

# **GETMAN NEWS**

http://www.genealogy.getman.org

January 2012

### **A Word From Our President**

January is a common time to look at the past year with its accomplishments (and lack of such) and at the coming year with its hopes and possibilities. During recent months we have made contact with several previously unknown cousins and learned some more about our Getman family and heritage. Some persons have had questions we have been able to answer, some have provided 'bits 'n' pieces' that are new to us, a couple we had not known of previously.

Each person has something to add to the story. As people correspond with us we often learn things which help us to connect the dots on our ancestors.

Most new pieces appear quietly in the posts on the web site as it is continually being updated. Occasionally an item is revealed which calls for more attention. One recent discovery is a photograph of the contract for the 1743 purchase by Frederick Getman of what we know as the homestead in Stone Arabia.

Our 2012 reunion will be held in Utica the weekend of August 3-5 and will focus on events surrounding the August 7, 1777, Battle of Oriskany which was so critical in not only our own history but in the history of our new nation. After discussion with folks who asked if we could have more time together at the reunion, the format will be expanded to include a dinner together, our annual meeting, visitation of two historical sites, and time for 'just being together' and talking about items of interest.

A fine program is being planned. We are looking forward to being with you.

Clyde J Getman President: Getman Family Association

## Our Web Page

Web editor, Maureen Getman has been making valuable changes to our web page. Photographs have been added and the genealogical data is periodically updated. New data will be posted during February. This data will include another 2,000 Getman descendants gleaned from census records and internet research of the original Getman daughter descendants.

Photos and documents you wish to share can be added by contacting Maureen through the web page.

## Getman Association to Meet August 4, 2012 Meeting Format to Change

In recognition that a number of Getman Association participants have been attending from outside the Mohawk Valley, a revised format has been implemented for 2012. Arrangements have been made to conduct the gathering at the Hotel Utica. Those coming from outside of the area will be able to take advantage of a group rate, while those who prefer to attend for the day only have that option.

Hotel Utica has put together the following package for the "Getman Reunion".

#### Aug. Fri 3 – Sat 4 – Sun 5

\$100.00 per night per room. Breakfast buffet included. Separate meeting room for use after breakfast and dinner. A block of ten rooms is available. In order to take advantage of the group rate, identify yourself as part of the Getman reunion.

**Friday**: arrival, check in, have your evening meal etc. according to individual schedules.

#### Saturday:

- 8:00 breakfast buffet (\$6.00 charge for those who do not have rooms)
- Program Overview of the Battle of Oriskany.
- Drive to and tour the Oriskany Battlefield.
- Lunch on your own.
- Drive to and tour of Fort Stanwix, (admission fee required). Fort Stanwix, located in Rome, NY, was the focal point of the Battle of Oriskany.
- Dinner on your own.
- 7:00 pm Association meeting, discussions etc.

**Sunday:** am, 8:00 breakfast buffet and depart on individual schedules.

### **Reservations:**

Hotel Utica: 315-877-906-1912

#### **Association Meeting:**

Wayne Getman 315-845-8014

wayget@ntcnet.com

# **New information changes old assumptions**

A photograph of the deeded transfer between Frederick Getman and Hendrick Six has been made available to your researchers, through the courtesy of Scott Failmezger, of Oregon. Scott is a previously unlisted member of the Getman "A" line. The deed transcript reveals that Frederick Getman (Our first ancestor in the new world) was living in Burnetsfield. The following summary outlines changes result from this information.

Frederick Getman, his step-mother Anna Barbara and her second husband, Johannes Bierman were delivered to West Camp on the Hudson River in 1710. West Camp was located on the West side of the river in the general area of Catskill, NY. During 1711 it became evident that the northern pines were not good for producing pitch, the purpose the Palatine residents were brought to the area for. Supplies to support the pitch camps (there were two, with the creative names of East and West Camp) were not financed by England and the local Governor was unable to provide them with adequate tools, food, clothing and shelter. By the fall of 1712 the Palatines in West Camp were upset enough to send representatives to Schoharie Valley, on the Western side of the Catskill Mountains to negotiate with the Indians for land they could move to.

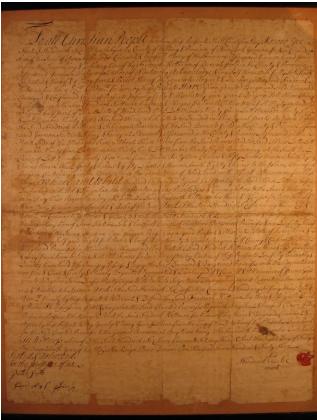
By 1713, things had gotten bad enough that most of the Palatines left West Camp. Many of them moved to the Schoharie Valley. Johannes Bierman and his family, including Frederick Getman, were among them. The Bierman family wound up in Hartman's Dorf, one of seven dorfs (villages) located along the Schoharie River. Hartman's Dorf was located just north of the current village of Middleburg and was the largest of the seven settlements.

About 1720 Frederick Getman married Maria Bierman, the younger of two daughters in Johannes's family with his first wife. Johanna was also born in Germany and was approximately seven years younger than Frederick. The couple had three children while they were living at Hartman's Dorf Anna Maria, b. 26 Dec 1721; Anne Eve, b. 1722 and George, b. 1 May 1723.

Several political and real estate speculation issues caused problems for the Palatines in the Scoharie Valley. Eventually they were offered an option to purchase land where they were or leave. The English government refused to recognize any arrangements the Palatines had made with the Indians and granted the land to politically connected land speculators. Several Palatine settlers purchased land and remained where they were. The rest were obliged to leave.

In 1723 The Burnetsfield Patent was established further West in the Mohawk Valley, in the area where Herkimer, Mohawk and Little Falls are now located. Two of the plots were granted to the Johannes Bierman family, one to him, the other to his wife. The family resettled there. Current speculation is that Johannes and his wife moved to the western lot along the West Canada Creek (River) in the

area now known as East Herkimer. Frederick Getman and



his family are presumed to have settled on the eastern plot which was located on the North side of the Mohawk River, approximately half way between the current villages of Herkimer and Little Falls.

While they lived in Burnetsfield Maria gave birth to the remaining Getman children; Frederick b. abt 1725; Johannes B, b. 1728; Maria Margaretha, b. abt 1732; Christian, b. 6 Mar 1734 and Catherine, b. abt 1737.

In 1743 Frederick Getman purchased three plots of land from Henrich Six in Stone Arabia, approximately 6 miles north of the current village of Canjoharie. Stone Arabia had been part of a previous land grant for Palatine settlers and was located approximately 15 miles from where Frederick is presumed to have lived. The Getman family relocated to Stone Arabia and became widely known as one of the founding families. Most records presume that they arrived in the 1720's. The recently reviewed deed of 1743 corrects this misconception.

While the family lived in Burnetsfield, the two oldest daughters married; Anna Maria, married Johann Meyers and settled in German Flatts (the south side of the river); Anne Eve married Frederick Orendorf and settled in the vicinity of Little Falls. The remaining 6 children moved to Stone Arabia, married other local palatine settlers and help to establish a far-reaching family legacy.