

Old Broad Bay Family History Association Newsletter

Volume 14 No. 1 Winter 2016

To Search and To Share

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President's Musings

By David Putnam

Hello Dear Friends, I hope you all had an enjoyable Holiday Season! Here in New England we experienced unusually balmy weather throughout Christmas week. However, as New Year approaches we have seen our first significant snowfall with cold and icy conditions. Old man winter has reminded us that he is still in charge. As the old Yankees used to say, "As the days lengthen, the cold strengthens."

I regret to inform all of you of the death of long time member Leslie Thompson of Rhode Island. Les' wife Portia wrote to me to say that Les passed away on 5 September 2015. Les was descended from several Waldoboro families and attended several of our annual meetings over the years. On behalf of the entire OBBFHA I expressed our condolences to Portia.

Mrs. Jean Lawrence, Waldoboro's Unofficial Ambassador To The World, has once again been instrumental in bringing in a new member. Ms. Jane Ordway Carman of California visited Waldoboro last fall and Jean was able to direct her to some local sites and provide some background information. Ms. Carman is a descendant of the Welt, Benner, Cushman and Nash Families. She sent in her membership application and I was able to provide her with some information about the Welt Family of Waldoboro. She was very pleased and excited to receive the information and to become a member. This is not the first time Jean Lawrence has recruited a new member and I want to thank her for her efforts. Jean is the President of the Waldoboro Historical Society, as well as a member of our Board of Directors, and she is always alerting interested people to the existence of our group.

I would also like to welcome some other new members to our group: Ms. Carol Thompson of North Carolina (descendant of the Creamer Family), Ms. Kathleen McCracken of Virginia (descendant of Andreas Suchfort, Johannes Newbert, Johann Wilhelm Muller), and Mr. Kenneth Winchenbach of Maine (descendant of the Winchenbach Family). Please contact me if you have any questions about our group or a research matter. Welcome to you all, I think you will enjoy our group and we hope to meet all of you at one of our annual meetings!

I am continually amazed at the amount of genealogical material that is uploaded onto various internet sites. Today I read on the **Vita Brevis** blog, put out by the **New England Historic Genealogical Society**, about a new website sponsored by the Maine Registers of Deeds Association, The Official Land Records Website, **maineregistryofdeeds.com**. This website will eventually offer copies of all land transactions from the 18



County Registries of Maine from colonial time to the present. There is a separate search engine for each county and some counties have not uploaded all their information as of yet. This is a site to monitor as more information is uploaded!

http://vita-brevis.org/2015/12/maine-deeds-online-rich-resource/?utm_source=twgnewsletter&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=twg773

Another new website that is a treasure trove of information is **Newspapers.com**. I came across this website while doing research on another project and it is an invaluable tool for genealogical research. The site is uploading more newspapers all the time and currently features over 3,700 newspapers from around the world. I was able to find the engagement announcements, with pictures, for my wife's grandparents. Naturally, I looked to see what Maine newspapers are featured on the site. The only Maine newspapers from the 19th century currently featured are the Bangor Daily Whig and Courier, 1832 through 1900, and the Bangor Whig Courier, 1893-1894. (There are other Maine newspapers featured on the site, but they are from the 20th century after 1949.) I entered the words "Maine" and "Waldoboro" into the search engine for the Bangor Whig and Courier and came across 1486 matches spanning the years 1832 through 1900. Some merely the mention of the Town of Waldoboro or identify someone as being from the town. However, I also got a few surprises as I read the various articles about life in Waldoboro during the 1800's. I will share a few articles with you. I will use initials for the last names of the people involved in some of the more infamous or tragic stories. As they say in the old movies, "there are eight million stories in the naked city," here are eight of them.

27 April 1857: *"On the 19th of March Mr. Charles Havener of Waldoboro died aged 97. He was a revolutionary soldier, and was engaged in the battles of Stillwater, Monmouth and Trenton. He also witnessed the surrender of Burgoyne."*

8 November 1869: *"The Bath Times records the following queer divorce case. Elizabeth M., libellant v. Henry M. The above named parties live in Waldoboro, and are upwards of 70 years of age. They have lived together for 47 years, and are the parents of 24 children. Cause is cruelty and desertion."*

21 August 1879: *"CAPTURED! Alexander S., who escaped from the State Prison, has been recaptured in Gorchen woods, Waldoboro, about eight miles west of Thomaston. He was captured by Daniel Hoffses and Louis Mank, who had been searching for him. He had changed his prison suit for citizen's clothes, which had been furnished him by parties in Cushing. He was taken back to prison, and will not be given an opportunity to affect another escape."*

2 November 1886: *"Lincoln County. Mrs. Josiah Sidelinger, of North Waldoboro, who lost an only son, but fifteen years of age when he enlisted in the army, has received a pension and arrearages to the amount of over \$2000."*

*Another fine specimen of Waldoboro marine architecture was launched, Thursday, from the yard of George L. Welt & Co. This vessel was a four-masted schooner, the first of this rig built in Waldoboro. She is named the **Isiah Hart**, for one of her owners. Her dimensions are as follows: length of keel 171 feet, 3 inches; breadth of beam 35 feet, 6 inches; depth of hold 20 feet.*

15 August 1888: *Sunday afternoon, Dr. S. C. Gordon of Portland, assisted by Drs. Sanborn, Eveleth and Alden of Waldoboro, and Parsons of Damariscotta, removed a tumor from Mrs. Cyrus Welt of Waldoboro, who has been a sufferer for several years. The tumor weighed sixty-eight pounds. The operation was successful and the patient is doing well as could be expected.*

14 June 1893: *"FIRE IN WALDOBORO. TEN BUILDINGS BURNED-LOSS \$50,000 to \$75,000. Waldoboro, June 13. A disastrous fire raged in this village last night, breaking out about 8 o'clock and continuing till past midnight. Everything was swept clean, from the Medomak House to the John Sides place, including Willitts furniture warehouse and Glidden & Achorn's building. Ten buildings in all were burned, including the hotel, houses and stores. The section burned is on cross streets back of the main thoroughfare. The Tibbetts & Fish block, the largest in town, was not damaged. "*

18 November 1896: MURDER TRIAL-THE PROSECUTION RESTS AND THE DEFENSE OPENS. (third paragraph) *“Herman B. Welt, the boy who first found Moore, testified that he went to bed that night about 8 or 9 o’clock. Next morning went to build a fire in the kitchen, emptied the ashes in the rear of the hotel and found Moore’s body. Called Rogers and Brackett and went for a doctor. “*

I found this last story intriguing because Herman Welt was my great grandfather! I have heard many stories about his life, but never anything about him testifying in a murder trial. I was also struck that he was living and working at the Exchange Hotel in Waldoboro in September of 1891 when he found the body of a murder victim. He was only 17 years of age at the time and had many family members living in town. Why was he living in a hotel? He moved to Lynn, MA sometime within the next few years. It is quite remarkable what you can find out about your family just by scanning the old newspapers.

QUERIES

We received the following queries on our facebook page. Please respond if you have any information for these ladies.

Marilyn Sawyer: Does anyone have information on brothers Peter and George Light who owned a schooner around the time of the Revolution? I believe they were loyalist. Thank you.

Judith Trowbridge Schlicker: I have discovered that I am descended from three families of the Old Broad Bay area; Volger, Hein, Sietz and possibly Gabriel. The first three families moved to Stokes NC. Does anyone know why they moved to NC? Did it have something to do with the Moravian faith? The daughter married a Davis and moved to Washington County IN.

Responses can be sent to the OBBFHA Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/waldoboromaineancestors> or forward to me at dputnam925@msn.com.

The OBBFHA received this nice thank you from Adam Seiders 12/7/15:

My sister and I made it out to the Meeting House Cove Church and Cemetery this weekend and loved what we found. I appreciate all who have helped preserve this site and continue to make an effort. Most of our family lives in Texas now and have since Edward Seiders made his journey down from Maine.

*Thank you,
Adam Seiders*

The original related article: Meeting House Cove Cemetery Restoration by Ruth Riopell
New Series, vol. 10, no. 4, Fall 2013

OBBFHA has proudly taken on the project of clearing and restoring the site of the Meeting House Cove church and cemetery (c. 1762) on the Dutch Neck Road in Waldoboro. This area was the home of the second Lutheran German Protestant Church prior to the German church which stands today. The church was a log cabin with an adjoining cemetery. It is unknown how many graves are there and most stones have either fallen to the ground or were taken many years ago. The two stones of Cornelius Seiders & Elizabeth Leissner Seiders remain, but are in bad shape. We are in the process of getting those repaired and up-righted. Work will continue in the spring and summer with erecting a sign on the site and searching for more stones. Please respect the fact the cemetery is on private property. Photos will be posted on the OBBFHA website in the near future.

Web Links and Contacts:

The Old Broad Bay Family History Association, on the web at: www.rootsweb.com/~meobbfha/

Editorial comments & queries to pmkriso@gmail.com

Visit the OBBFHA Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/waldoboromaineancestors>



February 14th

Our German Holidays by Ralf Lorenzen

It's nice to reflect on the traditions that make (the December) holidays special to our family. These special events help focus our attention on meaning of the days and show caring and love for one another. A thoughtful conversation, warm smile, gentle touch, a nice fire, and the smell of someone peeling a tangerine are what I remember most.

Nikolaus – December 6th was a special day. Nikolaus was coming! All the children would polish their shoes and place them at the foot of their bed. If you had been good the past year, a treat was what you could expect. But, if you had been naughty, a RUTE (switch) would await you in the morning. Anxious children would usually find nuts, candy, a tangerine, chocolate, or a small toy stuffed into their little shoes. It paid to be good!



Advents Kranz – Four Sundays prior to Christmas, we would get out our Advents Kranz. This was a wooden, circular candle holder that we decorated with pine branches in the form of a wreath. Four large red candles were placed in the holder. On each Sunday before Christmas, and beginning four Sundays before, a new candle would be lit along with the previously lit candles. With all the lights out, the flicker of the candles and soft Christmas music would help direct our thoughts to the love we shared with the ones around us, just as Jesus loves us.

Egg nog, soft cookies, tangerines and nuts made the nights special. The best nuts, however, were the filberts. We would crack these nuts one after another, looking for a **vielibchen**. This took place when two whole nuts, not broken, were in the same shell. These “lovers” were good luck. You would now find someone special to lock little fingers with, and as each person put one of the nuts in his mouth, say “vielibchen.” The contest was then, the next day, to see who would remind the other first by saying, “vielibchen” once again.

Finally, Christmas Eve arrived. The tree, which had just recently been put up, looked beautiful. As darkness arrived, all the children had to go to their rooms. We did some last minute rehearsal of the song or **gedicht** (poem) we all would recite prior to opening any presents. We were excited. We couldn't wait. Then we heard it! The bells rang as Santa left, leaving behind all our presents. This was our cue to come out of our rooms and hurry to the living room. Our eyes were as wide as they could be as we gazed at the many presents. All the children would recite “Oh Tannenbaum” together and then wish our parents a Merry Christmas. The actual opening of the presents didn't take long. Even though it was the culmination of all the activities of the past month, it's the traditional celebration with a loving family that I remember.

(The above memoir appeared in the 1996 Volume 5, No. 1 edition of *Old Broad Bay Bund & Blatt*: a newsletter about the German Colony of Broad Bay Maine established in 1742-1753, an early publication of the Old Broad Bay Family History Association, edited by W. Whitaker and G. Horlacher. It is now out of print. The copy is from the files of the Waldoborough Historical Society.

– Jean Lawrence, president.)

Happy Valentine's Day

February 14th



Why MOCA?

by Cheryl Willis Patten, member of the MOCA Workshop Committee

Eww—there's a skeleton carved on the top of that gravestone. Whoever would want that?

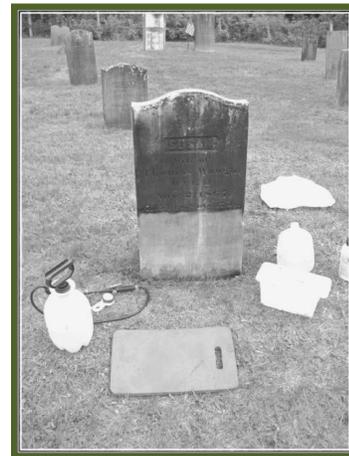
That's just one of the areas of interest addressed by the Maine Old Cemetery Association (MOCA). Some of those belonging to MOCA study the intricate artwork that can be found on gravestones, the symbolism associated with it, and the lives of the carvers who made the markers. Some of MOCA's members are interested in finding and preserving cultural and historical information that might be found on a gravestone, and nowhere else. Some are interested for genealogical reasons, some for reasons related to preserving the stones of veterans and giving them the respect they deserve. Some study the epitaphs and others are interested in cemeteries for the green space they offer. If you ask twenty-five of the six hundred fifty plus members of MOCA why they belong, you'll likely get twenty-five different answers.

I'm pleased to let you know that in August 2016 I'll be at your annual meeting and will be able to give you a brief overview of some of MOCA's goals/projects over the years, with one part of my presentation involving sharing with you recent activities of the MOCA Workshop Committee. As a member of the Old Broad Bay Family History Association you are showing that you have an interest in the past. Perhaps you'd like to learn more about how to safely clean the valuable cultural artifacts that mark the final resting places of your ancestors and/or how to safely preserve their markers. I look forward to meeting with you in August 2016 and introducing you to MOCA and to things you can do to preserve the stones that mark your ancestor's graves.

In case you need any MOCA related bio, Cheryl Willis Patten, member of MOCA's Workshop Committee. 2016 Secretary, Past President, Past V-P, Past Membership Secretary

I've only been involved with MOCA since 1996 but interested in cemeteries for many years prior to that. Let me know if you need anything else. www.moca-me.org

Tip: Safely caring for old gravestones requires the use of correct materials and methods. Use a soft bristle brush and always clean from the bottom up.



PRESIDENT'S DAY
FEBRUARY 15TH

THE HAHN FAMILY

Frederick Hahn was born in Germany Feb. 14, 1740; came to America Nov. 1752. He married Hannah Bornheimer in 1763. Hannah Bornheimer was born in Germany May 20, 1744. I believe she lived in the same town in Germany with her future husband and came over to America in the same ship. They were both accompanied by their parents and other members of the family. They lived in the early part of their married life in several places farther west, but their permanent home was in Waldoboro where they both died. She March 20, 1811, and he Dec. 14, 1815.

Their children were:

Hannah, born Nov. 17, 1764 married John Miller No children were born to them.

Margaret, born Nov 15, 1766 married Rev. A.R.B. Ritz, died Mar 15, 1842

Frederick A. born Mar. 5. 1797

Augustus born May 23, 1800, mar. Mary Kaler, died Aug 29, 1832

He left 3 children, 1 girl & 2 boys.

Rev. A.R.B. Ritz was born in Germany Ap 15, 1752-he came to Waldoboro and officiated as pastor of the German Lutheran Church there 'til his death, Feb. 21, 1811

Sally born April 1768 never married, died in Salem

Ann Barbara born Sept 11, 1773 married John Shepard, died June 20, 1849 (photo)

John Shepard and Ann Barbara Hahn were married in Waldoboro, District of Maine, June 30, 1796, by the Rev. Augustus Rudolphus Benedictus Ritz-Pastor of the German Lutheran Church in that place. Their children were born and married as indicated below.

Hannah born Sept. 5, 1797, married Nov. 30, 1826 Eld. Abiathan Richardson, Appleton, ME

Sarah born July 25, 1799, married June 10, 1823 Jacob W. Kaler, Waldoboro, ME

William born July 21, 1801, married Nov. 2, 1820 Hannah B. Malcom, Union, ME

John Warren born June 18, 1803, married Dec. 10, 1826, Elizabeth M. Kay, Belfast, ME

Lewis Frederic born Sept. 30, 1805, married Mar. 14, 1831 Sarah Dow, Exeter, NH

Jacob born Feb. 7, 1808, married May 20, 1832 Martha R. Fuller, Appleton, ME

Barbara Ann born Feb 7, 1811, married Dec. 3, 1835 Alfred Brown, Appleton, ME

Mary Elizabeth born Jany. 20, 1814 married Dec. 13, 1842 John Quincy Adams Davidson, Belfast, ME

Clarissa Maria born Mar 27, 1818, married Oct 24, 1848 Americus Vespuccius Parker, Belfast, ME

Note. (March, 1851) Hannah's husband, Eld. A. Richardson, died at Appleton. She still lives there, a widow. Sarah-still lives with her husband & family on the old place in Waldoboro. William is in Great Falls N.H.-John W. is probably dead; we have heard nothing of him since 1829, he was then in New Orleans.-Lewis F. lives in Belfast.- Ann Barbara & Jacob are still in Appleton.-Mary E. and Clarisa M. both in Belfast.

Frederic born Sept 30, 1776 married Miss Heyer, died Nov 29, 1844

Mary Ann born Nov. 27, 1805

Caroline born Feb 10, 1807

Simon born Aug 1808

Hannah born June 18, 1810

Christopher

Frederic

Sarah

Bertha

Maria

Mary T. born Oct 30, 1779 married George Heyer

Hannah M. born Oct. 23, 1802

Mary D. born Nov. 2, 1803

Margaret L. born Dec. 29, 1804

John F. born June 20, 1806

Augustus R. born Dec. 3, 1807
Sally H. born Jan. 26, 1809
Barbara Ann born Aug. 11, 1810
William S. born Mar. 12, 1812
Elisabeth born Dec. 8, 1813
Caroline F. born July 4, 1815
Samuel F. born Oct. 17, 1817
Isaac W. born Feb. 15, 1820
Clarissa F. born Dec 21, 1821

Eliza born -- married Matthias Sidensberger

George Hiram Parker* married Martha Hahn, Feb. 19, 1846
Matthias F. Parker

Elizabeth Parker married Willard Walton

Americus Vespuccius Parker born Feb. 26, 1813, married C. M. Shepard, Oct. 24, 1848

* Note. The name of Sidensberger in the mouth of Yankees was soon called Sidensparker-this family finally dropped the two first syllables of the name and now write it Parker.

John (twin) born June 6, 1785 married Nancy Crocker

John M. born May 25, 1810 married Statira Preble, July 20, 1834
married 2nd wife Emily B. Thomas, May 18, 1851

Sally born Feb 29, 1812, married Moses Levensalev, Dec. 13, 1832

William born May 17, 1814, married Julia A. Dalie, Dec. 1839, died Nov. 1, 1840

Nancy born Oct. 18, 1816, married Samson Knight, Feb 5, 1837, died Aug. 24, 1844

Gardner born Feb. 12, 1819, married Mary Catharine Mink

Francis A. born May 2, 1821, went to California, May 14, 1850

Edward born July 5, 1823, married Bertha A. Winchenbach, June 17, 1849

Hannah E. born Nov. 15, 1825

Harriet born July 20, 1828

Adeline born Jan. 20, 1831

George (twin) born June 6, 1785 married Phoebe Maddocks

Elisabeth born April 2, 1814, married Gilmore Miller, Feb 20, 1840

Martha born Mar. 21, 1816 married G. H. Parker, Feb. 19, 1846

Alfred born April 20, 1818, died June 16, 1823

Lucy Ann born Nov. 28, 1819, married Wm. J. Young, Jan 21, 1841

Phebe born Feb. 24, 1822, married Wm. Achorn (Eichhorn), Nov. 8, 1848

Joseph born Mar. 1, 1824, married Mary E. Studley, Nov. 18, 1847

Sarah Jane born Aug. 20, 1826

Frederick born Dec, 23, 1828

Mary born Sept 7, 1831, died Sept. 15, 1831

Geo. Washington born Apr. 13, 1835

Jacob born Nov 1788 married Sally Morse, March 17, 1817

Levi M. born Feb. 3, 1818, died March 6, 1845

Silas B. born Dec. 7, 1819

Dexter Ward born Dec. 30, 1823, died Apr. 26, 1851

Rodolphus F. born Apr. 1, 1826

Nelson Washington born July 4, 1828

Sidney Bradford born Sept. 8, 1831

Edwin Lafayette born Sept 9, 1833, died Oct. 5, 1837

Ammi Rhuannah born Oct 19, 1841

The preceding is taken from the journal Lewis Shepard wrote for his son John Frederic Shepard. Lewis Frederic Shepard (pictured) was the fifth child born to Ann Barbara Hahn and John Shepard. The journal in my possession now, was copied by NEHGS of Boston several years ago with permission from my mother Dorothy Cunningham. I have since given Belfast Free Library, Special Collections a copy.



It is presented here in a little different format, but I have not added or taken away from the information. I have not verified all of the information only to clarify the spelling of a name or to specifically verify names and dates in my line. I have found some of this information in **Broad Bay Pioneers by Wilford W. Whitaker and Gary T. Horlacher**. Some names and dates are the same and some are different. This is not meant to be a source. It is just another part of Lewis's journal. Lewis must have had great pride in his heritage to attempt to do this. It is with great pride that I share it with you now.

Of all my lines I find this one of the greatest interest. Growing up in a small New England town, I did not know I had a German line. My great grandmother, Abbie Eliza Shepard, for whatever reason did not talk about it. Abbie Eliza was one of eight children of John Frederick and Elizabeth Ann Knight Shepard.

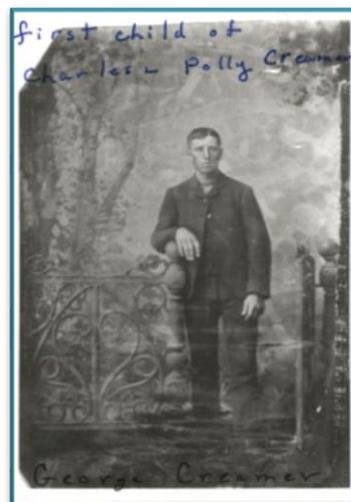
Barbara E. Rogers barb157@comcast.net



CRÄMER/CREAMER and Other Familiar Surnames

Brothers Johann Peter Crämer (b. 1726 d. 1822) and Georg Crämer (b. 1728 d. 1786) emigrated from Germany to America on the ship *Priscilla* in 1751. They arrived in Boston where Peter Creamer, was promised a section of land and George Creamer went north to Broad Bay, Maine in 1752 where he was promised a section of land. Peter married Catharina Kaler (b. 1727 d. 1801), the daughter of Jacob Köhler. Their son Charles Creamer (b. 1761 d. 1851) m. "Polly" Mary Smouse on 4 July 1787. (daughter of George Schmaus & Maria Christina Demuth). They had 12 children. Their first born was George Creamer (b. 1787 d. 1869) m. Elizabeth Sidelinger (pictured below) on 1 Nov 1823 (daughter of Charles Sidelinger and Sarah Smith). His brother, our 3 times great grandfather Charles (b. 1798 d. 1756) m. 1828 Elizabeth Achorn (b. 1811 d. 1877). They had 9 children.

We haven't any pictures of Charles and Elizabeth but feel fortunate to have these two of George. "First child of Charles and Polly Creamer – George Creamer & wife"



Surnames found in our family tree
 Peter's married children's names:
 Schmouse/Smouse/Schmaus, Demuth,
 Genthner, Ludwig, Wellman, Miller, Eugley,
 Winchenbach, Hahn, Kaler, Achorn, Nash.
 George's married children's names:
 Sidelinger, Sprague, Young, Demuth,
 Dockindorf, Schwartz, Ulmer, Schuman,
 Winslow, Benner, Bowers, Moody, Hoch,
 Howard, Morse, Achorn, Feyler, Kinsell.
 Sisters Pat Kriso, Becky Boyd, and Carol Thompson

March 27th



Membership

The Old Broad Bay Family History Association is a group of people interested in studying and maintaining the history of the founding families, and in particular the founding German families, of what is now Waldoboro, Lincoln County, Maine.

There are three types of membership: individual, family, and library. An individual membership confers the right to one vote. A family membership confers the right to two votes. A library membership is solely for the purpose of allowing distribution of the newsletter to libraries and historical societies and confers no right to vote.

The membership year is July 1 to June 30. This year the newsletter will be issued twice: in April (Winter / Spring) and in October (Summer / Fall).

Membership checks should be made out to OBBFHA and mailed, along with this form, to:
Deirdre Putnam, OBB Treasurer, 17 Bush Hill Rd, Ipswich, MA 01938.

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Old Broad Bay Family History Association Application for Membership

New Member _____ Renewal _____ Date _____

Name _____

Second member in the household: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

How do you want to receive the newsletter?

Individual membership: e-mail (pdf format) \$10 _____ US mail \$15 _____
Family membership: e-mail (pdf format) \$15 _____ US mail \$20 _____

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

Research facilities (libraries, archives, historical societies, etc.): We welcome the placement of this newsletter in your collection. Please fill out this portion of the membership form. Once you are on our subscription list you will receive a renewal invoice by mail each year. **Subscription: \$15 per year.**

Name of research facility: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contact person: _____