

Getman Association Reunion August 6/7/8

The Getman Association reunion for 2021 will be held in Johnstown NY, August 6-7-8. A block of rooms has been arranged at the Johnstown-Gloversville Holiday Inn.

Our plans feature looking more closely at the Battle of Stone Arabia and visiting the Stone Arabia churches where our early ancestors worshiped were baptized, married, and buried.

A reservation has been made for a Saturday night dinner at Union Hall, Johnstown and a Saturday noon lunch at the Salem United Methodist Church pavilion in Stone Arabia. Visits to the historic area churches and explanations of the battle of Stone Arabia are being planned. A road tour of the area will be offered in the afternoon.

The brief association business meeting will follow lunch on Saturday, when officers will be elected and the proposed new constitution will be voted on.

Other activities include:

Friday night casual dinner at Sam's Seafood and Steakhouse.

Saturday program

Saturday dinner at Union Hall (an historic and excellent restaurant)

Sunday church service

Everyone is welcome to attend all or part of the proceedings. Participants need to notify Wayne Getman of their plans so appropriate arrangements can be made. (315-845-8014 or wayget@ntcnet.com)

News From Our Readers

Some months ago, with the help of the Getman Family Data Site, a distant Getman relative, Tom Helmer of Willingboro, NJ, was finally able to determine his 5th great-

grandfather, Johannes Helmer. Johannes was a grandson of Phillip Helmer, a Palatine immigrant who landed in July 1710 and lived at West Camp, then settled his family in the Burnettsfield Patent in 1725.

Johannes (b. 1743) married Margaretha Meyers in 1767. Margaretha's mother was Anna Maria Getman Meyers, the first-born daughter of Johannes Frederick Getman, son of Casper Getman. Anna Maria would be a 6th great-grandmother to Tom.

Tom has been researching his Helmer roots since fall of 2018. This past spring, he took an 8-week online course called "Foundations in Genealogy II" through the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. The course provided great instruction and information on additional genealogy research sources and methods. If anyone is interested in what HSP has to offer, here is their website address:

<https://www.portal.hsp.org/>.

from Tom Helmer, June 9, 2021:

Ozark Mo.

Getman Family Reunion

September 12, 2021

10 am to 4pm.

Please bring a chair, a dish of your favorite food that we all can enjoy! I will bring water for sure!!! We can chat and get to know who the new cousins we have. There is a children's playground area near our location. Let's see if I have forgotten anything!!

Send Us Your Stories

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

wayget@ntcnet.com

Book Review

A Brief History of the Poor Palatine Refugees.

Down From the Bookshelf. Selected to be of interest to the Mohawk Valley, Palatine Descendents and New York State history.

By Clyde J. Getman

A Brief History of the Poor Palatine Refugees Lately Arrived in England. Containing,

- I. *A full Answer to all Objections made against receiving them; and plain and convincing Proofs, that the accession of foreigners is a manifest Advantage to Great Britain, and no detriment to any of her Majesty's native subjects.*
- II. *A Relation of their deplorable Condition; and how they came to be reduc'd to such Extremities.*
- III. *A Description of the Country from whence they came.*
- IV. *An account of their Numbers.*
- V. *By what Methods they have been subsisted.*
- VI. *How they may be disposed of, to the Honour and Service of the Queen's Majesty, the Glory and Profit of this Kingdom, and the Advantage of themselves and Posterities. And*
- VII. *An exact List of the Names of the Commissioners and Trustees appointed by her Majesty, for receiving and disposing of the Money to be collected for the Subsistence and Settlement of the said Palatines.*
In a LETTER to a Friend in the Country.

LONDON Printed: And Sold by J. Baker at the Black Boy in Pater-Noster-Row, 1709.

The title is a bit longer than usual but self-explanatory. And the text is not in the usual form of a book; it is a letter to a friend. Like many letters, there are neither chapters nor paragraphs, but a series of sentences which if spoken would

require pauses within each statement before the completion of a thought. It is like reading St. Paul's *Letter to the Ephesians* – each sentence seems to go on and on, with each succeeding phrase continuing to explain further the preceding phrase. If you enjoy *Ephesians* you can read and understand *A Brief History of the Poor Palatine Refugees*.... The author is not identified, it is presumed here to be J. Baker, who published and sold the book. Nothing more is known here of either the author or the recipient beyond the reference to their being friends and having previous correspondence.

The title provides the themes of the text. There was support in London for the Palatines upon their 1709 arrival and residence, but there also was some objection to receiving them. The arrival of 3000 severely impoverished new residents, called “poor Palatines,” with no income for housing, sustenance or maintenance were a severe drain on the local economy and beneficence. The total number of Palatine arrivals was about ¼ of the population of the city at that time.

The author is supportive of the Palatines and considers them a boon to the population and economic infrastructure of Great Britain far surpassing any objections which might be raised. He relates their distressing homeland conditions in the Rhineland, especially from 1702-1709 with constant aggression by the French armies, an enumeration of their population upon arrival, how they were currently being subsisted and his proposal for the most expeditious assimilation of the Palatines into Great Britain.

The work of Cobb (1897), Knittle (1937) and Otterness (2004) explore the background and further migration of the Palatines to the colonies in North America extremely well.

A Brief History of the Poor Palatine Refugees... is an interesting and informative look at some of the thinking in London at that, and probably throughout Great Britain during 1709.

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)

Hunt Resumed For Missing Fishermen

Daily Sentinel, Rome, New York
Wednesday, May 28, 1947

Groups of men led by State Police and members of the Lewis County sheriff's department, resumed search in Stillwater Reservoir today for the bodies of five men believed drowned there Sunday during a heavy wind and rain storm.

The recovery yesterday of a hat identified as belonging to one of the men and the finding of two oars said to have been on the 15-foot metal boat with outboard motor which the men had used, led Sgt. C. A. Shaver, State Police, to say that all available evidence indicates the men were drowned.

The five were Frank and George Oaster, brothers, Gerald Reape, brother-in-law of the Oaster brothers, Brian Williams, and Clifford Gramps.

Searchers today concentrated their work along the North Shore in a three-mile area. All available boats were being pressed into service. Grappling hooks and drag nets are being used. The searching party had to quit for four hours Tuesday because of a high wind which swept the lake into huge waves.

Brian Williams, 25, one of the five men believed drowned is son of Mr. and Mrs. Harley Williams, Remsen.

A partner with his father in the firm of Williams Oil Co., he has been in charge of

the Lowville office of the company since February, 1946.

A graduate of Remsen high school and University of Pennsylvania, he was discharged from the army after suffering knee injuries while on maneuvers. He was hospitalized several months. He has a brother, Dale Williams, a student at Hamilton College.

Frank Oaster 37, was born at Turin, March 30, 1910, son of Mrs. Bertha Norton Oaster Ingersoll, and the late Edward Oaster. He attended Turin schools and Lowville Academy after which he accepted employment with Turin highway department.

Oaster served in world war II and went overseas to England in 1945. He was stationed in Germany until October 1945, when he returned to the states and received his discharge.

George Philip Oaster, 39, also a son of Mrs. Ingersoll and the late Edward Oaster, was born at Turin Nov. 19, 1907. After graduating from Lowville Academy and teaching three years, he entered the employ of Dr. G. O. Volovic, Lowville, and later was employed by Robert Patterson, Dayton O.

Thirteen years ago he married the former Zita Reape at Lowville. Gerald Reape, 32, Ilion, who was in the fishing party with the Oaster brothers is Mrs. Oaster's brother.

Oaster also was a veteran of world war entering the army in 1943, and serving with

the ski troops at Camp Hale, Colo. He later was assigned to a medical detachment and served at Simmons General Hospital, Denver. He went overseas from Fort Lewis, Wash., where he was stationed at a Manila hospital. He was discharged in December, 1945, and bought property at No. 4 in Lewis county, where he has operated the Fenton house as a summer resort.

Living at Turin are the mother of the brothers, and their sister, Mrs. Cyril L. Seymour.

Note: Their bodies were recovered on June 9 after being spotted from an airplane.

George Oster (GFG – B) 1907-1947 and Frank Oster (GFG – B) 1910-1947 are great-great-great (3) grandsons of Catherine Getman (GFG – B 2) 1761-1813 and Ludwig Rickard, 1757-1819.

Carjacked

Utica Daily Press, New York
Thursday, October 29, 1964

Little Falls — What normally would have been an uneventful 10-mile junket from his home to his work in St Johnsville, proved a thriller yesterday for a Little Falls man.

Fayette C. Snyder, 35, of 66 W. Main St., a dye processor at the Palatine Dye Company in St. Johnsville, told State Police that he not only made seven miles of the normal trip but added another 47 at the business end of a sawed-off shotgun.

INVESTIGATOR W. G. Glasser, State Police BCI. East Herkimer, said the trip started about 3:15 p. m., on Route 5, about three miles east of Little Falls. Snyder said he stopped to pick up a hitchhiker wearing an Army uniform. The trip to St. Johnsville, troopers were told, was without incident.

After arriving in St. Johnsville, Snyder said, he stopped the car at the turn-off leading to the dyeing firm. He said: "Here's where I turn off." "Oh no you don't. You're going to drive me to Scotia" the passenger declared.

Snyder said that the order was supported by a single-barrel, sawed-off shotgun which, the man pulled out of a zipper type bag. The gun, Snyder told troopers, was laying on the man's lap with the end of the barrel almost touching Snyder.

"Keep going. You're taking me to Scotia," the passenger added. Snyder said he did what he was told and after reaching Scotia, the passenger, who had been silent during the trip, suddenly declared:

"This is where I get out."

The spot, Snyder said, was at the second stop light on Route 5.

Snyder said the man's parting words were:

"Keep driving and don't look back."

Snyder said he returned to Little Falls and notified city police, who contacted the troopers.

THE HITCHHIKER WAS described as between 30 and 35 years old, medium complexion, about 5 feet 8 to 5 ft 10 inches tall, about 150 pounds, light brown hair. Snyder told troopers that he was wearing a summer uniform with a First Army shoulder patch and a garrison type hat.

State Police last night said that the search was on for the hitchhiker.

Fayette Charles Snyder (GFG – C / II) 1929-1995 is a great-great-grandson of Cornelia Getman (GFG – C 221 / II) 1826-1851 and Cornelius Edick 1821-1901

Hold Up Story is Fiction

Enterprise and News Press and Republican
St Johnsville, NY, November 5, 1964

A Little Falls man whom police charge, made a false complaint on Friday, was arrested Saturday by Fonda state police. The man had told police that a hitchhiker wearing a soldier's uniform and armed with a sawed-off shotgun, had forced him to drive from St. Johnsville to Scotia.

Fayette C. Snyder, of 68 West Main Street, Little Falls, pleaded guilty Saturday

night when arraigned before Justice Joseph Duniavey, Town of Mohawk justice of the peace, on a charge of disorderly conduct — making a false complaint.

He was given a 10-day suspended sentence in the Montgomery county jail at Fonda.

Snyder was arrested by Trooper Chester Slezak, BCI, one day after he told police of the incident.

Snyder said the incident had happened last Wednesday afternoon as he was driving to work at the Palatine Dyeing Co., here. About three miles east of Little Falls, he picked up a hitchhiking soldier, he said.

Snyder's story had been that he carried the soldier to St. Johnsville but the man refused to leave the car and pulled a sawed-off shotgun from a bag and then ordered Snyder to drive along Route 5 to Scotia, where the hitchhiker left the car.

Police gave no reason for the false report filed by Snyder.

Newspaper Article

unsourced

An accident occurred at Schuyler Saturday morning, by which Nathan Smith, a highly respected resident of that place was instantly killed. A bee had been called by John Hierholzer to assist in moving a small storey and a half house on the Helmer farm about eight miles north of Herkimer, just in the town of Schuyler. A number of the neighbors responded, among them Nathan Smith the victim of the accident. The building had been raised sufficiently to rest on shoes and was being drawn by several teams of horses. Mr. Smith was last seen alive in front of the building managing his team. One man thinks he saw him fall but before the work could be stopped the building moved more than its length and Mr. Smith was found in the rear lying lifeless on the ground.

About an hour before one of the men had been knocked senseless by a falling lintel. Dr. Hamlin was sent for and arrived soon after the last accident. Dr. Devendorf was also soon on the spot in company with Coroner Nellis. They examined the body and found the nose crushed in, and the temple bones broken; blood had poured out of the nose and ears, strange to say the body was uninjured. The deceased was subject to fainting spells and it is supposed that he was attacked with one and fell in front of the building. The barn passed over him and probably a projecting joist crushed his head to the ground. After inquiring into the circumstances it was decided that an inquest was unnecessary. Deceased was about 47 years old and was one of the most respected and popular men in the town. He leaves a wife, the daughter of Allen Folts of this place, and a son aged about six.

Newspaper Article (Jefferson County Journal, Adams, NY, Tuesday, March 30, 1886)

CRUSHED TO DEATH.—Nathan Smith, a farmer living in the town of Schuyler, was engaged, with several other men, in moving a barn. The building rested on rollers and during the process of the work one of the men was injured by a falling timber, which struck him on the head and shoulder. Another man started for a doctor, and during his absence the building, which stood on a declivity, commenced to slide back. Smith, in his efforts to block the rollers, was caught by the moving building and crushed to death.

Nathan J Smith 1839-1886, was the husband of Laura Folts (GFG - C) 1841 - 1920. Their son was Hayden Burt Smith (GFG - C) 1873 - ?. Laura was a great granddaughter of Maria Ann Getman (GFG - C 2) 1755-1839 and Melchert Folts 1746-1829.

Getman Family of America Constitution

2021 Edition

Article I - Name

This organization shall be known as the Getman Family of America.

Article II - Object

The object of this organization shall be the perpetuation of the family history, research, and records of all branches, members, and descendants of the Getman genealogy, uniting all in a close acquaintanceship and fellowship.

Article III - Members

Every person, male and female, who is a member of the Getman family, or who has a Getman ancestor, is eligible as a member of this organization.

Article IV - Officers

Section 1. The officers of this organization shall consist of nine Board of Directors, each holding office for three years. Three board members will be up for election/re-election each year on a rotating basis.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall annually elect from their number a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian to serve one year terms. An officer may be re-elected for consecutive terms. The change of officers will occur after the annual election meeting.

Section 3. The organization shall meet annually at a place and date(s) determined by the Board of Directors.

a. Getman board meetings shall be held as determined by the President.

b. Getman general member meetings shall be held as determined by the Board of Directors.

Article V - Duties of Officers

Section 1. The President shall act as presiding officer, appoint all committees, and call special meetings of the Board of Directors when deemed necessary.

Section 2. The Vice President shall act as President in the absence of the President.

Section 3. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the Board of Directors, and distribute the minutes to the members of the Board. The secretary shall keep a database of all the members of the organization including address, phone **number**, email of each member.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall collect the funds and pay all bills. The Treasurer will keep a database of receipts and disbursements and report such at the annual meeting.

Section 5. Any vacancy on the Board of Directors shall be filled at the annual general member meeting.

Article VI

The Board of Directors shall meet immediately after the election of board members, to organize and thereafter on the call of the President.

Article VII

An annual family contribution will be \$10 US, or as much or little as one wants to donate.

Article IX

Amendments, additions, deletions, to the constitution may be made by any member at the annual meeting with the consent of two-thirds of the members present.

Getman Family of America

The Getman Family of America was founded about 100 years ago in the Mohawk Valley, New York, where many of our ancestors lived. Our members are descended from Caspar Getman, born in 1673 in the Sien-Hachenbach area of present day Pfalz Germany, who emigrated to England where he died; his wife and son traveled to New York in 1709-1710. We have a Facebook group entitled Getman Family of America.

We invite you and your family to join with others who support our organization in annual voluntary contributions of \$10 per family, or any other amount you wish to donate.

Our officers in 2020-2021 are:

President: Marty Chase: 76 North Ridge Road, Ipswich, MA 01938; (978) 356-3041

Vice President: Open

Secretary: Maureen Getman, 204 Edna Road, Syracuse, NY 13205, (315) 492-8306

Treasurer: Marjorie Rosendahl, 2223 Woodcrest Court, Woodbury MN 55129, (612) 719-2052

Historian: Wayne Getman, 2672 Newport Road, Poland, NY 13431 (315) 845-8014

Board members: Clyde Getman, Suzanne Chank, Shari Kaples, Tom Getman, JoEllen Adams

Thank you for your support in continuing the research and history of the Getman Association.

Name: (Mr., Mrs., Ms., Mr. and Mrs.) (Please print)

Address: (Street, city, state, zip code)

Phone number:

Email address:

Please return this form with your donation to our treasurer, Marjorie Rosendahl. Checks may be made payable to Marjorie. Please note Getman Family on your check.

Please indicate the amount of your contribution:

\$10_____ \$20_____ \$30_____ Additional Donation:_____