

## Old Broad Bay Family History Association



**FOUR-MASTED  
"JAMES W. FITCH"**  
Painter: William Pierce  
Stubbs (1842-1909)

NS Volume 22 No. 1 Winter 2024

### To Search and to Share

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### President Musings by David Putnam

Dear Friends, I hope this edition of the Old Broad Bay Family History Association Newsletter finds all of you well. The Winter is upon us here in New England, so we try to appreciate the unique beauty of this season as we endure its more unpleasant aspects. The loons have returned to their wintering grounds along the Atlantic coastline. Deirdre and I enjoy watching them in Plum Island Sound as they bring to mind many happy memories of camping trips in Maine. With their dull winter feathers and muted cries, it is hard to imagine their distinct summer plumage and mysterious cries that enchant our summer lakes and ponds.

Winter may be a time of hibernation for some animals and reptiles, but not for your Board of Trustees. We have already begun to move forward on our plans for the upcoming year. Conversations about the annual meeting, as well as some larger projects, are already underway. I will have some updates in the Spring Edition of this newsletter.

Deirdre alerted me to an interesting real estate listing on Zillow. It is the family home and farm of the Stahl Family of Waldoboro. The home was built in 1780 and was the family home of Professor Jasper J. Stahl, the author of History of Old Broad Bay and Waldoboro, which is the seminal work on the history of Broad Bay and Waldoboro. The home is a classic New England Cape Style home. I urge you to go onto Zillow and view the photos. The MLS number is 1579529. The address is 72 Stahl Farm Road, Waldoboro.

I would like to take a moment and welcome our newest members, Dr. John Cooney, and his daughter Carlie Bossert Cooney. John and Carlie reside in Maine and are descended from the Sampson, Schenk, Sprague, and Geller Families. I would like to thank Dr. Cooney for his generous donation, and thanks for sharing your genealogical journey with the OBBFHA!

In closing, I would like to extend a Happy New Year to all the members of the OBBFHA. I also want to thank all of you for your interest, knowledge, kindness, and generosity, which keeps our group alive and growing. Remember, we aren't living in the past, but rather the past is kept alive through us. Keep on Searching and Sharing!

A Final Thought: "History remembers only the celebrated, genealogy remembers them all." Lawrence Overmire

## "YOU FOUND WHAT, IN THE BACKYARD?"

Hello Everyone. I wanted to fill you in on all the archaeological happenings in Waldoboro this past dig season. I've been working on two new sites this past year. As some of you may remember, I'm trying to establish the accuracy of a survey done by J.F.W. Des Barres and published in 1776 (see last winter's newsletter). When the survey was done in the late 1760's-early 1770's, there were no less than 150-200 structures just along the Medomak River. If true, and if anything remains of those farms, barns, churches, and mills, then Waldoboro has an extraordinary amount of essentially undisturbed Colonial archaeological sites, also referred to as historic resources.

Well last year, with the help of the Waldoboro Historical Society President, Bill Maxwell, I connected with Sally and Bob Butler. The Butlers live along Rt. 220, on the way to Friendship. At some point, Bob Butler and I had a conversation during which he said he once recovered a brick while planting a nut tree in his side yard. When he showed me the small area where he found the brick, it was beautifully mowed grass, located on the top of a low knoll sandwiched between a driveway, a barn, a neighbor's house, and Rt. 220. Who would ever think to look there for a 250-year-old archaeological site? But Des Barres' survey indicated a structure there in Colonial times (red circle in the image to the right). So, with some help from modern technology, and a little effort getting old and modern maps to match up, I had a target, the little area within 100' of modern Rt. 220.



In October 2022, with the help of my friend Bill Maxwell, the Waldoboro Historical Society President, I excavated a single, 1.5' square shovel test pit (below). Immediately, and much to my surprise, as soon as I began the test pit I recovered pottery, brick, food bone, shell, and all sorts of what we call cultural materials. It was refuse dumped in the front yard of a home a long time ago. And based on the kinds of pottery, it was Colonial, dating to the late 1760's to the late 1790's. It was Des Barres' structure! As you can see in the image to the left, there's the nut tree, and there's the test pit only 6' from it, and there's the modern driveway and generator for the barn in the background.



Several test pits later, we had recovered clam shell, food bone, hand forged nails (right), clay tobacco pipe fragments, pottery, glass from windowpanes and drinking vessels, and a whole lot of other, incredible pieces of Waldoboro's late Colonial history! We also discovered a filled in cellar.



This year, at the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Waldoboro's incorporation, we returned, and this time with a little help from volunteers (right), we opened a couple more test pits, and yes, recovered even more material. We found porcelain from China (below left), and North Midlands slipped ware from Staffordshire, England (below right). But, in looking for the Des Barres period site, we also discovered something incredible, a second site, this one not on Des Barres' survey map, and this one dating even earlier! So, I returned to the Butlers' parcel, this time in July and August. After many, many hours of excavation we now know that there was an earlier house and occupation not far from the first site. And this one dates to the 1730's!!



In 1736, Samuel Waldo began his first effort at the development of a town along the Medomak River's east shore, from Sampson Cove to Farnsworth point; Waldo named it *Leverett*; Leverett was the very first "Waldoboro". In 1735, Waldo surveyed his land, and subdivided it into long narrow lots of 100

acres apiece. Each lot measured 660' wide along the shore (40 rods) and over a mile into the interior (toward Thomaston). In 1736, a man named James Norton purchased Lot # 21. Today, the Butlers' parcel is the north half of Norton's Lot #21. Amazingly, Norton's filled cellar is still evident, as is his chimney base (right). There was even a latrine, with layers of "compost" and fill still visible after all these many years (left). Although there wasn't much in the way of cultural materials, it makes sense. The earliest colonial residents likely didn't have much to start with.



Pottery was the most prevalent recovery, and that was almost entirely inexpensive redware (it looks like flowerpot clay). It was cheap, easy to get, and easy to replace from elsewhere along Maine's coast. Most of the redware at the James Norton Site represented large milk pans or crockery. Large broken rim sherds, like the one at right, help us understand what the vessel looked like and possibly what the occupants were using it for.

Based on dating a few of the recovered pottery sherds, Norton may not have lived at this site for very long. It appears the occupation extended only about 20 years, from the 1740's to about 1760. Conflict with the French and their Native American allies caused many early settlers to leave, and never return, abandoning all their hard work at settlement, and allowing the forest, fields, and time to take it all back. What an exciting year it was!

Well, I hope you've enjoyed our short journey into some of Waldoboro's earliest European archaeology. I'll keep you all up to date with my research along the shores of the beautiful Medomak River; look for more in upcoming issues. And remember to keep your eyes to the ground. You never know what you'll see (and if you see something old and exciting, send me a picture. I'll do my best to tell you what, and how old it is).

Harbour Mitchell ([harbourmitchell@gmail.com](mailto:harbourmitchell@gmail.com))

**Masthead:** Painter William Pierce Stubbs (1842-1909), portrait of the four-masted "James W. Fitch. The James W. Finch was built in 1870 in Waldoboro, Maine by Levitt Storer.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES ALWAYS DUE ON JULY 1<sup>ST</sup>**



## Direct Ancestral Line from our Original German Settlers

### Anthonius Burckhardt ancestors of Joseph Robinson

**Anthonius Burckhardt** Oct.16, 1713- m. Anna Benner Dec. 15, 1715-  
 Son: Johann Burkhardt Oct. 19, 1748-Jun. 15, 1817 m. Anna Marie Kaler Nov. 30, 1750-Aug. 31, 1839  
 Son: John Burkett Jul. 20, 1781-Sept. 9, 1862 m. Abigail "Mary" Meserve Jun. 14, 1788-Apr. 14, 1881  
 Daughter: Catherine L Burkett Dec. 27, 1833-Aug. 2, 1911 m. Samuel Lewis Smith Oct. 8, 1833-Mar. 18, 1910  
 Son: Daniel Wilbur Smith Aug. 25, 1866-Aug. 3, 1911 m. Margaret Ellen Deery Apr. 18, 1866-Jun. 19, 1937  
 Daughter: Elizabeth Deery Smith Apr. 18, 1894-Jun.19, 1960 m. George Louis Robinson Dec.1, 1888-Mar. 11, 1941  
 Son: Robert Earle Robinson Mar.25, 1927- Feb. 2, 1989 m. Caryl Catherine Hayes Jun. 7, 1929-Mar. 3, 2011  
 Son: Joseph Robinson m. Linda Jean Orsi

## Direct Ancestral Line from our Original German Settlers

### Conrad Seiders and Karl Christoph Gottfried Leissner ancestors of Renee Seiders

**Conrad SEIDERS** 1739 - 1814 m. Anna Elizabeth LEISTNER 1745 - 1803  
 Son: Daniel SEIDERS 1778 - 1833 m. Nancy DUNBAR 1781 - 1863  
 Son: Daniel SEIDERS 1811 - 1875 m. Nancy Baker CRESSEY 1811 - 1895  
 Son: Daniel C. SEIDERS 1835 - 1908 m. Abbie JORDAN 1846 - 1922  
 Son: Sanford K. SEIDERS 1882 - 1954 m. Laura DODGE 1887 - 1960  
 Daughter: Nathalie A. SEIDERS 1908 - 1999 m. Clyde E. KNIGHT 1907 - 1962  
 Daughter: Marilyn E. KNIGHT 1940 - 2016 m. Daniel C. SEIDERS III 1936 - 2016  
 Daughter: Renee SEIDERS

**Conrad SEIDERS** 1739 - 1814 m. Anna Elizabeth LEISTNER 1745 - 1803  
 Son: Daniel SEIDERS 1778 - 1833 m. Nancy DUNBAR 1781 - 1863  
 Son: Daniel SEIDERS 1811 - 1875 m. Nancy Baker CRESSEY 1811 - 1895  
 Son: Daniel C. SEIDERS 1835 - 1908 m. Abbie JORDON 1846 - 1922  
 Son: Daniel C. SEIDERS Sr. 1876 - 1968 m. Lulu MERVINE 1883 - 1963  
 Son: Daniel C. SEIDERS Jr.1912-1994 m. Helen ATKINSON 1913-1997  
 Son: Daniel C. SEIDERS III 1936 – 2016 m. Marilyn E. KNIGHT 1940 - 2016  
 Daughter: Renee SEIDERS

My parents were 2nd cousins. My grandfather on my dad's side and my grandmother on my mom's side were cousins. My grandfather and grandmother's fathers were brothers whose parents were Daniel and Abbie (Jordan) Seiders.

(Siblings) Daniel C. SEIDERS Sr. 1876 - 1968 m. Lulu MERVINE 1883 - 1963  
 (Siblings) Sanford K. SEIDERS 1882 - 1954 m. Laura DODGE 1887 - 1960  
 (Cousins) Daniel C. SEIDERS Jr. 1912-1994 m. Helen ATKINSON 1913-1997  
 (Cousins) Nathalie A. SEIDERS 1908 - 1999 m. Clyde E. KNIGHT 1907 - 1962  
 (2<sup>nd</sup> Cousins) Daniel C. SEIDERS III 1936 - 2016 m. (2<sup>nd</sup> Cousins) Marilyn E. KNIGHT 1940 - 2016

#### **Karl Christoph Gottfried Leissner** (in Germany)

AKA Charles Christopher Godfrey Leissner (in America) 1724-1769 m. Mary 1726 - after 1788  
 Daughter: Anna Elizabeth LEISTNER 1745 - 1803 m. Conrad SEIDERS 1739 - 1814  
 Son: Daniel SEIDERS 1778 - 1833 m. Nancy DUNBAR 1781 - 1863  
 Son: Daniel SEIDERS 1811 - 1875 m. Nancy Baker CRESSEY 1811 - 1895  
 Son: Daniel C. SEIDERS 1835 - 1908 m. Abbie JORDAN 1846 - 1922  
 Son: Sanford K. SEIDERS 1882 - 1954 m. Laura DODGE 1887 - 1960  
 Daughter: Nathalie A. SEIDERS 1908 - 1999 m. Clyde E. KNIGHT 1907 - 1962  
 Daughter: Marilyn E. KNIGHT 1940 - 2016 m. Daniel C. SEIDERS III 1936 - 2016  
 Daughter: Renee SEIDERS



**Direct Ancestral Line from our Original German Settlers**  
**Hans Georg Vogler ancestor of Marquita Firlece Bennett**

**Hans Georg Vogler** 1698-1760 m. Anna Catherina Seitz 1702-1735  
 Son: Phillip Christoph Vogler 1723-1790 m. Anna Caterina Seitz 1732-1770  
 Daughter: Anna Catarina Barbara Vogler 1761-1842 m. Jeremiah Elrod II 1755-1841  
 Son: Adam A Elrod 1795-1856-7 m. Jane McCarley 1800-1838  
 Daughter: Elizabeth P. Elrod 1830-1918 m. John Zachary Mitchell 1813-1880  
 Son: John Taylor Mitchell 1848-1921 m. Mary Clementine Jarratt 1858-1933  
 Daughter: Sarah Lou Mitchell 1894-1949 m. James S Reed 1883-1970  
 Daughter: Jewel Mayne Reed 1914-1992 (not married to) John Alfred Hoover 1906-1991  
 Son: Jackson Henry Bennett 1936-2023 m. Charlotte Ann Roden 1943-2008  
 Marquita Firlece Bennett 1961  
 Also related to Laurentius Seitz 1696-1757 m. Anna Maria Margaretha Actnderer 1713-1757

**Direct Ancestral Line from our Original German Settlers**  
**Jacob Charles Umberhend and Johannes Henrich Werner**  
**ancestors of Rebecca Lindell Waters**

**Jacob Charles Umberhend/Umberhind** app. 1720-1785 m. Margaret (maiden name unknown) birth & death unknown---  
 Son: Charles Umberhind 1767-1855 m. Catherine Werner/Vannah 1769-1835  
 Son: John B. Umberhind 1796-1869 m. Mary Randall 1804-1879  
 Son: John W Umberhind/Umberhine 1841-1903 m. Mary Howard Beebe 1844-1917  
 Daughter: Fanny Adeline Umberhine 1869-1948 m. Julius Matthew Hell 1865-1956  
 Daughter: Mary Clementine Hell/Hill 1901-1965 m. John J Lindell Sr 1897-1980  
 Son: John Joseph Lindell Jr. 1924-1988 m. Joy Carol St John 1936-2021  
 Daughter: Rebecca Lindell Waters  
**Johannes Henrich Werner** 1728-1789 m. Anna Elizabetha Mellen 1733-?  
 Daughter: Catherine Werner/Vannah 1769-1835 m. Charles Umbehind 1767-1835  
 Same as above

**Direct Ancestral Line from our Original German Settlers**  
**Karl Christoph Gottfried Leissner ancestor of**  
**Ruth Lessner Riopell and June Lessner Hussiere**

**Karl Christoph Gottfried Leissner** (German Name)  
**Charles Christopher Godfrey Leissner** (American name) 1724-1769 m. Mary? 1726  
 Son: George Leissner 1758-1832 m. Ruth Cole 1765-1828  
 Son: Henry C. Lessner 1810-1879 m. Elizabeth Sidelinger 1811-1884  
 Son: Thomas C.C. Lessner 1843-1911 m. Margaret Erskine 1847-1896  
 Son: Frank H. Lessner 1871-1957 m. Grace David 1878-1944  
 Son: Walter R. Lessner 1907-1961 m. Elsie Spencer 1912-1974  
 Daughter: June Lessner Hussiere  
 Daughter: Ruth Lessner Riopell

**OBBFHA Web Links and Contacts:**

The Old Broad Bay Family History Association, on the web at: [www.obbfha.org](http://www.obbfha.org)  
 Editorial comments & queries to [pmkriso@gmail.com](mailto:pmkriso@gmail.com)  
 Visit the OBBFHA Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/walldoboromaineancestors>  
 Send general inquiries to [obbfha@gmail.com](mailto:obbfha@gmail.com)



March 19th

## Direct Ancestral Line from our Original German Settlers

### Johann Martin Heyer ancestor of William (Bill) Maxwell

**Johann Martin Heyer** 1714-1753 m. Katarina Geuting 1718-?  
 Son: Conrad Heyer 1749-1856 m. Mary Weaver/Weber 1757-1841  
 Son: Charles Heyer 1793-1850 m. Mary Elizabeth Polly Burns 1798-1841  
 Daughter: Sarah Heyer 1832-1911 m. Andrew Gross 1822-1881  
 Daughter: Lucinda J. Gross 1855-1929 m. Sylvester Simmons 1852-1935  
 Son: Harvey Simmons 1887-1930 m. Leola Emily Elwell 1892-1970  
 Daughter: Margarite Simmons 1921-? m. Ernest Berce  
 Daughter: Rebecca Berce m. Charles Maxwell  
 Son: William (Bill) Maxwell

#### *Generations No. 1*

**1. JOHANN MARTIN<sup>1</sup> HEYER** was born 1723 in Prussia and died Unknown. He married Katarina Geuting. Born 1718 and died Unknown.

2. i. Son: **CONRAD<sup>2</sup> HEYER**, b. April 10, 1749, Waldoboro Maine; d. February 19, 1856, Waldoboro Maine.

#### *Generation No. 2*

**2. CONRAD<sup>2</sup> HEYER** (*JOHANN MARTIN<sup>1</sup>*) was born April 10, 1749 in Waldoboro Maine, and died February 19, 1856 in Waldoboro Maine. He married **MARY WEAVER/WEBER** in 1778 in Waldoboro Maine. She was born June 06, 1757 in Waldoboro Maine, and died November 22, 1841 in Waldoboro Maine.

- i. Son: **GEORGE<sup>3</sup> HEYER**, b. April 01, 1778, Waldoboro Maine; d. Unknown; m. **MARY JANE HAHN**; b. 1782; d. Unknown.
- ii. Daughter: **MARY POLLY HEYER**, b. 1780, Waldoboro Maine; d. 1856; m. **DANIEL SIDELINGER**, December 05, 1801, Nobleboro Maine; b. 1780, Nobleboro Maine; d. Unknown.
- iii. Daughter: **MARGARET HEYER**, b. 1783, Waldoboro Maine; d. 1874; m. **JACOB FRITZ GROSS**; b. 1779; d. 1848.
- iv. Daughter: **CATHERINE HEYER**, b. 1785; d. 1860; m. **DANIEL TEAGUE**, Waldoboro Maine; b. 1785, Damariscotta Maine; d. 1841.
- v. Son: **CONELIUS HEYER**, b. 1786, Waldoboro Maine; d. Unknown; m. **ESTER SIDELINGER**; b. 1789; d. Unknown.
- vi. Son: **ELIZEBETH HEYER**, b. 1791, Waldoboro Maine; d. 1887; m. **JONATHAN HARRIMAN**; b. 1772; d. 1857.
- vii. Daughter: **SARAH HEYER**, b. 1794, Waldoboro, Maine; d. 1874; m. **FREDERICK SIDELINGER**; B. 1785 d.1856.
- 3. viii. Son: **CHARLES HEYER**, b. 1793, Waldoboro Maine; d. 1850. **MARY BURNS** b.1798
- ix. **LUCY HEYER**, b. 1799, Waldoboro Maine; d. abt 1880; m. **CHARLES WILLIAM SHUMAN**; b. 1796 d. 1850

#### *Generation No. 3*

**3. CHARLES<sup>3</sup> HEYER** (*CONRAD<sup>2</sup>, JOHANN MARTIN<sup>1</sup>*) was born 1793 in Waldoboro Maine, and died Unknown. He married **MARY POLLY BURNS**. She was born 1797 and died Unknown.

- 4. i. Son: **ELBRIDGE<sup>4</sup> HEYER**, b. 1831; d. Unknown.
- 5. ii. Daughter: **SARAH HEYER**, d. Unknown.
- iii. Daughter: **HANNAH HEYER**, b. 1818; d. Unknown.
- iv. Daughter: **LUCY HEYER**, b. 1823, Waldoboro, Me.; d. January 27, 1908; m. **DANIEL J. SIDELINGER**, 1844, Nobleboro, Me; b. 1814; d. 1887.
- v. Daughter: **MARGARET HEYER**, b. 1836; d. Unknown; m. **ISAAC SIDELINGER**; b. 1832; d. Unknown.

- 6. vi. Son: ISAAC HEYER, b. 1832; d. Unknown.
- vii. Son: CHARLES HEYER JR., b. 1821, Waldoboro, Me.; d. 1822.
- 7. viii. Daughter; MARY KATHERINE HEYER, d. Unknown.

#### *Generation No. 4*

**4. ELBRIDGE<sup>4</sup> HEYER** (*CHARLES<sup>3</sup>, CONRAD<sup>2</sup>, JOHANN MARTIN<sup>1</sup>*) was born 1831, and died Unknown. He married MAHALA BOURNEMAN. She died Unknown.

- 8. i. Daughter: ELIZABETH<sup>5</sup> HEYER, d. Unknown.
- ii. Daughter: LAURA HEYER, d. Unknown; m. FRANK WEAVER; d. Unknown.
- iii. Son: ELDEN HEYER, d. Unknown.
- 9. iv. Son: LAWRENCE HEYER, d. Unknown.
- v. Son: CHARLES HEYER, d. Unknown.
- 10. vi. Son: THOMAS HEYER, d. Unknown.
- 11. vii. Daughter: DORA HEYER, d. Unknown.

**5. SARAH<sup>4</sup> HEYER** (*CHARLES<sup>3</sup>, CONRAD<sup>2</sup>, JOHANN MARTIN<sup>1</sup>*) died Unknown. She married ANDREW GROSS born in Sweden. He died Unknown.

- 12. i. Daughter: LUCINDA<sup>5</sup> GROSS, d. Unknown.
- ii. Daughter; MARY GROSS, d. Unknown; m. HENRY SIDELINGER; d. Unknown.
- iii. Daughter: ANNIE GROSS, d. Unknown; m. JOSEPH CREAMER; d. Unknown.
- iv. Daughter: LUELLA GROSS, d. Unknown; m. OTIS WOLK; d. Unknown.
- v. Daughter: NANCY GROSS, d. Unknown.
- vi. Son: ELBRIDGE GROSS, d. Unknown.
- vii. Daughter; IDA GROSS, d. Unknown.

**6. ISAAC<sup>4</sup> HEYER** (*CHARLES<sup>3</sup>, CONRAD<sup>2</sup>, JOHANN MARTIN<sup>1</sup>*) was born 1832, and died Unknown. He married HELEN GROSS. She was born 1839 and died Unknown.

- i. Daughter: ELDORA<sup>5</sup> HEYER, b. 1875; d. Unknown.

**7. MARY KATHERINE<sup>4</sup> HEYER** (*CHARLES<sup>3</sup>, CONRAD<sup>2</sup>, JOHANN MARTIN<sup>1</sup>*) died Unknown. She married (1) GEORGE GROSS. He died Unknown. She married (2) CORNELIUS GROSS. He died Unknown. Children of MARY HEYER and GEORGE GROSS

- i. Son: GARDINER<sup>5</sup> GROSS, d. Unknown.
- ii. Son: WARREN GROSS, d. Unknown.
- iii. Daughter: COLUMBIA GROSS, d. Unknown.
- iv. Daughter: OLIVIA GROSS, d. Unknown.

Children of MARY HEYER and CORNELIUS GROSS are:

- v. Daughter: DOLLY<sup>5</sup> GROSS, d. Unknown.
- vi. Daughter: AGUSTA GROSS, d. Unknown.
- vii. Son: LEANDER GROSS, d. Unknown; m. **ELIZABETH HEYER**; d. Unknown.

#### *Generation No. 5*

**8. ELIZABETH<sup>5</sup> HEYER** (*ELBRIDGE<sup>4</sup>, CHARLES<sup>3</sup>, CONRAD<sup>2</sup>, JOHANN MARTIN<sup>1</sup>*) died Unknown. She married LEANDER GROSS on October 05, 1881 in Waldoboro Maine. He died Unknown.

- 13. i. Daughter: IDA AUGUSTA<sup>6</sup> GROSS, b. May 12, 1884; d. November 1979, Waldoboro Maine.
- ii. Son: ELBRIDGE GROSS, d. Unknown.
- iii. Son: THOMAS GROSS, d. Unknown.

**9. LAWRENCE<sup>5</sup> HEYER** (*ELBRIDGE<sup>4</sup>, CHARLES<sup>3</sup>, CONRAD<sup>2</sup>, JOHANN MARTIN<sup>1</sup>*) died Unknown. He married JENNIE DAVIS. She died Unknown.

- i. Son: KENNETH<sup>6</sup> HEYER, d. Unknown; m. EVELYN DAVIS, Private; b. Private.
- ii. Daughter: HAZEL HEYER, d. Unknown; m. ALBERT SHUMAN; d. Unknown.

iii. Son: DELMER HEYER, d. Unknown; m. (1) DORIS DUSWALD, Private; b. Private; m. (2) EVELYN ACHORN, Private; b. Private.

**10. THOMAS<sup>5</sup> HEYER** (*ELBRIDGE<sup>4</sup>, CHARLES<sup>3</sup>, CONRAD<sup>2</sup>, JOHANN MARTIN<sup>1</sup>*) died Unknown. He married ALICE MALONEY. She died Unknown.

i. Daughter: IOLA<sup>6</sup> HEYER, d. Unknown; m. (1) LEON LUDWIG; d. Unknown; m. (2) CARLETON GENTHNER; d. Unknown.

**11. DORA<sup>5</sup> HEYER** (*ELBRIDGE<sup>4</sup>, CHARLES<sup>3</sup>, CONRAD<sup>2</sup>, JOHANN MARTIN<sup>1</sup>*) died Unknown. She married (1) JOHN F SHUMAN. He died Unknown. She married (2) ELMER RECTOR. He died Unknown.

Children of DORA HEYER and JOHN SHUMAN are:

- i. MILDRED<sup>6</sup> SHUMAN, b. Private.
- ii. ROYCE SHUMAN, b. Private.

Children of DORA HEYER and ELMER RECTOR are:

- iii. WANNETA BERNIECE<sup>6</sup> RECTOR, b. November 24, 1912; d. July 20, 1995; m. HAROLD C. STARBIRD, February 28, 1948; d. December 1975.
- 14. iv. LILLIAN ESTELLE RECTOR, b. October 26, 1915; d. August 07, 1972.
- 15. v. ARLENE DOROTHY RECTOR, b. February 04, 1914; d. May 05, 1988.

**12. LUCINDA<sup>5</sup> GROSS** 1855-1929 (*SARAH<sup>4</sup> HEYER, CHARLES<sup>3</sup>, CONRAD<sup>2</sup>, JOHANN MARTIN<sup>1</sup>*) She married SYLVESTER SIMMONS 1852-1935.

Children of LUCINDA GROSS and SYLVESTER SIMMONS is:

- i. FRANK<sup>6</sup> SIMMONS, d. Unknown
- ii. HARVEY SIMMONS 1887-1980. He married LEOLA EMILY ELWELL 1892-1970

Child of HARVEY SIMMONS and LEOLA EMILY ELWELL is:

- iii. MARGERITE/MARGARET SIMMONS 1921-2002 married ERNEST BERSE 1916-2001

Child of MARGERITE SIMMONS and ERNEST BERSE is:

- iv. REBECCA BERSE 1940-Living married CHARLES MAXWELL 1938-1998

Child of REBECCA BERSE and CHARLES MAXWELL is:

- v. WILLIAM (BILL) MAXWELL

## **Waldoboro and Fort George During the American Revolution: A Complex Relationship** By David Putnam

As I mentioned in the Fall edition of this newsletter, OBBFHA member Anette Ruppell Rodrigues has written an excellent article for the latest edition of the **Journal of the Johannes Schwalm Historical Association**, a historical society based in Pennsylvania and dedicated to preserving the history of the German soldiers who came to America to fight for England's King George III during the American Revolution. Anette's article is focused on the Braunschweig, and Ansbach-Bayreuth Regiments, sent to reinforce the British garrison at Fort George in Castine ME. Included in her article is a copy of a document with the heading, "*Fort George April 24, 1780.*" The document (see below) is a list of "*18 Dutchmen from Broad Bay*" who were employed at Fort George "*getting Lyme Stone and Loading the Brig Molly Transport and cutting wood.*" It is important to remember that this document is dated only nine months after the Penobscot Expedition, which was an unsuccessful campaign by Patriot forces trying to capture Fort George in Castine. Many Waldoboro men took part in the campaign and distinguished themselves in heavy fighting on the first day of the battle. Yet scarcely nine months later their fellow townsmen and possibly family members were hiring themselves out as laborers at the same fort they had attacked with such gallantry in July of 1779.



1778 Duplicate Fort George April 24th 1778  
Government  
Secondary documents

For work done in getting Lync Stone and Loading the fort  
Nelly's Transcript Writing words

Name	Quantity	Price
Geo. Hoche	5	17.6
Hen. Isense	3	17.6
Jno. Obutag	5	17.6
Gottlieb Ahlstein	5	17.6
Jno. Schnaudel	5	17.6
Geo. Smouse	5	17.6
Geo. Stilkey	5	17.6
Peter Lehr	5	17.6
John Pracht	5	17.6
John Pracht Jr.	5	17.6
Chas. Sidelinger	5	17.6
George Sidelinger	5	17.6
Dan Sidelinger	5	17.6
Martin Binneht	5	17.6
Martin Broadman	5	17.6
Godfried Millare	5	17.6
Mich. Hoch	5	17.6
Jacob Eichorn	5	17.6
Geo. Hoche	5	17.6
Hen. Isense	3	17.6
Jno. Obutag	5	17.6
Gottlieb Ahlstein	5	17.6
Jno. Schnaudel	5	17.6
Geo. Smouse	5	17.6
Geo. Stilkey	5	17.6
Peter Lehr	5	17.6
John Pracht	5	17.6
John Pracht Jr.	5	17.6
Chas. Sidelinger	5	17.6
George Sidelinger	5	17.6
Dan Sidelinger	5	17.6
Martin Binneht	5	17.6
Martin Broadman	5	17.6
Godfried Millare	5	17.6
Mich. Hoch	5	17.6
Jacob Eichorn	5	17.6

4.15

Here is a list of the "Dutchmen from Broad Bay" as they appear on the document, with the names spelled as they appear on the document: Geo. Hoche, Hen. Isense, Jno. Obutag, Gottlieb Ahlstein, Jno. Schnaudel, Geo. Smouse, Geo. Stilkey, Peter Lehr, John Pracht, John Pracht Jr., Chas. Sidelinger, George Sidelinger, Dan Sidelinger, Martin Binneht, Martin Broadman, Godfried Millare, Mich. Hoch, Jacob Eichorn. Some of these names are familiar German immigrant names, others may be phonetic spellings of familiar German names.

As we ponder this document, the names do not matter as much as the fact that the document shows the political schism within the Waldoboro community during the American War for Independence. Regarding the escalating conflict after April of 1775, Stahl writes, "On the Medomak the "stolid" Dutch were far less deeply moved. Democratic processes were still something of a mystery to many of them, who were disposed from tradition to accept

the monarchical concept uncritically."<sup>1</sup> A Mrs. Mero, a resident of Georges Valley during that time wrote, "in Waldoborough .... were many tories. The old country people were almost all for the king."<sup>2</sup> A Reverend Jacob Bailey wrote from Halifax to the commanding officer at Fort George in Castine identifying dependable loyalists, "in general all the Dutch families in Broad Bay except ten or twelve families."<sup>3</sup>

Stahl tells us that in 1780 Patriot General Peleg Wadsworth, district commander for the eastern department, "issued a proclamation prescribing the penalty of death to anyone aiding or secreting the enemy."<sup>4</sup> We also know from Stahl that there was an active clandestine trade going on between loyalist in Waldoboro and the soldiers at Fort George. It is not surprising that the German soldiers stationed in Castine would find fellowship and understanding among the Waldoboro Germans, and the financially hard-pressed Waldoboro Germans would find profit in trading with the fort. Even with the death penalty hanging over their heads, the trade and social relations between Waldoboro Germans and the soldiers at Fort George continued unabated. The men listed on this document may have been motivated by Tory politics, or the hard hand of financial necessity, when they went to work for the British. Perhaps some of them might have been sent by Patriot commanders to gather intelligence on the conditions in the fort. After the war, the Tories who returned to Waldoboro, and those who had remained during the conflict, resumed their lives among their Patriot townsmen. Many former relationships were marked by "strain, suspicion, and a silent social pressure. In a comparatively short time this rift healed as inevitably as a wound in healthy tissue, leaving a united citizenry facing the problems of peace."<sup>5</sup>

I think there is an important and timely lesson for all of us in this story. It is no longer important who were the Patriots, and who were Tories. During the revolutionary war, the Waldoboro community found itself divided over the most fundamental political and social issues of the time. Our ancestor's conflicts were just as calamitous and divisive as the issues in our own era. Families and friendships were fractured over the war; some people were fighting and dying to make a new political order, while others fought to preserve the tried-and-true ways of the past. Our own era is just as fraught. As time moves on, let us hope to emulate our ancestors and try to overlook our past political differences and resolve to heal and move forward in the spirit of common cause and community.

**Correction:** From 'The Waldoboro Boston Post Cane' article, Fall 2023 Newsletter, Woody Verge is listed as number 27 in the list, but his photo is numbered 26. The photo should have been number 27. (26) Edward C. Werler 2013-2016, and (27) Woodrow J. 'Woody' Verge 2018-2018

# Old Broad Bay Family History Association

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