

THE

GETMAN NEWS

January 2024

Web page <https://getmangenealogy.wordpress.com/>

Research Data: getmandata.org

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Happy New Year

From our home to yours, we send you the season's greeting.

Wishing you and yours an enjoyable holiday season and a healthy and prosperous new year

New Year's Plans

On behalf of your Getman Family Association's board of directors, I wish you all success in your New Year's genealogical goals and New Year's resolutions.

I came across this quote: "Life should NOT be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways, champagne in one hand – strawberries in the other, body thoroughly used up, totally worn out and screaming WOO HOO – What a Ride!"

With this in mind, let's make 2024 a year to remember! The August reunion plans are being made in Washington DC. Planners are working hard to make this reunion a memorable one! There is a board meeting scheduled for January 15th which should give us more details. Look for more announcements in future newsletters!

Marjorie Rosendahl,
President, Getman Family of America

Send Us Your Stories

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

Internet Data Updated

Genealogy data on the website has been updated to include research conducted during the past year. The data now includes 79,652 individuals, and 32,717 marriages gleaned from 2,717 identified sources.

The 2023 newsletters have also been updated and Franklin J. Bowman's newsletters are being added. Mr. Bowman was the Getman Association Historian responsible for the publication of the 1975 edition of the Getman Family Genealogy. The first newsletter he produced seems to have been in February 1963. I believe I have all 1963 letters.

The next set of newsletter I have is identified as volume 3, no, 1 and is dated January 1965. There are two others in 1965, one dated March and one that is obviously late summer or early autumn. Two additional "letters are in those preserved by my father which are not dated. Each of these will be added to the getmandata.org website .

1964 Getman Newsletters Wanted

If you have any Volume 2 copies of the Getman Newsletter, printed in 1964, I would appreciate copies so they may be included at the website. Any additional documents relating to the Getman history you are willing to share will also be greatly appreciated

Getman Family Reunion/Meeting Moves to Washington D.C.

August 2-3-4, 2024
More Details to Follow

The 2024 reunion/meeting will be held in Washington DC at the invitation of the Victims of Communism Museum.

A display of artwork by Nikolai Getman. Known as the Gulag Collection the display "is a unique collection of 50 paintings by Ukrainian artist and Gulag survivor Nikolai Getman, who spent eight years in Siberia and then worked for 40 years to create this stunning visual chronicle of the Gulag."

As likely distant relatives of Nikolai Getman we have been invited to view the display and to hold our annual meeting in the museum's facilities.

The museum is located on McPhearson Square, at 900 15th Street, NW, Washington DC.

There are several hotels within walking distance of the museum. Participants need to inform us of their intention to attend in order to assure adequate arrangements.

Nicholi Getman

Wikipedia

During the eight years Getman spent at Taishetlag (Siberia) and Svitlag (Kolyma), he started to develop his plan to record the horrors of the camp conditions in the form of paintings. While he could not paint openly in the camps, he took careful note of all that transpired. Even when he started to paint after his release in 1953, he still had to do so in secret as he would otherwise have been convicted once again, perhaps even sentenced to death. In his own words: "I undertook the task because I was convinced that it was my duty to leave behind a

testimony to the fate of the millions of prisoners who died"

The Victims of Communism Museum provides access to all 50 of Getman's paintings together with explanations of their significance. Their impact is especially effective in providing visual representations of the conduct of the camps, the harsh working conditions, the severe climate and the fate of the prisoners themselves.



Down From the Bookshelf:

Selected for interest in the Mohawk Valley, Palatine immigrants, and New York State History.

By Clyde J. Getman

Richard Berleth, **Bloody Mohawk: The French and Indian War & American Revolution on New York's Frontier**. Delmar, NY: Black Dome Press [www.blackdomepress.com], 2010, 370 p.

Most people with ancestors in the Mohawk Valley tend to identify the Valley with the Battle of Oriskany in August 1777. And well they should. Many of them [us] had ancestors and relatives who were engaged in the battle, many of those engaged lost their lives there. The battle is remembered each year with reenactment and ceremony.

The following are several themes selected among numerous others as an incomplete look at the Mohawk Valley in a critical era in the history of both the Mohawk Valley and the growing nation.

Berleth's approach in **Bloody Mohawk** is more comprehensive. It may be considered as viewing the Mohawk Valley from the pre-Oriskany, Oriskany, and post-Oriskany eras. This review is of necessity a cursory glance at some themes in the book;

each of them could be a study in itself; there are just too many to cover in an article in this newsletter.

Twenty-seven (27) pages of notes, with citations of books and documents, expands on the 323 pages of text. The citations identify numerous references for those seeking further exploration of themes presented.

The geological framework of NY colony for several thousand years provides a setting for human habitation with the north-south flow of the Hudson River and a buffer between the Massachusetts Puritans and the east-west flow of the Mohawk River, with settlement in 1609 and governance by the Dutch until control by the British in 1654 and the arrival of the Palatine refugees in 1710. The Palatines are covered by reviews in earlier issues of *The Getman Newsletter*.

British and French conflict over control of Canada and New York and the French and Indian War (1757-1763) describe General Richard Montgomery's and General Benedict Arnold's assault on Montreal with differing interests of New York and the New England colonies about control of Ticonderoga.

William Johnson (later Sir William), arriving from Ireland in 1738, was a significant figure in the economic and political lives of the people along the river.

Rev Eleazar Wheelock, in 1734, following the revival of George Whitefield and Jonathan Edwards, organized a Charity School with students including Joseph Brant and Samuel Kirkland, the latter sent as missionary to New York. Both Brant and Kirkland were later leaders in the coming conflict, Brant with the Mohawks, Kirkland with the Oneidas.

General John Sullivan was sent in 1780 on a campaign in western New York to make the region safer for incoming settlers.

Berleth's **Bloody Mohawk** can be read as an historical text and beginning focus for

a study of the history of the Mohawk Valley and New York State. It is an easy read and worthy of a place in the library of historians interested in the subject.

Getman Genealogy Book Available

A book covering the first six generations of Getmans, starting with Caspar is available. This book was published in 2013. 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.

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wayget@ntcnet.com

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)

Anna Maria Getman Meyers

26 Dec. 1721 – 16 Oct. 1811

(GFG – I)

Anna Maria Getman, the first-born child of Frederick and Maria Getman. Was probably born at Hartman's Dorf (Now Schoharie, New York), December 26, 1721. She has been designated as GFG I to signify the Getman family genealogy line, roman numeral 1, to track decendency lines in our records.

Her family moved to the Burnettsfield Patent about 1723 and took up residence just west of the area known as "The Falls" (Little Falls, Herkimer County, NY). Her parents had both immigrated as refugees from the palatinate region of Europe, in a region that is now included in Germany.

About 1738 she was married to Johann Henrich Meyers (Henry), who was baptized at West Camp, on the Hudson, January 22, 1716. This record indicates he was born October 30. The marriage is likely to have occurred in a Dutch Reformed church in what is now the village of Herkimer. Records from this church seem to have been destroyed during the conflicts surrounding the American Revolution. His parents Henrich Meyer and Anna Kunigunda were also refugees from the Palatinate region and had also been provided land at Burnettsfield with the 1723 grant. Their property was located in what is now the village of Herkimer, NY. This property was referenced in the December Getman Newsletter as now being known as Myers Park and includes the

General Herkimer Monument pictured in that article.

The Meyers surname has many variations; Meyer and Meyers being the most common, some have even evolved to Mayer, Moyer and Moyers. For the purposes of the Getman Genealogy, I have maintained either Meyer or Meyers unless a cemetery headstone or other "concrete" source indicates otherwise. One of the most common sources of name variations during the early years in this country resulted when the scribe recording a document wrote what they thought they had heard. The same types of variations are common with the surname Getman until literacy became more widespread and spelling standardized.

As the oldest son Henry would have inherited the home property and would have been a farmer by trade. As with all males of appropriate age and health, beginning at the age of 16 he was a member of the Tryon County Militia and was required to train on a regular basis as well as provide appropriate musket and equipment. He was a member of Captain Marx Petry's company. Some sources indicate that he died at the battle of Oriskany in 1777. This does not seem to be true. Unfortunately, there are few original sources from the time, due to the various raids and fires associated with the revolutionary conflicts and raids.

Henry and Anna Maria had eleven children: The first, Magdalina, 1739-1771, married Nicholas Weaver who remarried following her death and later moved south to Deposit, NY where he died in 1824. They

had two children who remained in the Mohawk Valley region. Margaretha, abt. 1741-???? Married Johannes A. Helmer, abt. 1743-???? They seem to have remained in the Mohawk Valley and three children are attributed to them. Maria, 1743-1830 was married twice, her first husband, married in 1768 was Jacob F. Bell (abt. 1747-1777) was killed during the battle of Oriskany, Aug. 6, 1777,

and is buried somewhere on the battlefield. Maria and Jacob had four children. Maria later married on May 10, 1785, John George Hilts (1744-1820). John had survived the Battle of Oriskany, where he had been a drummer. He was also a foot racer. And is alleged to have carried a message from Fort Dayton (Herkimer) to Fort Stanwix (Rome) and returned the same day, a distance of approximately 60 miles. Maria and John had three children. Available records suggest that Maria lived in the immediate vicinity of Herkimer. Their place of burial is unknown.

Gertrude Meyers, third daughter of Anna Maria and Henry, abt. 1745-???, married Conrad Frank, Jr., August 26, 1965. The marriage was recorded at the Stone Arabia Dutch Reformed Church. There are four known children of this couple who seem to have been in the German Flatts region of the Mohawk Valley. German Flatts is an area south of the Mohawk River directly across from Herkimer and was included in the Burnettsfield patent. Johann Gerlach Myers was the fifth child of Anna Maria and Henry. He was born about 1746 and is expected to have died abt. 1777. He married Anna Elizabeth Rasbach, abt. 1751-1777 of Stone Arabia, December 2, 1770. The marriage was recorded at the Stone Arabia Dutch Reformed Church. They had one child Maria, who married Johan Henrich Schell and moved to Canada.

Frederick Henrich Myers, was born May 20, 1748 and died July 18, 1822 in

German Flatts. He married Anna Margareta Weaver about 1772. She was born July 13, 1753 in Herkimer and died March 31 1831 in German Flatts. "*Frederick and Anna Meyer were buried in the cemetery on the land they had given in Herkimer and when in 1898 it was converted into a park their bodies were removed to the lot occupied by their son Michael F. in the Mohawk cemetery. The headstones are beautifully engraved by hand and the lettering speaks well for whatever member of the family executed the job.*" (Hatch) This couple had thirteen children who appear to have remained in the Mohawk Valley.

Anna Eva Meyers, 1752-1828 married Frederick Christman, 1748-1832, they had eight children and settled south of German Flatts in an area now known as Getman Corners. The region is identified with a highway marker on NY Route 28, south of the village of Herkimer. Johannes Meyer, abt. 1757-???? Married Maria Elizabeth ??? and is known to have one child, Henrich Meyer born March 20, 1778. Nothing further is currently known of this family. Peter Henrich Meyer 1760-1823 married Christina Leather about 1880. She was born in 1761 and died June 5, 1855 in Herkimer. This couple appears to have had 4 children in the German Flatts area..

Johannes Nicholas Myers 1762-1843 was born in German Flatts and married Cornelia Leich an immigrant from Amsterdam, Holland in 1872. This couple settled in the Fort Schuyler area, now Utica, NY, where they had nine children.

Catherine Meyers, born June 13, 1767 married Johannes Phillips November 21, 1784 in German Flatts. They remained in German Flatts and are known to have had four children. Little else is known of this family. They may have relocated north to Jefferson County, near Watertown, NY.

NOTE: The author wishes to point out that the Meyer (etc.) line is particularly

confusing due to the many variations of spelling during the early records which are further complicated by the multiple incidents of records having been destroyed. This writing contains corrections from previous genealogies. Henrich Meyer, born abt. 1757 and Peter Henrich Meyer, 1760, have been combined. John Moyer, 1781-1863 and his descendants have been removed from the Getman line. Jacob Meyer, born abt. 1766 has also been removed from this line due to the lack of corroborating evidence.

As always, anyone have additional information or documentable corrections is urged to contact us to improve our records.

Old Getman Family Data Turned Over to Historian

The Evening Telegram Herkimer, NY
Wednesday, June 13, 1962

A box containing historical data on the Getman Family of America, has been received by the family historian, Franklin J. Bowman, Scarsdale, President Ralph Parent said today.

Bowman has just received the box from the widow of William F. Getman, who resided near Cleveland, Ohio. He was a great grandson of Capt. John Getman who was born Feb. 11, 1801 and died April 6, 1876.

In the box were scrap books, history books, the John Getman family Bible with notations dating back to 1800, newspaper clippings of important events which occurred in the early days of the family, and many other original historic documents, Parent pointed out.

One document is a tax warrant, signed and sealed by the 18 supervisors of Herkimer county, authorizing the tax collector to collect the following taxes and make payment to the following Town of Columbia officials;

To commissioner of common schools \$113.63.

To commissioner of highways \$00.00.

To the supervisor \$161.60.

To county treasurer \$489.43.

Total Tax for year 1834 \$764.66.

It is interesting to note there was no road tax, due to the fact each resident furnished labor and or team to work on the road and in this way no funds were then required.

A clipping from a Utica paper Jan. 19, 1918, gives an account of bequests of the late Crawford Getman who died in the Town of Cleveland, N.Y. The clipping states "There has been much interest in Utica and vicinity, in the will of Crawford Getman whose death occurred in Cleveland recently. Mr. Getman was for many years, the largest manufacturer of window glass in the country if not in the world. The will totals into the hundreds of thousands and has 24 distinct bequests mentioned." Many friends and relatives were mentioned in amounts which ranged up to \$20,000 each.

These documents will be photostated and the originals will be presented to one of the local historical societies for safe keeping. Parent said.

Does anyone know where these documents are now? Franklin J. Bowman placed his research materials in the library at Union College, Schenectady, NY. Are they included there or does a historical society have them?

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