



## 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)

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## A Melancholy Wide Awake Incident

St Lawrence Republican  
Ogdensburgh, NY  
Tuesday, October 30, 1860)

To Republicans and Wide Awakes – On the evening of the 10<sup>th</sup> of October, upon the reception of the news of the glorious victories achieved in the States of Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana, by our Republican brethren, three men were detailed from our ranks to fire an appropriate salute, and in so doing, two of them, by a premature discharge of the cannon, were severely, if not fatally injured; the one having his right, and the other, his left arm blown off, besides receiving other injuries.

Both persons are of strictly temperate habits and their case is one that must appeal with force to every man woman and child.

Henry Stansel, a mechanic, the sole support of a wife and six children - two of whom are twins but four weeks old - after suffering from the amputation of his right arm, upon being told by his physician, that on account of his critical situation, it was the intention of the Wide Awakes to abandon their contemplated trip to Little Falls, to attend the celebration; said, with the spirit of a partier, "Let them go by all means my heart is with them, and should I die let me be buried by my companions the Wide Awakes." On the return from Little Falls hearing the music he requested that his torch should be lighted and hung out of the window, that all might know "there was a Wide Awake within"

Alexander Hilts is the sole support of a widowed mother. He remarked to his companions after the amputation of his left arm, "Well boys? Thank God I have my right arm loft

with which to cast a vote for freedom and honest Old Abe!"

Under the circumstances we confidently appeal to our brethren for subscriptions for the aid of these two persons, and would suggest (without being considered too officious) that each Wide Awake company make up a purse of one dollar for each man in the company, and we assure you that such an action shall not be lost upon us.

Funds can be sent to Hon. Ezra Graves, Hon. A. H. Laffin, or James A. Suiter, Esq., who are a committee appointed to take charge of such funds.

Richard Wilson, Captain  
Peter Pruyn, 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant,  
of Herkimer Wide-Awakes  
Herkimer, N.Y., Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>, 1860

To the editors of the Utica Herald: This morning, Mr. Stansel departed this life. His particular request was that he be buried by the Wide-Awakes in uniform. Invitations are hereby extended to all Wide-Awake clubs to attend the funeral of our deceased brother, in uniform, at Herkimer, at 11 o'clock A.M., on Thursday, Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>, 1860 – We hope our brethren generally will unite with us on that occasion.  
Yours respectfully, J.H.S.

*Henry H. Stansel, 1822- 1860 was the husband of Lydia B. Folts (GFG – C) 1823-1870. Lydia was a granddaughter of Maria Ann Getman (GFG – C 2) 1755-1839 and Melchert Folts 1746-1829. I am not aware of the results of the subscription campaign.*

## Send us your family stories.

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Wikipedia

The **Wide Awakes** were a youth organization and, later, a paramilitary organization cultivated by the Republican Party during the 1860 presidential election in the United States. Using popular social events, an ethos of competitive fraternity, and even promotional comic books, the organization introduced many to political participation and proclaimed themselves the newfound voice of younger voters. The structured, militant Wide Awakes appealed to a generation profoundly shaken by the partisan instability of the 1850s and offered young northerners a much-needed political identity.

The standard Wide Awake uniform consisted of a full robe or cape, a black glazed hat, and a torch six feet in length to which a large, flaming, pivoting whale-oil container was mounted. Its activities were conducted primarily in the evening and consisted of several night-time torch-lit marches through cities in the northeast and border states. The Wide Awakes adopted the image of a large eyeball as their standard banner.

### Mission statement

Typical Wide Awakes chapters also adopted an unofficial mission statement. The following example comes from the Chicago Chapter:<sup>[8]</sup>

1. To act as a political police.
2. To do escort duty to all prominent Republican speakers who visit our place to address our citizens.

3. To attend all public meetings in a body and see that order is kept and that the speaker and meeting is not disturbed.
4. To attend the polls and see that justice is done to every legal voter.
5. To conduct themselves in such a manner as to induce all Republicans to join them.
6. To be a body joined together in large numbers to work for the good of the Republican Ticket.



Wide awakes, Hartford, CT, 1860

## Burned in the Sugar Bush

The Sun and Journal, Lockport, NY  
Wednesday, March 30, 1932

JAMESTOWN, March 30—James H. Hodges, 43, farmer, living near Watts Flats, west of this city, was burned to death early yesterday on his farm, when fire destroyed the sugar house in the sugar bush. He left home shortly after midnight to attend to the fires and run off maple syrup. Later neighbors saw a glare of fire, but did not consider it anything of importance. A hired man at 6 o'clock in the morning went to the sugar bush and discovered the man's charred body in the ruins of the sugar house. How the fire started is not known Hodges is survived by his wife and five children.

*James Harrison Hodges, 1889-1932 married Grace S. Loomis (GFG - C) 1895-1982. Grace is a great-great-great granddaughter of Maria Ann Getman (GFG - C2) 1755-1829 and her first husband, Frederick Stevens who was killed during the battle of Oriskany on August 6, 1777.*

## 3 oak leaves



The Morning Herald  
Gloversville and Johnstown, NY  
Tuesday October 31, 1944

15TH AAF IN ITALY S/Sgt. John D. Moynehan, Jr., 27, veteran lower turret gunner, of 300 Fon Claire street, Johnstown, has been awarded the Third Oak Leaf cluster to the Air Medal, it was announced by 15th AAF headquarters.

In the words of the citation, the award was made "for meritorious achievement in aerial flight while participating in sustained operational activities against the enemy."

Sergeant Moynehan is stationed overseas with a veteran B-2 Liberator bomber group which has flown more than 120 combat missions. The group is commanded by Lt. Col. Joseph G. Russell of 114 W. Rosewood street, San Antonio, Tex.

He entered the armed forces April 8, 1941 and received gunnery training at Tyndall Field, Fla. His wife and son reside at 300 Fon Claire street.

Sergeant Moynehan recently returned to this country after completing fifty missions and left about ten days ago for Atlantic City after spending a 21-day furlough here.

He is the husband of the former Miss Catherine V. Roddy, 300 Fon Clair street, and son of Mrs. Almeda Moynehan 50 Pleasant Avenue.

John D. Moynehan (GFG – B) 1916-2009, was a great-grandson of Mary Margaret Getman (GFG – B 23) 1786-1865 and Lewis Frederick 1791.

## Annapolis Appointment

Schenectady Gazette, NY  
Wednesday, May 27, 1964

JOHNSTOWN — David J. Moynehan, son of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Moynehan, 501 South Market street, will join his brother in attending the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md. Moynehan, a Johnstown high school senior, has been accepted for admission under appointment by Congressman Carleton J. King of Saratoga Springs and has been directed to report June 30. His brother, John D. Moynehan Jr., is completing his third year at the naval academy. He will take a six-week cruise with the Mediterranean fleet this summer.

*David J and John D (GFG –B) were great-great-great-grandsons of Mary Margaret Getman (GFG – B 23) 1786-1865 and Lewis Frederick 1791. They were also sons of The John De Moynehan in the previous article*

## Wedding in St Louis

The Fulton County Republican  
Johnstown, NY, Thursday, June 16, 1904

Miss Isabelle Frederick, accompanied by her sister, Miss Almeda Frederick, and Miss Ella Soudam, of Gloversville, left for St. Louis Friday evening, where on Sunday she was married to Mr. Lloyd Clute, formerly of Gloversville. It was intended to have the wedding at the bride's borne in this city, but Mr. Clute, who is in charge of a force of men in one of the exposition buildings, found it impossible to come at this time and the wedding accordingly took place at St. Louis. The bride to be is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Abram Frederick, of Mill street.

Isabelle Frederick (GFG – B) 1879-1950 was a great granddaughter of Mary Margaret Getman (GFG – B 23) 1786-1865 and Lewis Frederick 1791.