

# Old Broad Bay Bund und Blatt

A Newsletter About the German Colony

Established at Broad Bay, Maine  
1740 - 1753

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**Premier Issue**

## **Broad Bay Roots Project Announced**

W. W. "Will" Whitaker, an experienced genealogist of over 30 years of American and English research, and Gary Horlacher, a graduate student of Linguistics and German and Scandinavian studies, announced a joint effort to research the Old World Roots of the nearly 150 families that made up the German emigrants to Waldo's Patent at Old Broad Bay (Waldoboro). Using the masterful study of Old Broad Bay by J. J. Stahl as a starting point, these two intrepid researchers will combine their expertise in American and European research and attempt to trace the German (and Swiss and French) origins of these families, through the first two generations in America. Gary, using the records available in the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, will search out the German (and other) origins of these families, using microfilm records of the original church and parish registers of their home towns and villages. Will, by

researching available North American documents relating to these families and this area, will help clarify the first two generations in America. This combination will give a more complete history and genealogy of these important emigrant ancestors.

It is hoped that through advertising and a regularly published newsletter, we will be able to contact descendants of these families who will be able to shed more light on these early generations.

It is hoped that the costs of this project will be met by individuals ordering research to be done in Europe, in America and by contributions and grants.

And we hope to be able to exchange much information with interested individuals.

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## Would you buy a used car from this gentleman?



Colonel Samuel Waldo  
Our Hardy Ancestors Trusted  
Him With Their Very Lives!  
**Broad Bay Broad Side**

"A short description of the Province of Massachusetts Bay in New England, especially of the tract of land on Broad Bay belonging to the Imperial British Colonel, Samuel Waldo, Hereditary Lord of Broad Bay, along with the principal conditions under which foreign Protestants may settle there. Speyer and available in the Gotselcher Printing House. 1741."

Then follows a general description of the English colonies in North America, the Province of Massachusetts Bay, Boston and lastly, Broad Bay.

"Game also is most plentiful in these

forest and the streams abound in fish. Everyone is allowed to hunt and fish."

"The climate here, ..., is very healthful and the soil extremely fruitful and yields all kinds of produce as in Germany, ...."

Interested individuals are asked to contact Sebastian Zuberbuhler, who "may be found at the Inn of the Golden Lion in Speyer ...."

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

#### 1. Protestants of the Palatinate:

- A. Complete and sign written articles and contracts.
- B. Deposit 5 imperial crowns for each adult and the half for each person under 14 years of age.

#### 2. Report in Rotterdam:

- A. Waldo will have a ship in readiness:
  - 1. Waldo to pay L 30 sterling as demurrage
  - 2. Palatinates to pay L 15 sterling as demurrage.

#### 3. Waldo will build at Broad Bay:

- A. Two houses for their domiciling
  - 1. each to be 35 feet square and 2 stories high - each L 100 sterling
  - B. Likewise a Church L 200 sterling
- 4. Waldo will, at his expense, settle in the Colony:

- A. an engineer or surveyor L 100 sterling per year
  - B. Physician or Surgeon L 100 sterling for five years
  - C. Preacher L 70 Sterling for 10 years
  - D. School Master L 30 sterling 10 years
5. Waldo will lay out land for a city and
- A. reserve to each family 1/4 morgan or acre of ground, and,

- 1. 60 thousand morgans adjoining the city, and,
- 2. 50 morgans to each settler at 2 shillings & 1/2 pence per morgan, 3 years.

(Continued next issue)

# An Intriguing 18th Century Mystery

In the early traditions of Broad Bay and St. Georges, there is a persistent rumor of an early colony that existed for a short time, homes were built, land was cleared, and farms were started, and then, inexplicably, the settlers vanished, apparently without a trace. Early stories tell of the early hunters coming upon a group of cabins, well-kept and substantial, standing empty, as if the occupants had just left for a short visit to their neighbors. But no human occupants were to be found. This is intriguing in itself.

Dr. Stahl makes a pretty good case of a German (Swiss) colony at Broad Bay as early as 19 Feb 1740, but in any case they are gone by 1742. Where they went is conjecture, but Dr. Stahl suggests that they may have joined relatives and neighbors in the Carolinas.

In connection with this "lost colony", let us examine the HYLER family for a moment. In Germany, Bernhardt Heyler and his brother applied for permission to leave "for New England" in 1737. After this date, Bernhardt and his large family disappear from view, but his brother Conrad and his large family remain in Woessingen until 1742, when they join the contingent from Baden-Durlach and travel down the Neckar and Rhine rivers to Rotterdam.

The Hylers were one generation in Germany, the father coming from Odenhoff, near Neftenbach, Zurich, Switzerland. Is it possible that in these Hyler families we may find a clue to the

"lost colony"? The father, Bernhardt Hyler, left Odenhoff in the 1690's and settled in Unter Wossingen, near Durrenbuchig, Baden, Germany. There his children married and had children until most of them had moved to "New England". We find some of the Hyler children in other migrations, at various times.

Barbara Ann Hyler married in Broad Bay to Matthias Riess, who died soon after his marriage and she next shows up in Pennsylvania married to Melchoir Fischer.

Adam Hyler, son of Bernhard, marries in 1742 and 3 days later, leaves with his new bride, "to Pennsylvania".

Another of the Hylers marries into the Loblin family and appears in the Pennsylvania records.

Conrad Hyler and his grown son Joachim Jacob appear in the Broad Bay area by 1742 and with Conrad came his family by his 2nd wife, including Priscilla (who will later marry Major Haunce Robinson of Cushing), and the infant Simon Hyler (who will later marry Nancy Handley and settle in Cushing).

From these examples, we know that the spirit of emigration was strong in this family. Could that same spirit have influenced Bernhardt Hyler to join with fellow Swiss emigrants in an earlier migration to Broad Bay? We hope to find the answers as we travel this exciting road of family history and discovery.

# **Broad Bay Roots Project**

Gary and Will are very excited about this project. It has been, and promises to be a lot of work, but we have already met a number of people who are also very interested in this project and who have been very helpful and encouraging to us.

We express appreciation to David C. Grindell who has shared with us the results of his extensive research on these Broad Bay German families and has steered us away from some pitfalls and has opened up other areas of research.

It is hoped that we can become a clearing house for all interested in these intrepid pioneers, who carved a civilization out of the wildest of conditions, under the most trying of circumstances. I have often thought of those brave, undaunted women, working besides their men, in many cases widowed, raising their children to be God-fearing, hard-working men and women, who are mostly unsung and unremembered.

## **250th Year Reunion**

It has occurred to us that next summer will be the two hundred fifty anniversary of the first known arrival of German colonists to Old Broad Bay. Would there be any interest out there in holding a **Reunion** of Old Broad Bay Descendants? Let us hear from you if you are interested. Will is particularly interested because that is the year that his Hyler family appeared in Broad Bay. We would need to hear from a few interested individuals in the Broad Bay area who would be willing to work together on this.

## **Old Broad Bay Clearing House**

W. W. "Will" Whitaker  
6094 South Glenoaks Drive  
Murray, UT 84107  
801-263-0432

Gary Horlacher  
1296 W. Gillespie Ave.  
Salt Lake City, UT 84104  
(801) 596-7858

## **Contributions Gratefully Accepted**

## **We also want to exchange data about our Ancestors.**

16 Nov 1991  
6094 So. Glenoaks Drive  
Murray, UTah 84127  
(801) 263-0432

Greetings to all our interested Correspondents:

It has been Interesting and Exciting to hear from all of you. Thank you for writing to us and letting us know of your interest in our project.

Actually, we started this with the most humble of intentions. I wanted to know more about my HYLER ancestors from Hylers' Cove in Cushing, Maine, who had intermarried with the ROBINSON family, also of Cushing.

A great deal of family and historical data had been gathered on the HYLER family, but I was seriously lacking definite family connections, and hadn't been able to go back any further than Jacob Hyler of Cushing, Priscilla Hyler of Cushing, and Simeon Hyler of Cushing.

Then I found a deed that mentioned that Jacob Hyler was from Broad Bay before 1760 and I knew that I would have to expand my search. Which led me to J. J. Stahl and his fine history of Old Broad Bay and Waldoboro.

There I found that one "Joachim Hyler and his grown son Conrad" were in the migration of 1742, so I extracted all the data from Stahl's book that I could that referred to the 1742 exodus, including families and their supposed places of origin in Germany.

From that I made up a map of the Rhine and Neckar river areas in Baden and Wuerttenburg districts in Germany. I

took that into the European section of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. They said that they thought I had enough information to find my HYLER ancestors in Germany, but that it may take a lot of research to find them.

There I was introduced to a young researcher who had prepared himself quite well in Scandinavian and German research by the name of Gary Horlacher. Gary said he was interested in this area of Germany as he also had a Horlacher family from there and suggested that we start out by making an area search by picking a central village and then check the parish registers from there outward.

We are quite fortunate in having microfilms of many of the parish records (both Protestant and Catholic) from this area, and Gary started his research. I looked at these old records written in old German and could not make out one word from them, but Gary rattled them off quite quickly. (Most of the time). We assumed that these families were Protestant because Col. Samuel Waldo advertised for "Protestant" families to come to New England and settle on his patent. That eliminated quite a few of the Churches and we were able to concentrate on the "Reformed" and "Lutheran" Churches in the area.

Imagine my surprise when, a few days later, Gary called me and, rather breathlessly, told me that he had found our Priscilla Hyler in Germany. (It so happened that he had found her sister Brisca who died quite young,) but then he also found our Prisca Hyler, her birthdate and her father and mother and brothers and sisters. We were thrilled to think that we could make this connection across the ocean.

One of the reasons I was interested in this German connection was that I knew I would be going to Europe last summer on an extended tour of three weeks and then I wanted to spend another ten days and visit the towns and villages of my German (and as it turned out, Swiss, ancestors). Thus, it was doubly interesting to me that I would be able to get to the exact village from whence these hardy ancestors had come.

I began to spend as much time in the Family History Library as I could, and began to learn to read the old German script, at least enough to pick out the Hyler name when I found it in the various scripts of the clergymen of that era. I had had a great deal of experience in reading old English records, back into the late 1500's and could even read the "new Latin" (after about 1620), but had difficulty reading the Latin before that time.

Gary was very helpful and helped me a great deal as I struggled with the old script. It was interesting and educational, but I will let him do the German research, while I concentrate on the first two or three generations in America.

Gary called me a couple of weeks later and told me that he had traced the HYLER family (HEYLER, then HEILER) back into Switzerland to a small village several miles north of Zurich. We have since traced the Hyler family back to the late 1500's in this area, and with their various marriages and intermarriages, we have many names and families from several villages north of Zurich.

We found that the "Joachim and Conrad Hyler" that appear in Broad Bay were

really Conrad Hyler and his grown son Joachim Jacob (who is the Jacob of Broad Bay and Hylers' Cove of Cushing. His sister Priscilla (Prisca) married Major Haunce Robinson (son of Dr. Moses Robinson) and his brother Johannes Simon is the Simon (Simeon) Hyler of Cushing who married Nancy Handley of Cushing.

Well, you would think that we would have left well enough alone. I had accomplished what I had started out to do. We had traced my HYLER ancestors to their homes in Germany and Switzerland. But I wasn't through yet. I still needed some close relationships in Maine of the Hyler family.

By this time, we had gathered a great deal of data, not only on our HYLER family, but on many of the German families from Old Broad Bay. Now Gary is the young, energetic one (and I ought to know better) but he suggested to me one day, "Why don't we undertake the project of finding the German roots of all the Broad Bay families?" I probably wasn't listening too well and I grunted in assent and nodded my head "Yes".

Since then we have invested in most of the history books and family histories that have been readily available to us and to our book finders in Maine. I have searched (or am searching) census records, deeds, probate, vital records and other pertinent records of this area. It may interest you to know that I have personally read every page of the probate records of Lincoln County, from Volumes 1 through 35. At the time I did that, I wasn't particularly interested in the Waldoboro families, but I find that I took notes of most of the probate records that I found that related to Waldoboro

families, particularly their wills.

Now, I have been overly long in giving this background information, because I hope to become better acquainted with all of you, and I thought that you should know that we are extremely interested in this project and we are serious about it.

We are hoping that we will get enough interest in the German research part of the project that we will be able to pay our expenses (and keep Gary working, because he is a poor, struggling college student!) So, your research orders will be greatly appreciated. Also, any contributions you may choose to make.

As for my part, I hope to be able to exchange enough information with each of you to finally put these families to rest, with a fairly complete genealogy on each of them. We have already had good success with some of the families and we realize that for some families we may never get very much data. For example, we have already found one parish in Germany where the early records were burned (1752) and, even though the minister made great effort to restore the records from memory, parishioners and civil records, those records are hopelessly lost.

We are in touch with David C. Grindell, who has done such marvelous research on the Waldoboro German family names, and has been most helpful and has encouraged us in this project. Several of you have been most helpful and have offered suggestions, names of researchers, books, and other areas of research that could be undertaken.

As I see this project, we could become a clearing house for information on the

Old Broad Bay German families, including areas in Massachusetts (Ashburnham, Braintree, Boston, etc.), Nova Scotia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and the Moravian settlements in North Carolina, where we could gather into one place all the diverse and massive amount of data available on these families.

There are much closer connections, I am certain, within and between these areas that one would imagine at first look. For example, we have an Adam Hyler that marries in Germany and "left 3 days after marriage to Philadelphia by Heidelberg". This Adam then arrives in Philadelphia on ship St. Andrew, Capt. Robert Brown, 7 Oct 1743. He later appears in New Jersey!

We have found several other names that belong to the Broad Bay area although they were not so specified by Stahl. For example, it appears that the name Studley has a German origin, and a connection to the Anton (Antoni) family!



*"Good news, Mr. Vanderfirth. We've traced your lineage back to a woman who lived in East Africa two hundred thousand years ago."*

### OLD BROAD BAY ROOTS

Achorn (Eichorn), Air (Lehr), Anton (Antoni), Bauzer, Beckler, Benner, Bornemann, Bornheimer, Brotmann (Broadman), Burkhardt (Burkett), David, Deis, Demuth, Dickendorff, Dochtermann (Tochtermann), Doerfler, Dohlheim (Dolheim), Edel, Eisele (Eisley, Isley), Eugley (Uekler), Feilhauer, Feiltreu (Feilhauer?), Feyler, Genthner, Getsinger, Gross, Hamburg (Haburg), Hahn, Handel, Haupt (Hopp), Haus, Huber (Heavener), Heidenheim, Heiler (Heyler, Hyler), Hein, Heisler, Heyer, Hild (Hilt), Hoch, Hoffses, Holzapfel, Horn, Icholar, Jung, Kubler (Keebler), Kuhler (Kohler, Kaler), Kastner (Castner), Keizer, Kesler, Kuntzel (Kintzel), Klein (Cline), Klaus (Claus), Koehler (Kaler), Kammerer (Comery), Kraus, Kramer (Creamer), Kroehn, Kuhn (Cone), Labe, Lagenauer, Losch (Lash), Lauer (Lawry, Lowry), Lehr (Leaper), Loblin (Lepley), Leissner, Levensaler, Leicht (Light, Bucd, Buch, Chab), Lange (Long), Ludwig, Martin, Matchloff, Mellen, Muller (Miller), Mink (Mank, Monck), Neuhaus (Newhouse), Neubert (Newbert), Orph (Orff), Oberlach (Overlock), Procht (Prock), Ramrer, Razor (Reisser), Reid (Ried), Refuse (Rehfuss), Reisaus, Reitter, Remily, Roth (Rode, Rhodes), Rinner, Remily, Rominger, Sargers, Schaffer, Schenck, Schmidt (Smith), Schneider (Snyder, Snider), Schonemann, Schumacher, Schurz, Schwartz (Black), Schweier, Sechrist (Seichrist), Seiter (Seiders), Schumann (Shuman), Sidelinger, Sidensparker (Seitensberger), Seitz (Sides), Seiler (Siler), Schmaus (Smouse), Schaudaal (Snowdeal), Soelle (Cilley), Stahl (Stall, Stole, Steel), Stein, Stilke, Storer (Stoerer, Stoehrer), Steuley (Studley), Suchfort (Sukeforth), Toziner, Treupel, Ulmer, Unbehend (Umberhine), Verner (Warner, Vannah), Vogler (Fogler), Wagner, Walch (Walck), Wallis, Wallizer (Wallis, Wallace), Walter, Waltz (Woltz), Weber (Weaver), Weller, Welt, Weyl, Willard, Winchenbach (Wincapaw, Wink), Wohlfahrt, Wolsgrover, Zuberbuhler.

We need family histories, family group sheets, definite connections, bible records, pictures, etc. Isn't this fun?!

Sincerely, *I would be most interested in hearing about you Hoffses Project.* W. W. "Will" Whitaker  
*Will W.*