

SAVE THE DATE

August 12-13-14

Watertown is our destination for 2016. A block of rooms has been set aside for the Getman Family Association at the Holiday Inn, while the detailed arrangements are being developed. The second Saturday of August falls on the 13th so our activities will seem later than usual (2015 it was the 8th.)

Arrangements have been made for the Getman 2016 reunion to stay at the Holiday Inn Express, Watertown, NY <http://www.hiexpress.com/watertownny>.

What Would You Like to do at Watertown This August?

As indicated earlier the Getman Association will be gathering in Watertown next year. Many Getman descendants live in the area. We are in hopes that some of them will be able to join us.

While we are there, we will have an opportunity to visit sites that the Association has not seen before. Send in your suggestions for consideration. If you can help with arrangements that will be even better.

Your President's Corner

New Year's is commonly a time for reflecting on the past year and making resolutions (of some sort) for the coming year. As I look over past months, 2015 was a good year for the Getman Association. We met for our annual reunion a bit further from the Homestead than previously. Some were able to meet for the first time cousins they had not previously known. The newsletter has been sent more often and with more material. And more importantly, we have heard from several cousins who have contributed family history and stories to our database. This will help in future publications, and when assisting other family

members. And some items may appear in our newsletter.

Our 2013 genealogy include six generations of the Descendants of Caspar Getman. As I meet with family groups I am often asked when we will publish the seventh and eighth generations. All I can respond is "when you and others send us the material that is known about parents, grandparents, etc., so that we may make it available."

Let us all resolve to have a good year.

Clyde J Getman
Association President

A Single Family Topic This Month

This issue of the Getman News focuses on a single individual who created a legacy that continues to this day in his native Fulton County, New York.

Getman Genealogy Book Available

A book covering the first six generations of Getmans, starting with Caspar is now available. Included in the book are the known descendants of all of the family lines, including daughters.

500 pages in length on 8 ½ x 11 paper this represents countless hours of research by our predecessors as well as input from many current researchers. Printing costs are high so the print run is small.

The book will be available at a price of \$42.00 per copy plus shipping, of \$5.00 each.

Copies purchased or picked up at the reunion will not have a shipping charge.

Orders with payment should be sent to: Wayne Getman, 2672 Newport Road, Poland, NY, 13431. Checks should be made to Wayne Getman.

Getman News From The Past

The Getman Family

The history of this family is Interwoven with the history of Montgomery county, from Revolutionary times till now and the family is spread over a goodly section of the western end of the county, in St. Johnsville, Canajoharie, Fort Plain, Fonda, Tribes Hill, Johnstown. N. Y. and other towns and villages. A genealogy of the family would show them to have entered in most every walk of life, farmers, merchants, lawyers and businessmen of all professions, thereby giving a good cross section of the history of the Mohawk valley.

(Saint Johnsville, New York, ENTERPRISE AND NEWS, Wednesday, February 19, 1936)

Some Interesting Newspaper Stories About Getman Descendants.



The Getman Home

The Morning Herald, Gloversville and Johnstown NY
Friday, June 17, 1927

A few years ago a man had a vision of building a place where women in the twilight of their lives might spend their last years in comfort and peace. He made plans and dreamed dreams, but with the irony of fate he died before his plans could materialize. But the work has been carried on by others imbued with the spirit of true altruism.

The man was Capt. David Getman the founder of the David and Helen Getman Home, which stands in all its beautiful serenity on its broad State street lawns. The property for the home was purchased by Capt. Getman in 1909 from Patterson and Burr, who conducted a business school there for a number of

years, for \$14,000. In the year 1914 Capt. Getman died and the city, under the provision of his will, became the owners of the property to be used for the purpose designated. All but \$2,000 had been paid, and Mrs. Getman, desiring to make it free from encumbrances paid the remainder.

The next two years were not good ones for the home and the large property lay idle, for there were no funds to open it. In the fall of 1916 the public sentiment was aroused and a number of prominent people held a meeting and an organization was formed to go ahead with the project of opening it. However, it was not until the spring of the following year when definite steps could be taken. At that time the board of directors decided to borrow funds and put the building in proper shape as quickly as possible. Plans were prepared, the contract let and the work commenced. Eight thousand dollars was spent in remodeling and the home was finally opened.

That such a home was needed was at once shown. Today there are nineteen women from Fulton county there, between the ages of sixty-six and eighty-seven. Eighteen more names are on the waiting list. Here the days are spent in dignity and comfort. There are little tasks such as setting the table or washing or drying the dishes to keep their minds and hands occupied. Then, there is a piano and a victrola and a radio to amuse the women. Last week someone donated a croquet set with which the women love to play on the lawns. From rising bell at 7 o'clock until the hour for bed, there is something to do. Some of the women sit and knit, others, read, some just sit around and talk. There is no time for lonesomeness. A large hen coop with seventy chickens provide the fresh eggs and the well kept vegetable and flower gardens provide fresh vegetables and lovely flowers all through the summer.

Mrs. Emma J. Thayer, the matron is assisted in her work by a nurse, a cook, a second girl and a Janitor. The regular business of the home is taken care of by the Men's Board of Directors and the Woman's Auxiliary who meet monthly to devise ways and means and discuss any problems that might arise. Mrs. Thayer submits a monthly report of the work at the home.

The work of that public spirited man, Capt. Getman, still lives on.

Obituary Amsterdam Evening Recorder Monday, January 26, 1914

David Getman, a prominent G. A. R. man, a real estate operator, and known to a few friends as a philanthropist, died at his home, No. 387 Kingsboro avenue; Gloversville, early Sunday morning, after a few days' illness. He was born in Ephratah, January 21, 1836, and was 78 years old. He is survived only by his wife. Mrs. Helen Getman, and Edward C. Brown, who has been a member of his household for the past twenty-four years. He had lived in Gloversville for the past seven years, having gone there from Mayfield, where he was engaged in raising Stock.

The funeral will be held Tuesday afternoon, and will be attended by the members of the Masonic lodge, of which he was a member, by members of the Canby post, G. A. R., of which he was also a member, and by a delegation from the Capt. David Getman Jr., post. Sons of Veterans, which was named in his honor. The Rev. Francis Berger of the Kingsboro avenue Presbyterian church, will conduct the services. Interment will be in the family plot in

the Mayfield cemetery. Friends are requested not to send flowers.

Mr. Getman had always led an active life, starting with the organization of a company which took part in the Civil war, continuing through his political activities to the affairs of the town of Mayfield, and closing with his founding of an Old Ladies' Home, which he expected to open in a few months.

He was the son of David Getman, of Mayfield, and the grandson of George Getman, who was a captain in the Revolutionary war, and a lifelong resident of Ephratah. David Getman Sr., his father, went to Mayfield in 1846, and engaged in the mercantile trade, continuing until 1863, when he retired. He died May 3, 1890.

David Getman Jr., was educated in the Kingsboro academy. When the Civil war broke out, he was among the first to answer the call for volunteers. He also organized a company of 100 volunteer in Mayfield, which formed Company F of the Seventh New York volunteers. In recognition of his services, he was made lieutenant in the regiment. He was later promoted to the rank of captain, and was assigned to the Tenth New York cavalry, which was incorporated in the army of the Potomac.

He participated in the battle of Brandy station. In this battle his horse was shot out from under him and he was taken prisoner and confined for eleven months in Libby prison. Even in prison he was not allowed to remain inactive. In July, 1863, he drew lots for execution, and was forced to defend the city of Charleston against the fire of the Union forces for sixty-four days. From Libby prison he was removed to Columbia. While there he with four others carried a successful plot for escape. Following his escape, he joined General Sherman's army, and finally reached his own command. He was wounded in the battle of Brandy Station, and even after he finished his service in August, 1865, the bullet wound in his arm gave him a great deal of trouble for two years.

When the war was over he returned to Mayfield and engaged in stock raising. Outside of his business he found time to engage in public affairs. He was the leader in the movement for the incorporation of the village, and after this was brought about, was its first president, serving one term, which began in 1884. He was always a staunch Republican in politics.

On November 6, 1881, he married Helen Van Buren, of Fultonville, Montgomery county. The marriage was performed in Van Hornesville. His bride is a descendant from President Martin Van Buren, and was a sister of Cornelius and Martin Van Buren and Mrs. Boyd Hudson of this city.

David Getman (GFG - A 434)

Charleston and the POWs Exerpt

... President Abraham Lincoln became aware of the situation in Charleston and gave permission to Foster to make an exception to War Department policy and begin making arrangements for an exchange. Thus, on August 3, an agreement was worked out for the 100 officers.

Just when it seemed that the prisoner dispute had been resolved, things took a turn that would place even more captives in harm's way. Union Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman's campaign in Georgia was getting a bit too close to the overcrowded Southern prison camp at Andersonville, and the Confederate government began to send hundreds of Federal prisoners to Charleston for safekeeping. Jones objected to the situation, arguing to no avail that it was 'inconvenient and unsafe.'

Upon their arrival in Charleston, most of the Federals were confined to the city jail, a massive octagonal fortress guarded by a 40-foot tower. It was located on Magazine Street, in the southeast part of the city, directly in the line of fire from the mortars across the harbor.

Before long, the inmates included nearly 600 officers, more than 300 enlisted men both black and white, as well as local criminals and deserters from both sides. All were jammed into A-frame tents set up in the courtyard. An officer inmate described the yard as 'A dirty filthy place unfit for human beings to live in.' Another Federal, Lieutenant Louis Fortescue, wrote of the 'intolerable heat' that he endured in the cramped courtyard, which did not have a single shade tree.'

The full heat of high summer made the interior of the jail stifling, and yellow fever

began to take a frightening toll. General Jones reacted to the outbreak of disease by issuing orders to his provost marshal to remove all of the sick and wounded prisoners who were able to travel and have them sent back to the prison at Andersonville. Furthermore, he ordered that only extreme cases be allowed to enter Roper Hospital in Charleston. Food for the Federals was poor and scarce; sanitation was nearly nonexistent. Most of the men were exposed to the elements all day and night, and the constant crash of artillery was unnerving. Clearly, the Federal prisoners were in a deadly and harrowing position.

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For the full story of this unfortunate situation visit the following link on-line.

<http://www.historynet.com/immortal-600-prisoners-under-fire-at-charleston-harbor-during-the-american-civil-war.htm>

Capt. David Getman's Gift to Village of Mayfield to Be Unveiled Tomorrow With Appropriate Ceremonies.

**The Morning Herald, Gloversville, NY
May 27, 1916**

To commemorate and perpetuate the fame and glory of the Fulton county soldiers who served during the Civil war under the command of Captain David Getman, Jr., in Co. I. of the Tenth New York cavalry, a handsome soldiers' monument is to be dedicated in the Mayfield cemetery tomorrow.

The G. A. R. posts at Broadalbin, Gloversville and Johnstown, the Gloversville Sons of Veterans and other patriotic and civic organizations will take part in the dedication exercises. Colonel Daniel H. Cole of Gloversville will be grand marshal of the parade and President Joseph Bennett, Jr., of the village of Mayfield will be the presiding officer at the dedication ceremonies. The monument will be presented on behalf of the heirs of Captain Getman by Edward C. Brown of Gloversville, and will be accepted by Hon. James H. Wood of Gloversville. Judge J. Keck of Johnstown will make the principal address.

Twelve members of the brave company that followed Captain Getman to the war are still alive and it is hoped that ten of the survivors will be able to be present at the dedication of the monument. It is possible, however, that but seven or eight will be able to attend.

Parade at 3 O'clock.

The parade will form promptly at 3 P. M. in West Main street, near the H. W. Bennett & Co. glove factory. It will march up North Main street to Dr. Installs' office, then countermarch to Cooley avenue, to School street and to the Mayfield cemetery, where the dedication Ceremonies will take place.

The order of the parade has been arranged as follows:

Mayfield Band.

Survivors of Company I, 10th N. T. Cavalry.

McKean. G. A. R. Post, Broadalbin.

McMartin G. A. R. Post, 257, Johnstown.

Ansel Denison G. A. R Post. 17, Gloversville.

Capt. David Getman. Jr.. Camp 13, Sons of Veterans, Gloversville.

Veterans of Village of Mayfield.

Citizens' Corps of Broadalbin.

Children of Mayfield Union school.

Odd Fellows- Lodge, Mayfield.

Mayfield Fire Department.

Citizens of Mayfield.

Program of Dedication Exercises.

The program at the dedication ceremonies has been arranged as follows:

Opening prayer by Rev. Joseph C. Booth. Mayfield.

Patriotic selection by Mayfield band. Song by school children.

Address by Judge J. Keck of McMartin post, 257, Johnstown,

Presentation of monument by Edward C. Brown. Gloversville.

Acceptance of monument by Hon. James H. Wood of Gloversville.

Song by school children.

Benediction by Rev. Alex. Lennox, Litt. D., Mayfield.

The monument which cost about \$3,500, was erected by Hunter & Son of Gloversville. The fund to defray the cost of the monument was provided for in the will of the late Captain Getman.

Andersonville Prison

Andersonville became synonymous with the atrocities which both Union and Confederate soldiers experienced as prisoners of war. Conditions at

Andersonville were worse than at any other war prison, North or South. The Georgia heat, along with disease, filth, exposure, and lack of adequate medical care, took a fearful toll. Diseases such as dysentery, gangrene, diarrhea, and scurvy took many. The Confederates lacked adequate facilities, personnel, and medical supplies to combat the diseases. By war's end Andersonville had 12,912 graves. Estimates of the total number of deaths at the prison have been much higher.

The publicity about Andersonville's human misery and horror made a lasting impression on America's consciousness. The South was condemned for the "notorious Hell Hole", though in fact prisoners had the same rations as prison guards and Confederate soldiers, and had all the medical care possible in the impoverished Confederacy. Further, Grant's refusal to exchange Confederate for Union prisoners was a major factor in the suffering of Union captives. Of the 45,000 Union soldiers confined at Andersonville, 13,000 died.

In the months following the abandonment of the prison, local residents broke into the prison warehouses and took off with the remaining supplies that were still stored in there. Relic hunters later arrived at the prison and ransacked the entire stockade looking for souvenirs. The weather, roaming livestock, and additional waves of souvenir hunters continued to destroy the Andersonville stockade for years after the war.

In December 1890, The Georgia Department of the Grand Army of the Republic purchased the prison site. It was later turned over to the Women's Relief Corps, and still later, in 1910, it was donated to the people of the United States.

See more at:

<http://www.americancivilwar101.com/pow/gaanderso nville.html#sthash.D6f5qhKv.dpuf>

**Send us your family
stories.**

Wayne Getman
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**See You This August
In Watertown**