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## **GETMAN NEWS**

December 2009

### **300 Years in the New World**

Most of the Palatinate Germans who were sent to the colonies as a result of Queen Anne's actions arrived here in 1710 and 1711. They were to later be known as the "Palatines" and would have a significant impact on the colonies and the new county that would be formed there.

The "Palatines to America" organization was formed for the purpose of researching and reporting the events and genealogy associated with the mass migration. The 2010 Palatines to America National Conference and Annual Meeting will be held June 18-19, 2010 in Fishkill, New York. Persons interested in this event are urged to visit their website at <http://www.palam.org>.

### **Getman Family Association to meet in Schoharie, New York**

On Saturday, August 1, 2010, the Getman Family Association will meet at "The Old Stone Fort" Schoharie, NY. Arrangements have been made for a tour of the fort and the living museum. The Palatine House, a nearby attraction, is highly recommended for everyone to visit as well. Details concerning time, registration fees etc will be available in the spring.

Arrangements for lunch have not been made as of this writing. Primarily because there is no food service of appropriate size currently available in town. I am currently anticipating a catered meal/picnic to be served on the living museum grounds.

### **The Old Stone Fort**

Located in Schoharie, New York the Old Stone Fort was built in 1772 as a High Dutch Reformed Church and now serves as a museum honoring the area and those who made it significant.

Schoharie was a significant part of the lives of the Palatines, many of whom moved to the Schoharie Valley when they left the Pitch Camps. The area was also critical to the American Revolution by providing much needed grain to feed the rebel army. This "bread basket" and the surrounding areas became essential to the establishment of the new country and its survival.

In addition to the fort itself a colonial period living museum has been constructed adjacent to the fort and cemetery. During our visit we will experience a tour intended to help us understand the impact palatine settlers had on the area, and the impact of the area on palatine settlers.

The Getman/Bierman family spent several years in the Schoharie Valley before the resettled in further reaches of the Mohawk Valley.

### **Web Page Data to Be Updated in January**

Over the past several months your association historian Wayne Getman has been researching descendants of Anna Maria Getman b. 1721. She is the first of the eight children born to Johann Frederick Getman and Maria Johanna Bierman.

Anna Maria married Johann Henrich Meyers and moved to German Flatts. Several of her descendants later moved to western Ontario, Canada. After nearly a year of research I estimate I have assembled approximately 1/3 of her descendants who will be added to the web page data in early January. The data will then include nearly 20,000 descendants and in-laws.



