

Greetings,

With the new year, our Getman Family Board is looking to invite other Getman groups around the country to contact us and let us know what they are doing. Our goal is to expand our resources and share information for as many Getman family members as possible.

If you would like to get to know our group better, please contact us. We hope to have a reunion this summer August 7, 8th., depending on COVID-19, check our newsletter for information.

Marty Chase
President

More Genealogy Data Available

During the past few weeks additions have been made to the Getman Association information that is available via the internet. The website is under repair. In the meantime the new information is available at getmandata.org.

The Getman genealogy data has been updated. The new update includes information more recent than the previous version. Data included has been gleaned from publicly available sources and includes Getman descendants and in-laws more recent than the 1940 census. A total of 64,671 persons, 25,516 marriages found in over 2,500 different sources.

The new version of the Getman Association Newsletter has also been added and includes all newsletters since it was resumed in 2004. A few other documents are also there that have not previously been available.

Dear Cousins

For several years I have been searching records and postings to locate the graves of our progenitor Frederick Getman (1693-1781) and his sons in Stone Arabia, George (1723-1789) and Christian (1734-1822). There is no notation in [The Getman Family Genealogy, 1710-1964](#) (1965), known among Getman Family members as 'The Book,' nor in the [Descendants of Casper Getman, 1673-1710: Six](#)

[Generations](#) (2013), a revision of 'The Book' updated with the advantage of later research and more recently available information. Neither the 1965 nor the 2013 books mention a burying place for Frederick or his sons George and Christian. The 2013 book notes Casper, Frederick's father and the earliest known ancestor of our Getman family, as dying with most of his children at sea. Casper with his wife and eight children departed in 1709 from their home in the Palatinate for relocation in the New World. His oldest son Frederick (1693), a second son as yet unknown, and his wife / widow Maria Barbara survived the journey and arrived in New York in June 1710. Casper and his other children perished before the ship's arrival.

The 2013 [Descendants](#) of Casper Getman, known as 'The New Getman Book,' updates the 1965 Getman Genealogy and is now the standard Getman genealogy. The [Descendants](#) corrects errors found in the 1965 book and includes newly discovered additions for the daughters of Frederick, Anna Maria (1721-1811), Anne Eve (1722), Maria Margaretha (1732-1762), and Catherine (1737-1806). The massive amount of material being found made it necessary to carry the content down to only the first six generations of Casper in Volume I, and makes necessary the future printing of a second volume.

Both books are well researched. Each is a worthy contribution to Getman and Mohawk Valley history. Each book would have included notations for the graves of Frederick and his sons in Stone Arabia had they been known at the time of publication.

Frederick purchased 700 acres in the Stone Arabia Patent and built his home on the lot 94 property. He died in 1781 in Stone Arabia. George (1723) moved to Stone Arabia and lived at the Homestead. As first son, and by right of primogeniture, George inherited his father's property and died in 1789 in Stone Arabia. Frederick (1725) remained in the Burnetsfield area and died in German Flatts in 1792/93. He was buried in the Dutch Reformed Church Cemetery in Columbia. Johannes (b 1728) married into a loyalist family and during the Revolution moved with them to Ontario as his

property was confiscated by the Patriots. Little is known of him after that time. Christian (1734) moved from Burnetsfield with his father to Stone Arabia, was granted lot 92 by his father next to the Homestead and lived on the property. He died in Ephratah (Stone Arabia) in 1822. None of the burial places for Frederick, George or Christian were known or identified in 2013.

My research and conversations with genealogists and historians of the Getman family, in postings on the Internet, and on relevant historical sites have found minimal data of value concerning the burials of Frederick, George or Christian. It has been said 'maybe' Frederick was buried in the churchyard behind the Stone Arabia Reformed and Lutheran churches but the gravestone no longer exists. As this is a distant possibility it must be considered.

Why were Frederick, who owned 700 acres in the Stone Arabia Patent and lived on the northern part of lot 94, and George, who inherited and lived on the property, not buried at the Homestead where their descendants are buried. And why was Christian, living on adjacent lot 92, not buried either at the Homestead or in the Round Barn Cemetery on his own property where his descendants are buried?

There is a burial plot on the Homestead, known as the Old Getman Burying Ground, with several descendants identified by gravestones. George's sons, Thomas (1752-1820) and George (1756-1828), are buried at the Homestead. Christian's first child, Catherine (1761-1813) is buried at the Homestead.

There is a burial plot on Christian's property on Route 10 south of Ephratah, known as the Round Barn Cemetery. Christian's son Jacob (1773-1858) is buried at the cemetery. His son Peter (1764-1845) is buried in the northern section of lot 92 and probably Peter's home.

The New York State Education Department in 1935 erected an historical marker on the property next to the cemetery in honor of Frederick Getman and his descendants, in a ceremony *with* the participation and attendance of several cousins we have known.

Franklin Bowman, Family Historian while the 1965 Genealogy was being prepared, and for several years Editor of The Getman News, wrote in Vol I No. 1, February 1963, "At the entrance to the plot, we find two large field stones. These stones were pointed out to your historian by an old man over fifty years ago, as the markers which show the location of the resting place of Frederick Getman and his wife Mary." In a Bowman letter of December 10, 1962, listing graves in the burial ground, Byron Getman, Bowman's predecessor as Historian of the Getman

Family, is reported as stating concerning the field stones, "these mark the graves of Frederick, his wife, George, his wife, etc." Bowman included a sketch of the [Round Barn Cemetery] on lot 92 and labeled the plot "Christian Getman and Jacob Getman Burial Ground." The Bowman and Getman material is accepted as eyewitness evidence.

Field stones were used for early graves and have deteriorated from the corrosive effect of acid rain and unfavorable weather conditions; some no longer exist. It is presumed that other early unknown graves in the Mohawk Valley have suffered similar effects.

My conclusion is there is only hearsay and undocumented supposition for any Getman burials at the Stone Arabia churchyard. There is significant and acceptable evidence for Frederick Getman and his wife Mary Bierman, and for his son George Getman and his wife Udelia Shoemaker, to be buried in the Old Getman Burying Ground at the Homestead, and for his son Christian Getman and his wife Anne Eve Zimmerman / Timmerman to be buried in the Round Barn Cemetery on lot 92 beside Route 10.

There is sufficient evidence for the burial ground at the Homestead to be known as the Frederick Getman Cemetery and for the Round Barn Cemetery on Route 10 to be known as the Christian Getman Cemetery.

Clyde J. Getman
December 7, 2020

Reunion Plans Under Way

In an effort to have a positive outlook on the current situation a Getman Association reunion for 2021 is being planned. This will be held in Johnstown NY, August 6-7-8, 2021. A block of rooms has been arranged at the Johnstown-Gloversville Holiday Inn.

Our plans currently feature looking more closely at the first few years that Frederick Getman spent in the new colony. Details of West Camp where our ancestor was held as an indentured servant of the English Crown will be researched and shared with those attending. Other anticipated activities include visiting the Stone Arabia churches where our early ancestors worshiped were baptized, married, and buried.

You are encouraged to "pencil in" this date on your calendar. Details will be provided as they become available.

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)

A Perspective

While researching a Getman in-law by the name of Arthur H. Loomis (not the one here) I came across this article. Which I thought might be interesting due to our current international situation. The pathogen was apparently never identified.

Kentucky's Plague

The Daily Sentinel, Rome, NY

Monday, December 1, 1884

Arthur H. Loomis, a traveling representative for a New York firm, just returned to Louisville, from a trip through the plague stricken district of eastern Kentucky says: "I was four days in Martin county without disposing of a single article. The people are absolutely crazy. They have no use for anything but coffins. I know of instances where whole families have died within a week; where neighborhoods have been swallowed up in the grave; where one man has survived to bury his family and his friends, and then has been found dead, with no living creature near him except, in some cases, a faithful dog. Flocks of sheep and droves of cattle that used to browse on the hillsides and among the range of the Cumberlands are now lying dead and rotting. White pebbles glisten on the bottom of the creek beds. Wells and cisterns have been drained to the bottom, and springs-are no longer to be relied upon for a supply of water. The ground is literally parched, and where vegetation formerly bloomed luxuriantly there is nothing but decay. Thousands of persons are said to have died within the past two weeks.

"It is very evident that the chief agent of death is starvation. People in those districts are almost without communication with the outside world. An occasional drummer like myself strays among them once a year, and a few of the most prosperous of the people visit some large cities once in a lifetime. I am speaking now of the backwoods in the neighborhoods where the plague has raged with the greatest fatality. I learned while in Martin county that the crop yield for two successive seasons had been a failure. The natives are without money and means to purchase bread. The shutting off of the water supply has

brought to the surface a poisonous liquid. Famished for water, people drank, and the consequence was death. The first symptoms are violent gripings, and after this a raging headache. Hot fever ensues, and the patient usually lingers two days, suffering mental agony before death. Before I left there was a light rainfall, with a prospect of continued rainy weather. The opinion prevails that the plague has passed through its most dangerous stages and is now on the wane."

The following are extracts from a New York Times article at the time

"Most of the people called it "flux," and it was probably a very aggravated form of that disease. It began with griping pains in the stomach, followed by a debilitating discharge and a swelling of the throat; and if not fatal in three or four days, the patient as a rule, recovered.

Besides a great variety of patent nostrums, the favorite remedies were liberal doses of hot mutton tallow, hog's grease mixed with burnt (mulled) brandy, decoctions of tobacco and of blackberry roots, and all sorts of herby teas, and at all stages of the disease whiskey.

The remedy which proved most effectual was a compound of castor and olive oil, laudanum and camphor, or, where no physician was in attendance, a simple treatment of warm tea and careful nursing.

Send Us Your Stories

**Share your Getman histories
and traditions with
your cousins, near and far.**

wayget@ntcnet.com

A Getman War Hero

Battle Creek Enquirer, Battle Creek, Michigan
Sunday, July 14, 1996

Gerald D. "Jerry" Getman, 71, of Bedford Township, died Saturday, July 13, 1996, at his home.

Mr. Getman was born Oct. 9, 1924 in Augusta, to Burr Nelson and Alma (Randolph) Getman. He moved to Battle Creek as a small child with his family.

He attended Level Park Schools.

He served in the Army during World War II from July 1942 until November 1945. He served in the Battles of the Aleutian Islands, Central Pacific, Southern Philippines and Ryukas. He received the Asiatic Pacific Theatre ribbon with four bronze battle stars, bronze service arrowhead and the Philippine Liberation Ribbon with four bronze battle stars and a victory medal.

He was employed by Midwest Foundry as a molder and retired after 30 years of service. He also had worked 10 years as a molder for the Battle Creek Foundry and for five years as a molder for the Franklin Foundry. He was also an attendant at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

He married Ruth M. Tucker on Nov. 15, 1945 in Battle Creek. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter, Sherry A. Doubletree of Hickory Corners; a son Kerry D. Getman of Kalamazoo; four grandchildren; a brother, Burr R. Getman of Hastings; and sisters Nelsena Pershing of Zephyrhills, Fla., and Ardith McFarland of Lakeland, Fla.

Community Involvement, hobbies: Member of local foundry workers union, enjoyed fishing, hunting, bird-watching, going to casino, bingo, watching football and baseball and vacationing with family.

Private services will be Wednesday at Fort Custer National Cemetery.

Gerald D. Getman (GFG-C)

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Milk Company Incorporated

The Argus, Albany, NY
Thursday Morning, August 24, 1911

"Jordanville Milk and Cream Company" of Jordanville, Herkimer county, has been incorporated with the secretary of State, with a capital of \$5,000. The directors are: Charles W. Crum, Henry J. Helmer, of Jordanville; Myron G. Bronner, of Little Falls; Amos T. Mason and John L. Paine, of Mohawk.

Henry J. Helmer (GFG C/II) 1854-1912 was a grandson of Permelia Getman (GFG - C 40) 1796-1844 and Conrad H. Helmer 1795-1875. He married Eva J. Klock (GFG - C/I) 1861-1953. Eva was a granddaughter of Ann Eve Getman (GFG - C 66) 1809-1889 and William Klock (GFG - I) 1805-1859)

PASTOR ANNOYED BY LOVESICK MAIDENS

The Utica Sunday Tribune, NY
November 19, 1914

Worcester, Mass., Nov. 28, - The Rev. Frederick Nichols, pastor of the First Baptist Church, today appealed to Chief of Police Hill for "protection against lovesick maidens and scheming mothers." For weeks he said, his life has been made unhappy by love letters and telephone calls. He turned over to police a package of letters, some of them daintily colored and richly scented.

Police officials subsequently visited one home and advised that attentions to this pastor should cease.

Sold His Potatoes Then Robbed

Utica Daily Press, New York
Friday September 25, 1914

Little Falls, Sept. 24, Jacob Shaul of Columbia Center was in this city yesterday for the purpose of disposing of a load of potatoes for which he received about \$16. He started home last evening and got no further than the end of the brick pavement when somebody snatched hold of his horses and got on his wagon. He was relieved of the money realised from the potatoes. Mr. Shaul turned about and drove back to this city. The police are investigating.

Jacov I Shaul (GFG - C 514) 1887-1930 was the son of Louisa Getman (GFG - C 373) 1851-1922 and Orville Shaul, 1846-1924.