

Plans Being Made

Initial plans are being developed for an anticipated Getman Association reunion to be held in Johnstown NY, August 6-7-8, 2021. Details are not available and the possibility of pandemic related restrictions are currently considered to be likely.

You are encouraged to “pencil in” this date on your calendar. Details will be provided as they become available.

Getman Research Depository

There have been questions during the past few months, concerning an appropriate location for the deposit of research materials during the past few months.

I have been in contact with the Margaret Reaney Memorial Library, 19 Kingsbury Ave., St. Johnsville, NY, 13452 - 518-568-7282. The director is very agreeable to the idea of such materials being donated to the library collection.

This library is very appropriate for Getman research material because many of our ancestors settled and lived in the community and surrounding area.

Materials there will be readily available for people to use and will be stored properly. Donations are final and will become permanent additions to the library.

Send Us Your Stories

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

wayget@ntcnet.com

A-B-C Lines

In the initial publication each of the original Getman sons was assigned a letter as follows. These letters were used to differentiate their lines of descent.

There were additional D and E lines set up for Getman families that could not be linked to the original family when the book was being developed. These have each been identified in more current research and are now clearly linked to one of the A-B-C lines.

Recent research has been able to include descendants of the original daughters of Frederick and Maria. The daughters have been identified with roman numerals based on their birth order providing the following result.

Anna Maria Getman	b. 1721	I line
Anna married Johann Henrich Meyers		
Anna Eve Getman	b. abt. 1722	II line
Eve married Frederick Orendorf		
George Getman,	b. 1723	A line
George married Udelia Shoemaker		
Frederick Getman,	b. 1725	C line
Frederick married Margaritha		
Johannes Getman	b. 1728	V line
Johannes married Anna Maria Merkel		
They went to Canada during the revolution. No record currently exists.		
Maria Margaretha Getman	b. abt 1732	VI line
Maria married Marcus Ittig (Edick)		
Christian Getman,	b. 1734	B line
Christian married Annd Eve Timmerman		
Catherine Getman	b. abt 1737	VIII line

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)

George Getman

1723-1789

George Getman is the third born child of Frederick and Maria Bierman Getman. He is also the first son born to them. As the first-born son he was assigned the identity code GFG – A 1 when the 1975 Getman genealogy was published. “A” representing his order of birth since descendancy of daughters was not documented at the time and “1” indicated that he was the first in the line. Each of his descendants carries this identity code with a unique ascending number in the Getman Association records and on the website. His descendants who were not included in the 1975 publication or the supplement are identified as GFG – A without a number. His siblings have been assigned similar identity codes which are useful when tracking the multiple intermarriages of descendant generations. Like his older sisters, he was born in Hartman’s Dorf, a German settlement in what is now Schoharie county, New York. Available records indicate he was the last of the children born at Hartman’s Dorf.

The Getman family moved to Burnetsfield patent when he was an infant (under age 2). They lived near the current city of Little Falls. Little Falls had become an important community because of the need to portage around several “little falls” when traveling by boat on the Mohawk River. Some of the local residents were able to make a living by offering assistance and over-night accommodations and meals to the

travelers. The Getman plot was about 3 miles west of the settlement and they were not involved in the portage trade.

At the age of 27 George married Udelia Shoemaker (abt. 1729 – aft 1783) who was about 21 at the time and had been born and raised in what is now the village of Herkimer. Udelia was the daughter of Johan Thomas Shoemaker and Anna Dorthea Korsing, both of whom were born in Germany as were George’s parents. It is presumed Udelia survived George who died in 1789, however there are no currently known records supporting this and their place of burial is currently unknown, but is presumed to have been the burial ground on the Getman homestead.

George and Udelia settled with his parents in Ephratah, N.Y. and had a total of five known children over a period of five years. Five is a relatively low number of children during this period and locality. It may be the result of a complication during the delivery of their last known children who were a set of twins. As the oldest son he inherited the family homestead where he is presumed to have been living.

Children of George and Udelia were: Frederick Getman (1751-1812), he married Anna Eva Frank (abt. 1752-1812), they had 5 children; Thomas Getman (1752-1829), he married Elizabeth Helmer (1753-1837), they had 4 children; Johannes Getman (1754-abt. 1831), he married Margaret Loucks (1754-

1829), They had 11 children; George Getman (1756-1828) and his twin sister Anna Maria Getman (1756-????). George the son married two times, first Elizabeth P. House (1760-1799) and second Delia (????-????). Elizabeth bore him 8 children and appears to have died as the result of childbirth complications. Delia bore two children. Anna Maria married Johann "Hans" Lodewick Kring (1759-1835) this couple had 9 children. Collectively George and Udedia had 39 grandchildren.

During the French and Indian War George served in Lieutenant Deychert's (Dygart's) company. They marched to the relief of Fort William Henry at Lake George, Mar 20, 1757 - Mar 29, 1757. Troops traveling to relieve Fort William Henry did not arrive in time to prevent the English surrender to the French or the subsequent slaughter by Indians of the survivors as they evacuated the area.

During the American Revolution he served in in Colonel Jacob Klock's Regiment of the Tryon County Militia. The following tale taken from the Hatch Papers tells of his involvement in the one of the battles.

"This George Getman was of the Tryon Militia and at the battle of Stone Arabia. History says "The first shot fired by Col. Browns men after leaving the fort Oct 19, 1780, was by George Getman who saw an Indian chasing two women. The Indian fired and one of them fell and as he was running to scalp her, Getman's flint lock brought him down. When they were fleeing from the battle field George Getman, a Militia man overtook a young yankee soldier who caught hold of Getman's bayonet belt which of course assisted him considerably but retarded Getman. The belt broke after a time and the lad soon fell behind doubtless soon to be tomahawked and scalped.

Getman was running east and came to a bar way, the middle bar being down, he

stopped to pass through when a bullet struck the top bar. Soon after from a little nearby copse came the call "Help brother" and he found a brother militiaman wounded in the shoulder. It was Jacob Snell, afterward County Judge. The flint had dropped from Getman's gun and after putting their weapons in good repair, Getman bent over to dress the wounded shoulder, His hat had fallen off in his flight and as he knelt by Snell's side a hawk lit on his bald head, each talon drawing blood. The victim thought he was being scalped and looked around for the enemy but saw no one, and did not know the character of his assailant until Snell told him."

LARGE OWL CAUGHT IN TRAP SET FOR CHICKEN THIEF

Watertown Daily Standard, NY
Friday, September 11, 1925

LOWVILLE, Sept. 11. Ray Vary, who lives on West road in the town of Harrisburg, has for some time heard something which he thought was disturbing the young chickens in the yard. After missing several, he set a trap and was somewhat surprised when he found that he had caught a large owl. It was with some difficulty that the bird was captured as he was so large and powerful and at once showed fight.

Ray Truman Vary 1892-1983 is the husband of Ruth M. Allen (GFG - C) 1892-1983. Ruth is a daughter of Velma M. Getman (GFG - C) 1872-1965 and Erwin J. Allen, 1866-1933.

Send Us Your Stories
Share your Getman histories
and traditions with
your cousins, near and far.

wayget@ntcnet.com

Tug Hill-Full of Rugged Tales

Watertown Daily Times, NY, Monday
October 25, 1971

Discovery of natural gas on the property of Fay and Earl Nefsey in the Town of Harrisburg in 1931 caused a kind of "gold rush" excitement among residents of the area who dreamed of overnight riches.

Tug Hill Gas and Oil Co., formed by officers of the Lowville Gas. Corp. with capital of \$50,000 was granted a charter to operate gas and oil wells Sept. 9, 1933, and, began drilling in October, 1933, on the Nefsey farm located about three miles west of Lowville. Two wells with depths of 892 and 1,185 feet were drilled, and a third, stronger well, was capped at 1,156 feet on the Steinmaker farm, about seven miles west of Lowville.

Natural gas from the wells of Tug Hill flowed through Lowville gas mains the evening of-Nov. 20, 1934, and the next day, for the first time in the history of the region, Lowville had the benefits of natural gas for cooking and heating purposes. Application for a franchise was made by Tug Hill company officials to the Village of Carthage for distribution and sale of natural gas to supplement the limited market in the area. The proposal included piping gas from the Lowville plant to Carthage with an estimated cost of \$150,000 for a pipeline.

Several meetings were held with village officials, but no action was ever taken. A group of Carthage businessmen opposed the development on the grounds that actual resources were then inadequate to supply Carthage. The first wells it was said had soon been admitted, and future supplies depended on new wells that had not yet proved themselves.

In 1935 exploitation of the gas fields ended, as gas in the upper strata had been exhausted. Estimated deposits of recoverable natural gas totaled one and one-half million cubic feet, but the expense of recovering the gas proved too great for the financial resources of the firm. By 1938 the enterprise collapsed with considerable loss to stock - holders.

Earl J Nefsey (GFG - C) 1893-1983 and Fay Nefsey (GFG - C) 1895-1950 are sons of Helen

Gertrude Getman (GFG - C) 1870-1938 and Henry Patrick Nefsey, 1856-1917.

38th Reunion is Held by Getman Unit

The Leader-Herald
Gloversville-Johnstown, NY
Tuesday, August 16 1966

Ralph Parent, Herkimer, was reelected president at the 38th annual reunion of the Getman Family of America Saturday in the picnic grove of the Salem Evangelical United Brethren Church of East Stone Arabia

Other officers elected were Charles M. Getman of Greene, first vice president; Miss Florence Getman of East Stone Arabia, second vice president Donald Saltsman of Fort Plain, treasurer; Mrs. Beverly Buddles, of Grand Gorge, secretary, Frank Bowman of Scarsdale, historian and Mrs Myrtle Baker of Canajoharie, chaplain.

Directors elected for a term of two years beginning next June were Howard Smith, Cobleskill; Mrs. Grace Miller, Fort Plain; Miss Eleanor Getman, East Stone Arabia; Mrs. Gertrude Getman, Iion, and Mrs. Edna Leneker, Palatine Bridge.

Approximately 50 persons attended from Canajoharie, Fort Plain, Connecticut, Greene, Scarsdale, East Stone Arabia, Nelliston, Verona, Palatine Bridge, Cobleskill, and Fonda.

Mrs. Elisabeth Hopkinson, 87, of Danbury, Conn., was the oldest person attending. The youngest was Deborah Getman, 4 1/2, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Getman of Greene. Mr. and Mrs. Everett Seidel, Danbury, Conn., who traveled the greatest distance.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Getman comprised the largest family in attendance with three children. All were presented gifts by Parent.

Carl Getman of Nelliston reported on the family cemetery in Ephratah. He said that the cemetery was being maintained and repaired where necessary. Franklin Bowman of Scarsdale reported on a book of the family history that is in the process of being compiled and gave a resume of the family history.

Parent appointed the following to comprise a necrology committee to do further research on the family history. Miss Gwen Getman, Nelliston, chairman; Miss Florence Getman, Miss Eleanor Getman, Mrs. Magdalene Kimball, Fonda; Mrs. Howard Murdoch Fonda, and Mrs. Edith Thompson, Gloversville.

A board of directors meeting will be held in June to determine the date and place of the next reunion.

Obituary

March, 2019

Michael A. Bernstein

Michael Alan Bernstein, 60, died Monday, March 4th, at Jupiter Medical Center Pavilion in Jupiter, FL, after a long illness. He was born July 28, 1958, in Amsterdam, NY, the son of Robert L. and Evelyn (Getman) Bernstein, formerly of Nelliston and Canajoharie, N.Y. Michael graduated from Fort Plain Central School in 1976.

Michael served as a SSGT in the U.S. Air Force from 1978 thru 1982, as an Avionic Navigation, Instrumentation and Communication Specialist, and was stationed at Griffiss A.F.B., in Rome, NY., receiving an honorable discharge. He was recognized as an Airman of the Year in 1981 for the 49th F.I.S.

Michael was always on a creative adventure, his various employments being in the Retail and Business Administration & Management fields, specializing in visual displays. Michael worked for the Palm Beach Golf Center for over 15 years. For years, he owned his own visual merchandising business specializing in golf and tennis trade shows across Florida. He was also the administrator of the Palm Edge Assisted Living Facility in Riviera Beach, FL, and a merchandising manager for Walgreens.

Michael enjoyed boating and the beaches in his early days in Florida. He was an avid NASCAR fan for many years, and attended many races to watch his favorite driver, Matt Kenseth. He thoroughly enjoyed genealogy and the history of the Mohawk Valley. Michael loved to write a quick poem and he penned the

poem, "Ode To Fort Plain". His greatest enjoyment came when he was challenged to design, create and build something out of nothing. He also loved helping people in any way that he could, but most of all, he loved his family and friends, where his sense of humor often got him into trouble.

Michael, and a few others, created the neighborhood Facebook group, known as The Fort Plain Stoners, nearly 5 years ago, which has now grown to over 3,600 neighborhood members. His main goal was to bring the community back together again, if only thru virtual reality, and to honor the town that he grew up in.

Michael is survived by his wife of 32 years, Trisha K. (Welch) Bernstein, Palm Beach Gardens, FL, whom he married on October 25, 1986, aboard the Empress of the Palm Beaches, Riviera Beach, FL. He is also survived by his two best accomplishments; his daughter, Ashlee N., and her husband, Gary Turczyn, and their daughter, Ava; of Palm Beach Gardens, FL, and his son, Branden M. Bernstein, and his wife, Bianca, as well as their sons, Brycen and Benjamin Bernstein of Royal Palm Beach, FL. He is also survived by his mother, Evelyn A. (Getman) Bernstein, Stuart, FL, his sisters: Nona J., and her husband, Keith Varnadore, of Palm City, FL.; and Terre L. Gifford, Stuart, FL and her daughter, Madison Gifford. He is also survived by his aunts, Barbara Fassett, Cherry Valley, NY., and Frances Bernstein, Hyattsville, MD, as well as many cousins. Michael is also the son-in-law of Bill and Charlene Welch, of Palm Beach Gardens, FL.

Michael was predeceased by his father, Robert L. Bernstein; his paternal grandparents, Clarence A. Bernstein and Madelyn (Herron) Bernstein Azer; his maternal grandparents, Carl and Alwilda (Monk) Getman; and a special aunt, Gwendolyn Getman.

As per Michael's request, there will no formal services. Burial will take place in the Fort Plain Cemetery at a later date.

Michael Alan Bernstein (GFG – B/B) 1958-2019, son of Evelyn A. Getman, 1936-???? and Robert L. Bernstein, 1934-2007. Michael managed a facebook page dedicated to Getman Genealogy.

Last Will and Testament of George Getman 1723-1789

(Transcribed by Clyde J. Getman)

In the name of God, Amen. I, George Getmann, of Stone Arabia in the County of Tryon, State of New York, being of sound Memory, Blessed be God; but considering the Mortality of my Body, and the uncertainty of the Hour of Death, do this Second Day of December in the Eight Year of the Independence of the Said State, & in the Year of our Lord one Thousand Seven Hundred and eighty Three, make and publish this my Last Will & Testament in manner following, That is to say, First and principally, I give and recommend my Immortal Soul into the Merciful Hands of my redeemer Jesus Christ, & my mortal Body to the Earth, whence it came, to be interred decently & in a Christian Like manner at the discretion of my Executors hereafter named and appointed _ But concerning my Worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me in this Life, I give, devise & dispose of the same as followeth.

Imprimis I give unto my first Born Son Frederic, for his right of primogenitus The Sum of Forty Shillings to be paid out of my Personal Estate. Item. I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Udelia and to her heirs & Assigns my Negro Wench Dina, to have and to hold the same Wench unto her proper use & behoof & her Heirs & Assigns for ever & concerning her maintenance during her Widowhood. I will, devise & dispose that each of my Sons, their respective Heirs & Assigns, shall pay unto her, my said Wife Udelia yearly Twenty Skippels of good Wheat.

Item I give and bequeath unto my Son Frederic, a certain Lott of Land containing one Hundred Acres with the usual allowance for Highways Lying and being in the Stone Arabia Patent & distinguished by the Name of Lott No. Ninety five together with all the profits arising or that may here after arise therefrom, & also all the Deeds Evidences & Writings, touching or concerning the said premises. To have and to hold the said premises with the appurtenances unto the use of my said Son Frederic, His Heirs & assigns for ever, under the Proviso and the devises herein charged upon my said Son Frederic for the maintenance of my wife Udelia be exactly paid.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my Son John for the use and behoof of him my said Son Jno. his Heirs & Assigns for ever one Tract of Land containing Fifty Acres with the usual allowance for Highways Lying and being in the Stone Arabia Patent & distinguished by the Name of the Westerly half of Lott No. Ninety Six & fifty Acres with the usual allowance for highways out of a Lott of wood Land Lying in the Patent before mentioned known by the Name of Lott No. Eleven that is the Southermost end thereof, & containing one Hundred & Thirty one Acres & one Half.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my Sons Thos. & Geo. to their Heirs & Assigns for ever the Farm whereon I now live except as shall be hereafter excepted being known by being Lott No. Ninety Eight and the Easterly part of Lott No. Ninety Six (Containing in the whole one Hundred and Fifty Acres of Land) in the aforesaid Patent of Stone Arabia together with all the improvements & buildings thereon; & also all Deeds, Evidences & Writings, touching or concerning the said premises To be decided in manner between my said Sons Thomas & George following, viz, & _____ into two equal parts by a Line to begin in the middle of the Northerly end of said Farm & run thence through the middle of the said Farm until it Strike the Southerly bounds thereof__. The westerly part of which Farm it is my Will shall belong to my Son Thomas, & that to the east to my sd Son George__ it is my further will & direction that my Son Thomas shall bear one half of the expences it will require to put the easterly half of the sd Farm to be possessed by my sd Son George into as good order & under as good Improvements as the Westerly part to be possessed by him my said Son Thomas Is or shall be at my decease_ & I further give & bequeath unto my said Sons Thomas & George equally together To their Heirs & Assigns for ever fifty Acres out of the beforementioned Lott of wood Land, known & distinguished by being Lott No. Eleven in the Stone Arabia Patent, & containing one Hundred & Thirty one Acres & one half together with the usual allowance for Highways & all my horses, my Plow, Harrow, Sleigh, & two thirds of my Iron Waggon __ the other third of the Waggon I give and bequeath unto my Son John.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my sons Frederic, Jno. Thomas & George all the residue of my lands & to their Heirs & Assigns for ever, being one Hundred Acres out of a Patent Lying back of the German Flatts conveyed to me, & my wife by a Deed bearing Date the Twenty seventh Day of December Anno Domini one Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty Six & assigned over entirely to me by my said Wife this Day__the remaining thirty one & one half Acres together with the usual allowance for Highways out of the before mentioned Lott No, Eleven in the Stone Arabia Patent & the fifty Sixth part of the undivided Lands in the said Patent __to be equally divided amongst them__ It is further my will and desire that each of my said Sons Frederic, Jno. Thomas & George shall have an equal share in the Mill places upon the one Hundred & fifty Acres of Land, whereon I now live, & if before my decease any Mills should be erected on the said Lands each of them is to have an equal share therein, anything herein contained to the Contrary notwithstanding.

I further direct that all the remainder of my Personal Estate shall be equally divided amongst all my children.

Item. I will and devise that the lands bequeathed unto all my Sons shall be a security for the payments of the Wheat directed to be given to my Wife yearly for her maintenance or that they give good securities to my hereafter appointed Executors for the yearly payments of the said Wheat during the Life of my said Wife, before the possession of the said Lands are given them.

Item I will and dispose that my funeral Charges & all my other Just Debts whatever shall be paid out of the Moneys owing me, & if that shall not be sufficient each of my sons shall pay equal shares in discharging the remainder The Moneys that may found due on the fifty Acres of Land this Day assigned over by my Son Frederic to my daughter Maria, Wife of Jno. Lewis Kring, are also to be paid by my Sons each paying an equal Share, that is, one fourth part thereof.

Item. It is also my direction that my Executors take securities of my said Sons for the payment of these Monneys.

Lastly, I make and appoint my beloved Son Frederic Mess. Jno\ Snell & Isaac Paris of Stone arabia my Loving Friends, for [&] of this my Last Will & Testament.

N.B. (The word good) in the Sixteenth line of the first Sheet & the words (the use of) in the Twenty first of the same & the word (my) in the 23rd of the same & (with the usual allowance for Highways) in the 28th of the same, the words (excepted as shall hereafter be excepted) in the 2d Line of the 2d Sheet the word (Son) in the 13th Line of the same & the words (appointed) in the 9th Line,(Day) in the 14th Line (by) before the 15th & 16th Lines of the Last sheet were enterlined before the Sealing hereof__).

In Wittness whereof I the said George Getmann have to this my last Will and testament set my Hand and Seal on the said Second of December Anno Domini 1783

Signed, Sealed, Published & declared by the said George Getmann as and for his Last Will & Testament in the Presence of

his
Christian x Getmann
Mark

his
George x Getmann
mark L.S.

Ludwig Rickert
Nicklas Kessler