 & Apr 6; May 11: “I Remember Mama – But Not Her Maiden Name” Mary Kircher Roddy, CG.

GEORGIA (www.gagensociety.org/events/webinars). **Thursday, Feb. 13:** Same as Connecticut on Feb. 15.

ILLINOIS (<https://ilgensoc.org/>) sponsored by FamilySearch. 2020 schedule *not* posted as of Jan. 3, 2020.

ILLINOIS, BOLINGBROOK (<https://fountaindalegenealogy.org/webinars/>). Fountaindale Public Library.

“Genealogy Day(s)” (2019, 2018, 2017, 2016) can be viewed and listened to on this website and via YouTube.

Examples: March 30, 2019: “DNA Uncensored” and March 19, 2018: “In Sickness, In Health, In Handwriting”. 2020 schedule *not* posted as of Jan. 3, 2020.

MINNESOTA (<https://mngs.org>). **Wed. Feb. 5:** “Skeletons in the Family Closet: Dealing with the Unexpected” Karen A. Fortin. Also see: Jan. 5, 2020: (<https://conferencekeeper.org/new-this-week/>).

UTAH (<https://ugagenealogy.org/eventListings.php?nm=565>). 2020 schedule *not* posted as of Jan. 3, 2020

WISCONSIN (<https://wsgs.org>). **2020 schedule.**

PODCASTS

1. BEN FRANKLIN'S WORLD (<https://www.benfranklinworld.com>).

Started in 2015. A [weekly] podcast about early American history. A show for people who love history and for those who want to know more about historical people and events that have impacted and shaped our present-day world. A podcast contains an interview with a guest historian and a time warp question.

Liz Covart: Holds a Ph.D. in History from the U. of California, Davis; the Digital Projects Editor for the Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture; a lover of history. **This program is taking a break and will be back after April 21, 2020.**

Examples:

- 2019. Episode 270: Jessica Millward. "Slavery & Freedom in Early Maryland" by Carlos DeSilva. How do you uncover the life of an enslaved person who left no paper trail?
- 2019. Episode 269: Michelle Marchetti Coughlin. "One Colonial Woman's World: Life of and Writings of Mehetabel Chandler Coit" [New London, CT] by Carlos DeSilva.
- 2018. Episode 161: [Fabrício Prado](#), [Christian Koot](#), and [Wim Klooster](#). "Smuggling and the American Revolution" Liz Covart.
- 2015. Episode 019: Kenneth Turino. "The Colonial Boston Marketplace" by Liz Covart.

Additional Ways to Listen: Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Google Podcasts, (www.benfranklinworld.com).

Highlighted In: 29 May 2015 Post. 19 Fantastic Podcasts for History Buffs by Whitney Matheson. (<https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/64415/pod-city-19-history-podcasts-delight-your-brain>).

2. EXTREME GENES (<https://extremegenes.com/>).

Started 2013. A source of information with great stories (and a touch of entertainment!) as you go about your journey to discover your ancestors. "America's Family History Show" airs weekly and one segment of the show highlights a blogger with expertise/interest in diverse topics from Preservation to French genealogy to Victorian-era and more! Features: Podcast Archive, Fisher's Top Tips (~ one minute), News Archives with link to read by clicking on blue font in article description.

Hosts: Scott Fisher, Producer & Editor: Has been in radio since his youth with 30 years as a "roots sleuth."

David Allen Lambert: Has been on the staff of the New England Historic Genealogical Society since 1993 [formerly Massachusetts Archives], and the Chief Genealogist for NEHGS and American Ancestors.

Tom Perry: Is Extreme Genes' "Preservation Authority" (TMCPlace.com).

Examples:

- Dec. 22, 2019. Episode 311: "Talking Seafarers: The Wives and Families of Pirates, Man Travels to Ports His Mariner Ancestors Went, Finding Your WWII Navy Ancestors' Records."
- Oct. 27, 2019. Episode 303: "The Story Author's Grandfather Never Told Him About Name Change, Murder, Escape/ Fisher Visits with Relative Race's Team Black."
- Sept. 8, 2019. Episode 298: "Creating Social Media Sites for Newfound Cousins/ Ask Us Anything on Navy Records/ Identifying the Unidentified in Photos."

Additional Ways to Listen: I-Tunes; iHeartRadio; TuneIn Radio; You Tube; ExtremeGenes.com; From your phone, download the free ExtremeGenes podcast app from your phone's store.

3. GENERATIONS CAFÉ PODCAST (<https://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/>).

Amy Johnson Crow: Holds a Masters' in Library and Information Science from Kent State University [Ohio]; has held a Certified Genealogist® credential since 1995; has worked at Ancestry.com; served as the series

editor for the National Genealogical Society Guides, published by Rutledge Hill Press; and was the co-author of *Online Roots* in that series.

Examples:

- Oct. 3, 2019. Episode 35: “Downsizing & Family History. How do you downsize or declutter and yet keep those things that are important to your family history?” (Preservation).
- May 10, 2019. Episode 28: “Using Mortality Schedules: An Overlooked Source for Genealogy. Mortality Schedules were supposed to record the deaths that occurred in that area in the 12 months prior to the official census date (1 June).” (Records).
- Sept. 26, 2018. Episode 4: “Why Your DNA Matches Aren’t Responding.” (DNA).

Additional Ways to Listen: Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, Stitcher, and most other podcast apps.

BLOGS

1. **VITA BREVIS** (<https://vitabrevis.americanancestors.org/>). **GENERATIO LONGA, VITA BREVIS**

Blog of the New England Historic Genealogical Society designed to offer the reader short essays by the Society’s expert staff (51) on their own research and news of the greater genealogical community.

Archives: Blog begins January 2014.

Examples:

- Sept. 9, 2019: “Signature in Stone” Jennica Bayne (Family Stories, Craftsman, North Carolina). Perforated soapstone, creating a lattice-like design called “pierced gravestones”.
- Sept. 6, 2019: “Following the Paper Trail [Series]: Northern New England [Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont]” Kyle Hurst. Not everything can be accessed online and “perhaps the key to the story can be found in manuscripts, [books] kept safe in *historical societies, archives, and libraries.*”
- March 4, 2019: “Error Fatigue” Alicia Crane Williams (American History, Genealogical Writing, Mayflower 2020, Critical Analysis Spotlight). “Trying to correct errors in print, only a small handful of people will ever read them or even know they exist ...”

2. **SPRINGBOARD** (<https://bcgcertification.org/springboard/>).

The blog for the Board for Certification of Genealogists. Archives Search feature by month.

NOTE: The posts below review the BCG Skillbuilding lectures presented at the National Genealogical Society’s 2019 Family History Conference held in St. Charles, Missouri from 08-11 May 2019.

Examples:

- Nov. 9, 2019: “Anatomy of a Case Study: Steps Used to Write for Yourself or for Publication,” Melinda Daffin Henningfield, MS, CG®.
- Nov. 2, 2019: “Indirect Evidence Overturns a Direct Evidence Conclusion: From Hypothesis to Published Article” Julie Potter Miller, CG®, CGLSM, FNGS.
- Oct. 26, 2019: “Tell Your Ancestor’s Story by Writing, Verifying, Documenting, and Sharing” Angela Packer McGhie, CG®.

3. **THE LEGAL GENEALOGIST** (<https://www.legalgenealogist.com/>).

To help others with legal concepts and terminology important to the study of family history.

Judy G. Russell, a genealogist with a law degree from Rutgers School of Law-Newark.

Examples:

- Jan. 3, 2020: “Looking ahead: 2020” Speaking engagements and webinars for 2020.
- Nov. 4, 2019: “When it’s Not Online” (Methodology, Resources). Digitized and available online represents only a *tiny fraction* of the genealogically relevant information located within all the libraries

and archives and repositories of the world. Read more ...What if travel is not an option? March 6, 2012: "Copyright and the Old Family Photo" (Copyright). **NOTE:** *Copyright Term and Public Domain* (<https://copyright.cornell.edu/publicdomain>) from Cornell University Library, Copyright Info Center, reference to in The Legal Genealogist, Post of March 19, 2012.

4. THE DNA GEEK (<https://thednageek.com/blog/>).

Everyone has the right to know their family history; that is our core philosophy.

Leah Larkin earned her Ph.D. in Biology, University of Texas-Austin. She has worked in both academia and scientific publishing and applies those research skills daily to solving genealogical questions using DNA. The blog archives begin Nov. 2016.

Examples:

- Nov. 16, 2019: "Timeline of Investigative Genetic Genealogy [IGG]". Lists key events in the evolution of IGG 2017 -2019, and its application of techniques to criminal investigations.
- Oct. 15, 2019: "AncestryHealth" (Medical Traits, NextGen Sequencing).
- Dec. 12, 2018: "The Pros & Cons of the Main DNA Testing Companies – 2018 Version" (DNA Testing).

5. THE GENETIC GENEALOGIST (<https://thegeneticgenealogist.com/>).

*The Genetic Genealogists examines the traditional genealogical techniques and modern genetic research. The blog [archives Feb. 2007-March 2019] also explores the latest news and developments in the related field of personal genomics. **NO recent blogs; still a great learning tool.** NEW! His Facebook Group "Genetic Genealogy Tips & Techniques"*

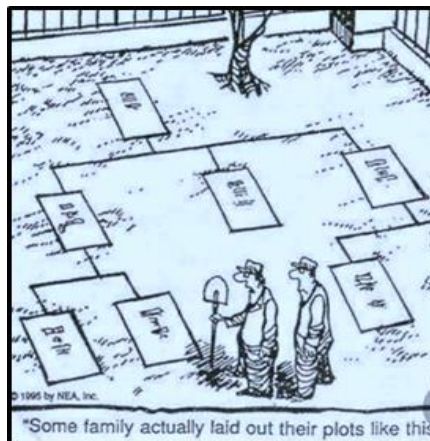
Blaine Bettinger, Ph.D., J.D., is a professional genealogist specializing in DNA evidence. He started the blog in 2007, one of the earliest on the topic. He is a graduate of ProGen Study Group 21.

Examples:

- March 25, 2019: "Putting the Milkman Joke to Rest"
- Nov. 19, 2018: "Testing Artifacts to Obtain DNA Evidence for Genealogical Research"
- Sept. 12, 2018: "AncestryDNA Revises Ethnicity Estimates"

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Submitted by Jean Lawrence



OBBFHA Web Links and Contacts:

The Old Broad Bay Family History Association, on the web at: www.obbfha.org

Editorial comments & queries to pmkriso@gmail.com

Visti the OBBFHA Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/wasdoboromaineancestors>



Old Broad Bay Family History Association

To Search and To Share

Membership Application or Renewal

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

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