

January 2011

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## August 2011 Reunion



Saturday, August 13, 2011 the Getman Family Association will once again gather at Saltsman's Hotel for the annual gathering and meeting. Starting at 11:30 we will begin with a noon dinner followed by a visit to an important historical site.

This year's program will visit the Stone Arabia, Stone Church. The church figured prominently in the lives of early palatinate settlers in the Mohawk Valley. The Getmans were no exception. Carol Edwards of the Stone Arabia Historical Society will be our host.

We will have an opportunity to view the site of the Battle of Stone Arabia where, -- Getman was cited as the first to fire in anger. We will tour the church where many of our ancestors were baptized and visit the cemetery where our ancestor's friends and neighbors are buried.

Reservations are required for dinner. A \$20.00 fee will cover dinner, gratuity and a contribution to the historical society. Please respond to Wayne Getman; 315-845-8014 or wayget@ntcnet.com.

### The Getmans and Stone Arabia

Getman history and Stone Arabia are closely intertwined. The following are some excerpts for historical accounts of Getman impact on Stone Arabia and her citizens.

"George, son of Frederick Getman "the founder," was born in the town of Ephratah, now Fulton County, New York. He succeeded his father in possession of the Ephratah homestead. He married and had five sons, all of whom did service in the revolutionary cause." (Cuyler Reynolds, Hudson and Mohawk Genealogical and Family)

"This George Getman [GFG # A 1] was of the Tryon Militia and at the battle of Stone Arabia. History says "The first shot fired by Col. Brown's men after leaving the fort Oct 19, 1780, was by George Getman who saw an Indian chasing two women. The Indian fired and one of them fell and as he was running to scalp her, Getman's flint lock brought him down. When they were fleeing from the battle field George Getman, a Militia man overtook a young yankee soldier who caught hold of Getman's bayonet belt which of course assisted him considerably but retarded Getman. The belt broke after a time and the lad soon fell behind doubtless soon to be tomahawked and scalped.



Getman was running east and came to a bar way, the middle bar being down, he stopped to pass through when a bullet struck the top bar. Soon after from a little nearby copse came the call "Help brother" and he found a brother militiaman wounded in the shoulder. It was Jacob Snell, afterward County Judge. The flint had dropped from Getman's gun and after putting their weapons in good repair, Getman bent over to dress the wounded shoulder, His hat had fallen off in his flight and as he knelt by Snell's side a hawk lit on his bald head, each talon drawing blood. The victim thought he was being scalped and looked around for the enemy but saw no one, and did not know the character of his assailant until Snell told him." (Hatch Papers)

## A Note from Our President:

One of the highlights of the Getman family is the annual reunion with the opportunity to enjoy a meal together with cousins we seldom see, hear about recent happenings in the family, visit one of the sites significant in our early history, and learn some of the Getman story. This year we will have dinner at Saltsman's Hotel, one of the oldest restaurants in New York State, see the historical marker at the Frederick Getman homestead, and visit the Stone Arabia churches and graveyard. All of these have importance for the early generations, and we will hear some of the story.

Another highlight is the continual growth of our family story as we learn more of the early generations and their descendants. Research is continuing among the first two generations and is being added as available on the Getman Family Web page. And we are meeting new cousins through the web page we had not previously known who provide a bit more to the Getman story.

Join us for the 2011 Reunion in Stone Arabia in August. And send us some the anecdotes and stories you have found valuable but didn't realize others would enjoy as well.

Clyde Getman

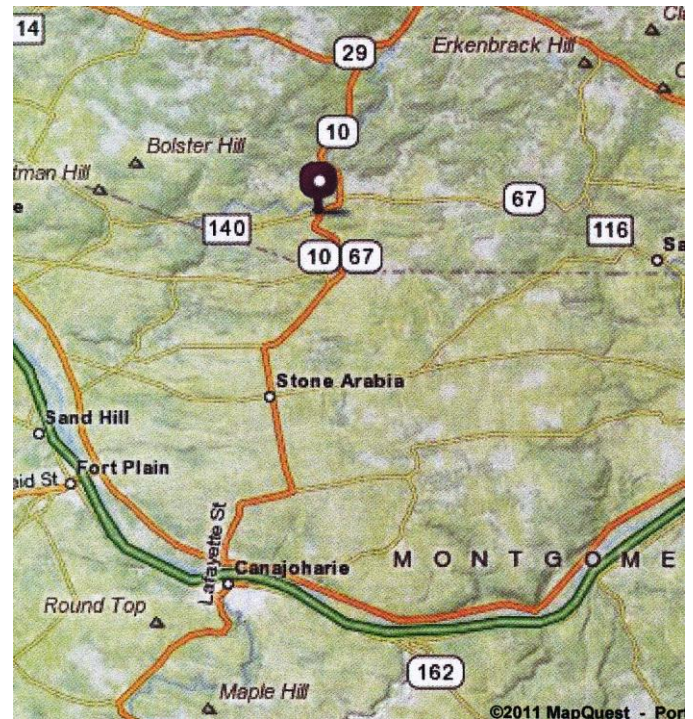
## Getman Descendant Research Continues

As of this writing I am continuing to work on the descendants of Ana Eva Getman b. 1722. Anna Eva is the second daughter of Frederick and Maria Bierman. She married Frederick Orendorf and appear to have had 12 children, 7 of which have descendants. After about four months of research I have completed what is available for the first of these children (Catherine Orendorf b. 1741 m. Michael Ittig) and have done about half of the second (George Orendorf b. 1745 m. Elizabeth Fulmer).

As expected inclusion of the daughter's lines has greatly expanded the number of known Getman descendants, particularly in the Mohawk Valley area. Also as expected the daughter's lines have intermingled with the previously known descendancy lines, creating more complex family trees for a good many people. Most of these distant

## How to Get There

Saltsman's Hotel is located in the village of Ephratah, on NY Route 10, about 10 miles North of Canajoharie (see the dark marker below) . The Stone Church is also on Route 10 about 5 miles south of Saltsman's, South of where Stone Arabia is indicated on the map below.



cousins who married each other had no idea they had mutual ancestors.

When we consider the relatively small number of palatine families that settled in Stone Arabia and German Flatts, the number of children each of these family had [10 – 12 per generation, per family] and the fact that they were a german speaking community at least until the American Revolution. It is inevitable that the lines would get intermingled.

Additionally as descendants of the original families moved out of the Mohawk Valley they tended to do so in groups. Perhaps several neighborhood children would decide to move to Michigan together and when they got there the next generation would frequently marry each other.

Consequently we find settlements of Mohawk Valley palatinate emigrants scattered throughout the U.S.. Getman Descendants have been recorded in every State and Canadian Province.