

Don't Forget to Vote

One of the things our predecessors were very proud of was the establishment of a county without monarchy and tyranny. A way to honor the efforts and sacrifices those first generations went through is to vote.

Every Getman line has early members who participated in the American Revolution. Most of them were members of the Tryon County Militia defending the Mohawk valley during the French and Indian War and again during the American Revolution. Many of them were involved in the Battle of Oriskany, which was a critical part of the revolution.

Whatever your choices, get out and vote.

Battle of Oriskany Remembrance Part of the 2017 Reunion August 4-5-6

Our 2017 reunion will be held in conjunction with the Snell, Zimmerman, Timmerman Reunion. Details of the program are to be developed over the next few months.

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 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, 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 payable to Wayne Getman.

Happy Thanksgiving

We here in the Mohawk Valley wish you a peaceful and rewarding Thanksgiving holiday. We have much to be thankful for. At times it seems as though our world is falling apart. Wars and domestic dissent fill the news and civilized discourse often seems to be missing.

Sara, my wife, and I have had the opportunity to do some international traveling during the past few years. Perhaps the greatest single thing we have learned during that traveling is that as citizens of the United State we are truly blessed and need to be thankful.

Wayne Getman

DNA Project At FamilytreeDNA

The Getman DNA Project can help you find family, break through brick walls and trace your lineage through time.

Any person of Getman descent Consider may join the Getman Family DNA project. Females will need to have their mitochondrial DNA tested rather than Y DNA.

The purpose of a DNA project is to prove known relationships. The availability of modestly priced DNA testing for genealogical and ancestry investigation purposes will help unravel some of the mysteries of our family trees that cannot be accomplished with traditional genealogical research. DNA testing results may help you with some of your brick walls.

DNA testing for Getman family is in its infancy. We encourage all Getman's to join this Getman DNA project. We also encourage family members that are Getman's by marriage. For additional information contact Gerry Getman, ph. 412-680-3224.

Send us your family stories.

Wayne Getman

c/o

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)

An Influential Getman Descendant

Utica Herald-Dispatch, NY
Tuesday, July 21, 1908

Frederick G. Weaver, one of Utica's most substantial and successful business men, died at his home in Deerfield at 7:20 o'clock last evening after an illness of about two weeks. The cause of death was a stroke of paralysis, which occurred July 8 and from which Mr. Weaver never rallied. The life thus terminated was one of unusual activity, and throughout his long career Mr. Weaver had been conspicuous as a man of high character and ability.

On October 28, 1906, Mr. Weaver suffered a stroke of paralysis from which he partially recovered so that he was able to attend to his affairs after about three weeks. His health was impaired, however, and he was obliged to relinquish much of the work that he had been accustomed to. On July 8 he experienced a second shock, since which time he was confined to his bed, gradually growing weaker until the end. During this last illness he was conscious part of the time, but it was realized that he could not long survive.

Frederick G. Weaver was born in Deerfield, August 7, 1843. He was the son of George F. and Margaret A. Weaver. His father, who was a very successful farmer and brick manufacturer, was also Supervisor of the town for a number of years and Sheriff of Oneida County in 1867. Weaver died in 1889 and his wife in 1888. The family descended from Dutch ancestors.

Frederick G. Weaver received his education in the Deerfield and Utica public schools, the Utica Free Academy and Fairfield Seminary. Upon completing his education he at once entered actively into the various enterprises of his father, taking charge of the farms at first and in 1867, when the elder Weaver became Sheriff, assuming the direction of the brick making plant.

About 1871 Mr. Weaver became a partner of Thomas Watkins in a general store at Deerfield

Corners and in this enterprise he held an interest for five years. When he entered the brick making firm it consisted of George F. Weaver and his two sons, Frederick G. and Charles C. Weaver. It continued thus until 1903, when William B. and George F. Weaver, sons of Frederick G. Weaver, were admitted and the concern was incorporated. The plant has a capacity of more than 16,000,000 brick per year and during the busy season employs over 100 men.

The Weaver brick yard has for several generations been a growing and profitable business and in its advancement Mr. Weaver has exercised a guiding hand. Some years ago when the American Hard Wall Plaster Company was organized, Mr. Weaver became one of its stockholders and the success of that company has been phenomenal.

At the incorporation of the Deerfield & Utica Railroad Company in 1889 Mr. Weaver became its president and served in that capacity for a number of years. He was also a director, of the First National Bank, and later of the Second National Bank, and to that institution he has devoted much time and attention. He was recognized as a shrewd and successful business man and in all the many enterprises to which he lent his aid he was uniformly prosperous.

When the Utica, Chamber of Commerce was seeking a site for a shoe factory some years ago, Mr. Weaver contributed a piece of land fronting on North Genesee street, where a building was erected. He was one of the incorporators of the Eureka Mower Company: he was interested financially in the Charles C. Kellogg & Sons' Company and was a stockholder in various corporations. In the town of Deerfield he probably title to more land than any other person.

For all his great activity in business circles, Mr. Weaver found time to devote himself extensively to politics. His first effort in that direction resulted in his election as Supervisor of the town of Deerfield, which office he held in 1871, 1872 and 1876. He was a Republican. In 1867 he resigned as supervisor and was elected Sheriff, at which time he was the youngest man who had ever held the office.

During his term as Sheriff, Mr. Weaver, had to deal with the railroad riots that swept across the country in that year. His brother, Van R. Weaver, was his deputy and the vigilance and energy of the two averted serious trouble in this county. Referring to Mr. Weavers services. Isaac P. Bielby in his history of the Sheriff's office says: "Mr. Weaver was a good Sheriff, the fact is he was never excelled, and Oneida County may well be proud of Frederick G. and Van R. Weaver. While Sheriff, Mr. Weaver also arrested a number of dangerous criminals, and otherwise performed his duties in a manner that won the commendation of the public.

In 1894 Mr. Weaver was nominated by the Republicans for State Senator and the contest which followed was one of the most memorable ever waged in this locality. The late Henry J. Coggeshall. who had held the office of Senator for six terms, strenuously sought the nomination and when he failed to secure it, announced himself an Independent candidate. Coggeshall received Democratic support and after a furious campaign, won at the polls.

Mr. Weaver married Sarah J. Budlong of West Schuyler in 1872, and she survives him with four sons and three daughters, William B. Weaver, George F. Weaver. Frederick G. Weaver, Jr., and John M. Weaver. Mrs. J. A. Auert and Frances A. Weaver of Deerfield and Mrs. A. W. Wood of Marcy. He leaves two brothers. Van R. Weaver and C. C. Weaver of Deerfield. and one sister. Mrs. S. H. Brayton of Whitesboro. Two grandchildren are Ruth Weaver Auert and Frances S. Auert of Deerfield.

The deceased was a member of the --[church ?]---- the Fort Schuyler Club, the Chamber of Commerce, the Oneida Historical Society and Utica Lodge, No. 54, F. & A. M. He was very fond of his family and was the central figure of a happy home circle, where he will be sadly missed. His was a long and busy life and his death marks the passing of an upright and substantial citizen who accomplished much for the betterment of the community in which he lived.

Frederick G. Weaver (GFG – C) 1843 – 1908, was a great grandson of Catherine Getman (GFG – C) 1745 – 1829 and George G. Weaver 1748 – 1819. And great-great grandson of Frederick Getman (GFG – C 1)

Accidental Shooting ?

Amsterdam Evening Recorder, NY
Monday, January 7, 1929

St. Johnsville, Jan. 7, — Harold Gray, 19-year-old St. Johnsville boy, has confessed that it was from his

hand the fatal bullet was fired which killed his friend and companion, Leonard Lasher, last Wednesday afternoon.

It was purely accidental, according to the confession, and police authorities are inclined to believe the story as finally told.

The shooting of young Lasher, who was 20, occurred in the home of Mrs. Maud Rider, on the afternoon of January 2, and, because of the many puzzling features surrounding the case, became of more than ordinary interest to the village and county authorities.

The position of the body and the peculiar nature of the wound proved a puzzle. The bullet entered just below the nose, went upward through, the nostril, emerged from the top of the head and lodged in the right wrist. The question to be solved was, how could the victim get into such a position to shoot himself?

One theory which held for a time was that he was lying on the floor resting his head on his right hand and fooling with the gun which accidentally was discharged.

Saturday afternoon an overburdened conscience compelled young Gray to confess and he made his statement to County Investigator Edward Sheehan, Sergeant George Avery of the New York state troops and Chief of Police Gerald Nellis, after the latter had taken him into custody. The statement was brief and confessed to the accidental shooting while the defendant was still in bed and his companion sitting on the bed beside him. He realized his predicament and placed the gun on the floor beside the body and notified the household.

The killing was accidental and the consequent confusion of mind and terror over the deed caused the young man to conceal his act until finally he confessed.

He was arraigned Saturday night before Police Justice Walter N. Giercke, signed a written confession and was held on a charge of manslaughter-first-degree to which he pleaded not guilty.

District Attorney W. J. Crangle was present and asked that bail be fixed at \$3,000. He was taken to Fonda, pending the admission of bail, which will be attempted today by friends of the young man.

Certain formalities under the new law compel incarceration until proof of former record is checked from the Albany office. County Judge George C. Butler will be the official passing on the bail bonds. The confession clears a mystery which for a time baffled the police.

Generally the confession of young Gray will be accepted, as he is a young man of good character, conscientious and generally liked by all who know

him. There can be no motive for crime and the closest friendship existed between the two boys.

A kindly act on the part of Deputy Sheriff Edward Sheehan was the permitting of the boy to visit his mother at East Creek, who is ill of pneumonia.

And the Jury Says

Amsterdam Evening Recorder, NY
Saturday, February 16, 1929

The jury which heard the testimony in county court at Fonda in the trial of Harold Gray of St. Johnsville, indicted for manslaughter in the first degree, for causing the death of Leonard Lasher, went out Friday afternoon at 2:40 o'clock. After deliberating for more than three hours on the evidence presented on both sides, the jury returned at 5:55 with a verdict of "not guilty."

Gray was defended by Attorney James L. Doyle of this city, with Mayor Carl S. Salmon acting as counsel.

Following the report of the jury the court adjourned sine die.

Harold Frederick Gray (GFG- A) 1909 – 1998, was a great-great grandson of Elizabeth Getman (GFG A 142) b. 1805 and Samuel Gray b. 1801. All were residents of the Ephratah – St Johnsville area.

A Not so Accidental Shooting

Geneva Daily times, NY, Friday
December 23, 1949

Twelve witnesses testified at the inquiry in the apartment of Mr. and Mrs. Donald VanScoy late Saturday night.

Seneca County Coroner Clinton L. Garnett of Interlaken reserved decision in the case. He was aided in the investigation by District Attorney Henry W. Koch of Seneca Falls.

First witness was Mrs. Ruth Kinman, 26, of Interlaken. She identified a .25 caliber Colt automatic pistol which was reportedly used by Getman to end his life. She said she believed it was the same one he had shown her earlier on the night of the shooting.

She said that during a trip to Ithaca with Getman, he told her he was in love with a girl named Annette who lived in Ovid. Mrs. Van Scoy's first name is Annette.

She also told of stopping at several places "for drinks"

Police had given jealousy as a motive for the doubling shooting Saturday night. Donald VanScoy, 30, was wounded as he sat in the living room of the

Van Scoy apartment. Mrs. VanScoy was in the kitchen at the time of the shooting, police said.

In reply to a question by District Attorney Koch, Mrs. Kinman said Getman had made a remark during their trip about VanScoy. Getman said "something about Don," Mrs. Kinman testified. She added "He said he was after someone by the name of Don."

Mrs. Kinman ended her testimony by saying the last thing she remembered after falling asleep in the Getman car that Saturday night, was being awakened by Miss. Arlene McDonald of Ovid.

Miss McDonald, 23, testified that her home was the second residence from the Getman appliance store, over which the VanScoy apartment was situated.

She said Getman's car was parked in front of her house about 11:30 p. m. Saturday and that she saw Getman walk toward his place of business.

Miss McDonald's mother went to the car, she said, because the vehicle's radio was playing loudly, and had aroused Mrs. Kinman, "who had been sleeping soundly."

It was shortly after midnight when this occurred, the witness said. She added that Mrs. Kinman was invited to stay overnight in the McDonald home and did so. Miss McDonald concluded by saying she heard no shots fired that night.

Mrs. VanScoy, 29, testified she had put her eight-year-old son, Douglas, to bed, and had gone into the kitchen. She said her husband was sitting alone in the living room.

Mrs. VanScoy said she heard gun shots in fast sequence, went into the living room and saw Getman and her husband. As she tried to take the pistol from Getman, she said, VanScoy told her to call a doctor. She said she had been unaware of her husband's wounds until he asked her to call a doctor.

Mrs. VanScoy said she went to the 'phone but did not talk then because she heard another shot in the hallway. She said she saw Getman "going downstairs head first," but did not follow him.

She then told a telephone operator a doctor was needed. She concluded by saying Getman had not spoken while in the apartment.

State police told of their investigation. Tpr. Hicks said he found four cartridge cases in the living room.

Other state police who testified were Tpr. James Russell, Tpr. Irwin Hicks and Sgt. P. J. Corbett.

Dr. Irving M. Derby, Wayne county pathologist, said his autopsy revealed a hole above Getman's right ear. The bullet had entered at a 45-degree angle, he said.

Getman's body was found in the hallway of the apartment with a pistol in his hand, according to testimony. Donald VanScoy was taken to an Ithaca hospital to recover from bullet wounds. Mrs.

VanScoy was released Tuesday from the same hospital after treatment for shock.

The VanScoy's reportedly had been in Syracuse on Saturday on a Christmas shopping tour. They were said to have been reconciled recently after an estrangement. VanScoy had lived in Waterloo during their separation, police said.

Sherman Getman (GFG – B 493) was the great-great-grandson of Christian Getman (GFG B 1) 1734-1821 and Anne Eve Timmerman, 1743-1822. [She is the wife who was scalped and survived.]

More Details

Geneva Daily Times, Monday
December 19, 1949

Officials to Probe 'Jealousy as Motive in Gun Death at Ovid'

Ovid, Dec. 19 – After a double shooting, Donald Van Scoy, 30 was reported in "fair" condition in Thompkins Memorial hospital, Ithaca, today and Sherman Getman, 48, was dead.

State police today blamed jealousy for the death of the Ovid appliance dealer who shot himself after critically wounding his secretary's husband.

The shooting Saturday night followed a reconciliation between Donald VanScoy,30, and his wife, Annette, 29. The couple, estranged for several months, had spent the day in Syracuse buying Christmas presents for their seven-year-old son.

State police said Getman shot Van Scoy three times while in the living room of Mrs. Van Scoy's apartment, above the Getman store Getman's body, with a bullet wound in the head, was in a hallway outside the apartment. The 25 caliber revolver was near-by.

Van Scoy was reported in critical condition last night at an Ithaca hospital. He was shot in the abdomen and an arm. Mrs. Van Scoy was in the same hospital, suffering from shock.

State police said the child, Donald, was in bed when the shooting occurred. Lt. James Russell, Waterloo, quoted Mrs. Van Scoy as saying she was in the kitchen preparing food when she heard the shots.

Police said Getman walked into the living room where Van Scoy was sitting shortly after the family returned home.

Getman was married and the father of three children.

Van Scoy, an employe of the Seneca Ordnance depot, is the son of Rev. E. H. Van Scoy, Methodist minister at Savannah, Wayne county. He had been living in Waterloo while separated from his wife.

Last night surgeons removed Van Scoy's kidney and spleen. He also suffered an arm wound.

Police said a preliminary investigation revealed Getman had seen Mr. and Mrs. Van Scoy enter the apartment and had followed them.

They added that while Van Scoy was seated in the apartment over Getman's store, four shots were fired. One of them went into the chair and the other three into Van Scoy.

State Police said Mrs. Van Scoy was in the kitchen at 11:20 p.m. when she heard noises and ran into the living room. She didn't realize her husband was wounded until he asked for a physician's aid, she said.

While telephoning, her heard a shot in the hallway and running investigate, police said, the wife saw Getman lying on the first landing of the steps.

Getman was pronounced dead by Dr. Stanley Folts, Interlaken physician. Van Scoy was given emergency treatment and taken to the Ithaca hospital, along with his wife who is being treated for shock.

Sgt. P. J. Corfett, BCI division, said the death weapon was identified as Getman's pistol. An autopsy revealed a bullet from the .25 caliber pistol enter Getman's head above the right ear.

Clinton Garnett, Seneca county coroner of Interlaken said he planned an inquest in the near future. He will be assisted by District Attorney Henry W. Koch of Seneca Falls.

Investigating were Lt. James W. Russell, supervisor of Zone 9, Troop D, state police; Sgt. Lawrence Fox and Troopers Erwin Hicks and Robert Larrison, Fred Wilson and Sgt. P. J. Corbett BCI division, Koch and Garnett.

Getman had a bottled gas agency and operated an appliance store. He also has a garage and work-shop in the rear of the store.

He was in business here more than 15 years and was a resident for over 30 years. He was a member of Seneca Lake Lodge 308 F.&A.M. of Dresden, and the Eagles lodge of Ithaca.

Services will be held in the Coryell funeral home tomorrow at 2:30 p.m. Rev. L. D. Bell, pastor of the Methodist church of Geneva will officiate. Burial will be in Union cemetery.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Norma Getman; three sons, Norman Roger and Dennis Getman of Ovid; his mother Mrs. Dora Shumway of Ovid; a brother, La Rue Getman of Interlaken, and a half sister, Mrs. Ethel Miller of Split Rock.

Donald Van Scoy survived, numerous legal action was taken against Getman's estate. Van Scoy went on to eventually operate a Coal Company in Ovid.