

THE

GETMAN NEWS

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

June 2021

Facebook Getman Family Genealogy

Dear Cousins,

This is my final letter as president. It has been my honor to serve and help our organization grow.

One thing that Covid actually helped, was having us mature computer folks becoming aware of zoom! It brought the board into the 21st century for monthly board meetings, rather than a hurried once a year meeting at the reunion.

I have met some wonderful cousins who are serving on the Board and been instrumental in the growth process. We have developed a Facebook page as well as enlarging the website. The Facebook page has helped spread the word and increased help to those looking for Getman family connections.

I know we will be in good hands with Marjorie Rosendahl as incoming president.

I hope a number of you will plan on joining us at the reunion, and I hope you have been vaccinated.

Regards,

Marty Chase President

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.

As of this writing 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 and Johnstown are being planned.

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

Saturday program

Saturday dinner at Union Hall (an historic and great 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. (325-845-8014 or wayget@ntcnet.com)

An Unwelcome "Guest"

We had the good fortune to have family visit us over the Easter holiday. One of them spent an extra unexpected week due to a totally unexpected positive test for Covid 19.

First, I need to point out that my wife and I are retired and of an age where Covid is a serious threat. Because of this we have not had visitors until our vaccinations were completed.

Two of our visitors tested positive for the virus and needed to quarantine, one at their home and the other at ours. The one who was with us was asymptomatic, there was no way we would have known of the illness unless a test was performed.

Making a potentially long story short. We were exposed to people who tested positive for a period of two weeks. We had been vaccinated. We did not get sick. ***Vaccinations Work. If you have not yet been vaccinated do so as soon as you can. Lives do really depend upon it.***

Send Us Your Stories

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

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)

Getmans in the Militia

In the previous articles outlining the lives of the first generation of Getmans in the colony of New York, each article made reference to militia service. Militia in the Mohawk Valley was initially the Tryon County Militia because the area at the time was part of a massive county named after the appointed governor William Tryon. This county included fully ¼ of what is now New York State.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tryon_County,_New_York

Tryon County Militia served in Indian conflicts and the French and Indian War (7 Years War). At the time of the American Revolution the militia, which had been organized to serve the British interests supported the rebels and was involved in numerous conflicts and two major battles. The battles being Oriskany and Saratoga. Additionally a significant number militia leaders became members of the Tryon County Committee of Safety. The Committee of Safety served as an oversight organization and actively promoted the rebellion.

During the Colonial period all men in the colony of New York between the ages of 16 and 60 were required to serve as members of the local militia, a few were exempted due medical conditions.

Each militia member was required to provide a working musket, specified number of rounds for their musket (25-50), a bayonet, and portable food for at least one

day. Some local militias had additional equipment requirements. Drilling by militia members was required and varied from area to area. In the Mohawk Valley the drills occasionally became a family and social event with the wives proving a buffet style meal and children gathering for games while the men went through their required training.

Essentially every Getman male in the first three American generations was a militia member, as were their contemporaries. If you are a Getman descended from Caspar you have a militiaman in you ancestry. Some were notable officers and non-commissioned officers. Others were “common” foot soldiers whose efforts were essential but not well documented.

The following excerpt is taken from the indicated website

<https://www.watchmenofamerica.com/HISTORY-OF-MILITIA.html>

When the English began to establish colonies in North America in the seventeenth century, the colonial governments continued to require all able-bodied free men to possess arms and to participate in the colonial militias. Each colony formed its own militia unit, appointing officers, providing training, and building its own fortifications. The function of each colonial militia was principally to defend the settlers' homes and villages

against Indian raids, and at this they were largely successful.

Colonial militias were much less effective when used for offensive purposes on extended campaigns far from the militia members' homes. George Washington discovered this when, as a colonel in the Virginia militia, he had great difficulty recruiting enough men to fight the French and Indian War, which lasted from 1754 to 1763. Few men were willing to report for duty. Of those who did, few were well armed, and many quickly deserted the troops and returned home. Some militia officers instituted drafts to recruit more men, but even then, many of the draftees simply paid less-qualified men to report in their places. The British were finally able to win the war when Prime Minister William Pitt made changes in recruiting policies and the military bureaucracy, which made serving in the militia more palatable for the American colonists.

After Great Britain defeated France in the French and Indian War, it was left with a greatly enlarged North American empire to manage and finance. Large numbers of British troops were stationed in America, and the colonists were expected to quarter them and to pay various taxes and fees, including the well-known Stamp Tax, to finance the troops. These additional taxes were one of the principal grievances that motivated the American colonists to prepare for revolution and to form the select militia units that became known as the "Minutemen"; this name reflected the fact that the men were trained to respond instantly when called. The Minutemen first saw action when the Massachusetts unit was called to defend the colonists' military stores at Lexington and Concord on April 19, 1775.

During the Revolutionary War, American military forces consisted of a combination of state militias, specially

trained militia units (such as the Minutemen), and the Continental Army, a small professional force created by Congress. The militia was much more effective than it had been during the French and Indian War because its members were fighting for a cause in which they fervently believed. In addition, the militia system had been reorganized and strengthened: there were more training days, the punishment was more severe for missing musters, and fewer men were exempted from military duty. Even so, militia forces were much less reliable than the professional army, and commanders found it difficult to plan their moves, never knowing exactly how many men would show up and how long they might stay. Ultimately, however, the militias played a critical role in helping the colonists to defeat the British, supplying enough men to keep the Continental Army going and providing, on very short notice, large numbers of armed men for brief periods of emergency service.

COLONIAL MONEY FOUND SECRETED IN OLD DESK

The Argus, Albany, NY

Thursday, February 9, 1905

as published

While taking apart an old desk, years stored at his father's home, Herbert Getman found Tuesday, in a secret compartment, a quantity of Colonial money. The specimens are very rare, and have much value as relics. The young man who is a son of Dr. A. D. Getman, was in search of a board from which to make a pair of skees [sic]. An old-fashioned desk, which had long been stored at his home, and which was the property of his mother's great-grandfather, a Dutch settler of the Mohawk valley, seemed to contain the proper material for the skees, says the Oneonta Star.

With a hammer he set to work taking the desk apart. As the boards were, separated there fell from a secret drawer a number of pieces of paper, which the young man found to be most interesting. There were 10 bills, in denomination ranging from \$20 to one shilling. All were printed in the period between 1775 and 1778 and nearly all of them are well preserved. Specimens of this class are very rare and not many are owned in private collections.; it is stated. Several of the bills bear across the top the line, "Colony of New York." while others are the currency of the State of New York. The intrinsic value of all the bills is about \$50. And in the days when these were laid away that amount had a much greater purchasing power than the same amount has to-day. There is little doubt that some interesting history is locked up in these long secreted bills, and the attacks of Indians may have inspired the hiding of them so carefully that they were not brought to light for a century and a quarter or more.

Herbert Clapsaddle Getman (GFG – C 486 / II) 1893-1943, son of Albert DeAlton Getman (GFG – C 290) and Elizabeth M. "Libbie" Clapsaddle (GFG – II).

WED IN LOG CABIN BUILT BY GROOM

Richfield Springs Mercury, NY
Thursday, November 9, 1939

On October 28th the marriage of Mildred Ward, daughter of Edward Ward of West Winfield, and Howard Fenton of that village, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthello Fenton, was solemnized in a log cabin in the East Winfield gulf which had been erected by the groom with logs exceeding 150 years in age. Mr. and Mrs. Fenton are now living in their log cabin home, an eight room dwelling with fire place, built in book cases and other conveniences that make for the delight and comfort of the homemaker.

The ceremony was performed by the Reverend Alton Parker of the Methodist Church, West Winfield.

Mildred Mae Ward (GFG – I / I) 1912-1993 is a great-great-great-great-granddaughter of Anna Maria Getman (GFG – I) 1721-1811 and Johann H Myers 1715-1810. Another line has her as 5th great granddaughter of the couple

GETMAN BROTHERS FOUND AFTER BEING LOST THREE HOURS

Enterprise and News, St Johnsville, NY
August 30, 1962

Two St. Johnsville area brothers, Wallace Getman, 10, and Kevin Getman, 7, who were reported missing at 8 20 Monday night in the woods off East Road near Lasselsville, were found three hours later asleep at the Green Point Rod and Gun Club, a hunting lodge on East Road about three miles north of Lasselsville, according to the Fulton County sheriff's department.

They are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. John Getman, St. Johnsville RD 1.

The sheriff's office said that, a pan containing an unknown mixture, which the boys reportedly ate, was found at the scene. The boys are in Johnstown Hospital undergoing observation.

Taking part in the search were Sheriff Chris Pencheff, and Deputies Fay Zimmerman, Joseph Bisignani, Joseph Craig, Ivan Duesler, Robert Conroy, James Aldrich, Richard Coloney, Robert Wandol, Donald Achzet, Joseph Brunetto, Edward Duesler, William Vosburgh and Buel Alger

Getman Genealogy Book

A book covering the first six generations of Getmans, starting with Caspar is available. Published in 2013 it is 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.

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

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

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:_____