# **GETMAN NEWS**

http://www.getmangenealogy.net/The\_Getman\_Family

June 2014

### **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)

# Getman News From The Present

# Getman Association to Meet August 1-3, 2014

The Getman Association Annual Reunion will be held August 1-3, 2014. Lodging has been arranged at the Budget Inn, Palatine Bridge, NY. Those who prefer to attend for the day have that option.

The Budget Inn has put together the following package for the "Getman Reunion".

When making your reservations, please ask for Neil Anders, Manager, also please notify Wayne Getman concerning the Association meeting and your rooming arrangements.

### Aug. Fri. 1 – Sat. 2 – Sun. 3

\$55.00 per night per room. Meals are not included. 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.

An upscale coordinated evening meal is being offered for those who wish to participate. beardsleecastle.com



#### Saturday:

- 8:00 +- breakfast
- 9:30 meet in the lower parking lot of the Budget Inn.
- Drive to and tour Arkel Museum, Canajoharie, NY arkellmuseum.org (\$5.00 admission fee required)

- 12:30 Lunch at Saltsman's Hotel www.saltsmans.com SALTSMAN'S HOTEL C 1910
- 1:30 Getman Association Annual Meeting.
- 2:30 Afternoon program covering the migration of Getmans to the New World.
- 7:00 Evening meal (to be arranged)

**Sunday:** am, breakfast and depart according to individual schedules.

**Reservations:** Please notify both the Budget Inn and the association.

**Budget Inn:** 518-673-3233 **Association:** Wayne Getman 315-845-8014

wayget@ntcnet.com

### 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  $\frac{1}{2}$  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, which is estimated at \$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.

# Send us Your Getman Stories

Family history is a lot more than lists, charts and compilations. These are some of the tools that guide us as we learn about our heritage, but they aren't the most interesting part. People, their personalities, and achievements are their contributions to future generations.

If you have a story about a Getman or Getman descendant, that you would like to share, please send it in for inclusion.

### Getman News From The Past

### **All That Glitters Is Not Golden**

Newspaper Article The Daily Leader, Gloversville, NY, Monday, June 20, 1898

### "JAMES BELLIS' NARROW ESCAPE.

A letter dated May 3 has been received in this city from a member of the Klondike party which left this city last fall, stating that James J. Bellis had a narrow escape from drowning in Lake Bennett. Mr. Bellis was crossing the lake on the ice and the latter broke and the prospector and a sleigh load of provisions went into the water. His friends rescued him, although he was in an unconscious condition when hauled out of the lake and it was some time before he was fully resuscitated."

#### \*\*\*\*

James J Bellis b. abt. 1857 (GFG A776) grandson of Mariann Getman b. 10 Mar 1813 (GFG A 78)

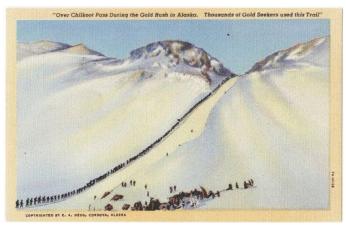


Lake Bennett, Yukon Territory, Canada, 2009

Our cousin James Bellis was involved in one of the very popular, but seldom successful activities of the time, the Yukon Gold Rush. Bennett Lake, pictured above, was a desolate area that had become suddenly crowded with "stampeders". When trekking to the Yukon each person was required to have supplies and equipment that amounted to a ton of provisions. This requirement was enforced by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Once the equipment was secured, in Scagway, at considerable expense, the prospector need to ascend either the "Dead Horse Pass" or the Chilcoot Pass" to gain access to Lake Bennett. From there the trip took them down the Yukon River into the gold fields where they would eventually find their claim and hopefully gold.

If the hopeful prospector arrived in wintertime, which James evidently did, they would build a raft to carry their supplies when the ice went out in the spring. An alternative would be to use a sleigh and drag the supplies. This seems to have been our cousin's plan.

James fared better than many of his peers, he survived. When he returned home he worked in the leather mills at Gloversville and was twice married, first to Jennie Lowry and a second time to Mabel V. They had no children.



Chilcoot Pass Probable route of James Bellis to the Yukon

### **Can You Help Find/Place?**

Sarah M. Getman, b. 5 Jun 1808, d. 13 Dec 1893 Married John Jacobson, b. 18 Mar, 1802, d. 11 May 1874

This couple lived in Albion, Oswego County, NY, and were apparently born in Herkimer County, NY. They had four daughters; Nancy C, Eliza Ann, Angeline Naoma and Martha Elizabeth.

I have been unable to determine who her parents are.

## Jerome "Jerry" Anderson

Grandson of Robert M Getman 1854 – 1934 (GFG # A 316) Son of Mable Getman 1885 - ?

Obituary excerpts (Helena Independent Record, MT, April 1, 2009)

Jerome "Jerry" Anderson of Helena died on Sunday, March 29, 2009, at St. Peter's Hospital from natural causes. He was surrounded by his daughters, Chris and Tricia, at the time of death. Funeral services will be on Friday, April 3, at 11 a.m. at St. Mary Catholic Community, 1700 Missoula Ave., in Helena, immediately followed by burial services with military honors at Resurrection Cemetery and a reception at Jorgenson's Restaurant and Lounge, 1720 11th Ave., in Helena.

Jerry, as he was universally known, was a legend in Montana politics, government and law. He was the consummate professional and gentleman, a tireless worker, an excellent host, a legendary storyteller and a very fine lawyer and advocate.

Jerome was born April 13, 1921, in St. Paul, Minn., to parents Albert and Mabel Anderson, who were residents of Glendive at the time. The family later moved to Billings. In 1932, at the age of 11, he was adopted into the Crow Tribe and was made an honorary chief by Crow Tribal Chief Max Big Man. Jerry's father was an Associate Justice on the Montana Supreme Court, so Jerry grew up in a home filled with politics and law, and knew every key political figure in Montana from Wellington Rankin and Governor John Erickson forward. His father believed in hard work, so Jerry worked in the mine at Norris and in a factory in Chicago during summers in high school.

Jerry attended the University of Montana for his undergraduate and law degrees; his schooling was interrupted in the middle by his service in the War. Jerry was president of the Sigma Chi House at the university, and was student body president at the same time. He graduated from law school and began practicing law in 1948. He served as Chief Deputy County Attorney in Yellowstone County from 1949 to 1952 and as Billings City Attorney in 1953 and 1954

Jerry served in the United States Marine Corps as a torpedo dive bomber pilot in the Pacific in World War II, a fact of which he was extremely proud. Jerry saw over two years of combat against Japan in the Solomon Islands, and then north toward Japan, but he preferred to tell stories about shore leave in Australia or getting his wisdom teeth removed without Novocain by a bikepedal-driven drill in the jungle. Jerry earned the Distinguished Flying Cross for action during an attack on Rabaul, a major Japanese naval installation. He was honorably discharged from the Marine Corps at the grade of captain in 1945.

Jerry built a very successful legal practice in Billings and became one of the leading transportation law experts in the United States, traveling all over the country to practice before the Interstate Commerce Commission, representing major motor carrier companies. He also worked extensively in the petroleum industry, representing the largest producers of oil in Montana for many years and serving as president of the Montana Petroleum Association.

Jerry served four terms in the Montana House of Representatives from 1955 to 1961, serving as the Republican Majority Leader in the House in 1961. Jerry worked closely with Governor Donald Nutter and later Governor Tim Babcock, and was a close friend of both men. Bad weather forced Jerry to miss the plane flight in 1962 in which Governor Nutter was killed, and he was at the Governor's Mansion with Mrs. Nutter when the Highway Patrol tracked down Lt. Governor Babcock and brought him to the mansion to be sworn in as governor.

Jerry was actively involved in politics up until his death, and counted among his friends numerous presidents, vice presidents, senators, congressmen and governors. Jerry enjoyed the competition and strategy in politics and the legislature, but also believed a shared drink or a round of golf with his rival at the end of a political battle helped underscore a common thread as fellow Montanans.

In 1988, Jerry sold his interest in his law firm in Billings and moved to Helena to "retire." But he could not retire. Jerry worked at every Montana legislative session from 1947 to 2009, either as a legislator or as a lobbyist. He started a vaudeville variety show for legislative entertainment in the 1960s that is the precursor to today's Legislative Attach Party. Jerry's shows were complete with costumes, dancing secretaries, music and lyrics he wrote himself with the help of a friend who was a Broadway producer. Jerry and his wife Rita were famous for their wild-game dinners that fed up to 250 people in their house each session. The "Jerry Anderson" martini one-half Kettle One vodka, one-half Tanqueray gin, with a twist of lemon and three olives is a legend in its own time.

Jerry's incredible memory of detail and his sense of humor made him a natural storyteller. He regaled anyone who would listen with tales of past legislative sessions, vacations and business trips around the world, and just a small portion of all the things he did in a long and busy lifetime. Up until the very end, Jerry was hard at work on preparing witnesses for an upcoming trial, reviewing legislative bill drafts and amendments, checking his Blackberry for e-mails and phone messages and participating in conference calls from the hospital. He believed in the future, and was constantly trying to move his clients, his friends and Montana toward a better one.