

THE

GETMAN NEWS

November 2023

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

Research Data: getmandata.org

Facebook Getman Family of America

**Getman Family Association
President's Message**

November, 2023

Greetings cousins!

I found this poem while cleaning out some of my old files.....I don't know where it came from or who is the author.

Cousin Reunion

"It seems so strange, we didn't meet until we've aged and grayed.

Fun times were missed, the years went by, and we never even played.

But now we've gathered, reminisced, and even laughed a lot.

We ate, shopped, and shared the treasures that were brought.

You were here and now you're gone; the time went by so fast.

Let's never again let the years go by and so much time elapse.

It's fun to look at pictures and see our family tree,

Height coloring, smiles, voices and see who looks like me.

But as much as I enjoy learning about those who came before,

I really want to visit and get to know you more!"

Wayne will be including information on our August 2024 Reunion in the coming months. Look for updates in his newsletter. A special thanks to Wayne for compiling our newsletter every month!

Marjorie Rosendahl, President, Getman Family Association of America

**Hold the Date
August 2-3-4, 2024
Getman Family Reunion
Details to Follow**

**Getman Genealogy Book
Available**

A book covering the first six generations of Getmans, starting with Caspar is available. This book was published in 2013. Included in the book are the known descendants of all of the family lines, including daughters.

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. 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 to Wayne Getman.

**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)

Life in Stone Arabia

Frederick Getman purchased lots in the Stone Arabia Patent from Hendrick Six in 1743. It is presumed he moved there shortly after.

An unknown is the date of death for his wife, Maria Johanna Bierman Getman. Our records currently indicate that she died about 1740. If this is the case, she was not in residence at the new home. Another unknown is the possibility of an additional child named Elizabeth, born about 1740. This child is indicated in the Getman genealogy book, published in 1975. I have found no other reference concerning her birth, baptism or marriage that seems valid. A few individuals indicate that she married Gershom Skinner. There is no supporting evidence for this marriage. A more likely possibility is that a child named Elizabeth was born, did as an infant and the mother died as a result of childbirth. The actual situation currently is unknown.

The land purchased in the Stone Arabia Patent is now located in the Township of Ephratah, New York, approximately 1 mile east of the village of Ephratah. This land was undeveloped at the time of purchase and required the new owners to clear the land, build a home and otherwise settle a new site.

Frederick is known to have died in 1781 at the presumed age of 88. The exact cause of death is unknown, but it is obvious that he was one of the elders of the community.

A property that was cleared and farmed in the area, first provided subsistence living

for the family, as the clearing and tilling was expanded grain was planted for sale to nearby villages and eventually Schenectady and Albany. By the time of the American Revolution, the Mohawk and Schoharie valleys were well known for the production of grain. Stone Arabia is considered part of the Mohawk Valley region. Records indicate wheat was grown. It is likely that additional grain crops included oats, spelt, and possibly rye.

Because of the profitable nature of grain farming it is almost certain that Frederick and his sons were among other things, grain farmers. This was hard work but profitable for the time. Fields were cleared, plowed, planted, harvested, and the grain threshed by hand. Clearing the land involved, cutting and removing trees, removing rocks and stumps in order to allow for plowing. Trees were often burned and the resulting ash sold as a 'cash crop.' The processed ash was often used in the production of soap and fertilizer and had a ready market.

Potash *The name derives from pot ash, plant ashes or wood ash soaked in water in a pot, the primary means of manufacturing potash before the industrial era the word pottasium is derived from potash.*

Once the land was cleared plowing was usually done with a team of oxen or horses. Oxen were usually preferred. Harvesting was done with a sickle by hand, the ripe grain stalks were cut and tied into small bundles called sheaves, the sheaves are then placed in small stacks called stooks. Stooks remained in the field to dry. Once adequately dry the sheaves were loaded on a



wagon and taken to the barn for threshing by hand with a flail. (A 12-18 inch heavy stick, attached to a 4-5 foot handle, used to pound the grain loose from the stalk.)

Having been flailed, the grain needed to be separated from the stalks. This was done by removing the straw (separated stalks) with a fork, sweeping the grain and chaff into a pile. The pile was then winnowed by putting a small amount of the mix in a basket, tossing the mix into the air so a breeze can blow the chaff away and catching the grain in the basket. This was done several times until the grain was clean enough to use for flour. All in all from field to storage, it was a hard and dusty task.

Enough grain was produced in the area to be an important source of food for the Continental Army. The British and British Loyalists spent several years making raids through-out the area to interrupt grain production to weaken the rebellion.

One of the most significant of the raids is known as the Battle of Stone Arabia and occurred in 1780. During this raid several thousand bushels of grain were destroyed by the British. Many homes, barns and fields were burned throughout the area. It is reasonable to expect that our ancestors lost a great deal of property and income as a result of the 1780 raid. Fortunately none of the Getmans were killed in the battle, although several of the men participated.

It is reasonable to expect that Frederick, aged about 87, did not participate in the battle, his sons, George, and Christian did. I expect that several of his grandsons did as well.



Johann Frederick Getman is believed to have died in 1781 and to have been buried at the homestead. There is a small cemetery on a hillside at the Stone Arabia homestead where several Getmans and in-laws have been buried. Although there is no stone yet found for him at the location it is believed Frederick is buried there.

In 1934 a monument was erected near the village of Ephratah commemorating Frederick Getman and his contribution to the area.



Getman Descendant was Flying Tiger

The Suart News, Stuart, FL
Saturday, June 15, 2019

PALM CITY - Richard E. Allen, 98, who started a wholesale candy business that evolved into Imperial Cup Corp. (now Graphic Packaging) died Sunday, June 9, 2019 in Palm City, Florida.

Richard "R.E." Allen was born in Bellefontaine, Ohio to the late Alfred N. and Ida (Daniels) Allen on September 14, 1920. He was also preceded in death by a his first wife, Joan (Simpson) Allen, a brother, Kenneth "K.C." Allen and a daughter-in-law, Debra H. Allen.

After graduating from Bellefontaine High School in 1939 he enlisted in the Army Air Force and served in the 491st Bomb Squadron before moving to Yangkai, China

to become part of Gen. Claire Chennault's "Flying Tigers" 14th Air Force from Jan. 1944 until the war ended. Allen earned the rank of 1st Lt. and was awarded Army Air Force Air Medal, the Distinguished Flying Cross and a Purple Heart. After discharge, RE Allen attended both Ohio University & The Ohio State University on the GI Bill before marrying Joan Simpson and moving to Kenton, Ohio in 1947 to start the wholesale candy business. He later ventured into the vending business that then led to the purchase of a cup machine in 1968. As a result, Imperial Cup Corporation grew to become the largest manufacturer of vending cups. The cup company was sold to Federal Paperboard in 1989. R.E. was also a 32nd degree Master Mason and was a Shriner.

Richard E. Allen was preceded in death by his first wife & business partner but is survived by his wife of 21 years, Beverly (Owens) Allen. He is also survived by his daughter, Dr. Karen Allen of Stuart, FL & his two sons, Richard (Jane) Allen of Rancho Santa Fe, California and Rex (Cheryl) Allen of Chattanooga, Tennessee; he has three grandchildren, Lucas S. (Kirsten) & Ryan H. (Marianne) Allen & Laura (Todd) Jefferies as well as 5 great grandsons; Benjamin and Nathan Allen, and Hank, William, and Nash Jefferies.

Private graveside services were held in Bellefontaine Cemetery with Pastor Bryan Meadows officiating. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the RE & Joan S. Allen Foundation, P.O. Box 1379, Stuart, FL 34995 in memory of Mr. Allen. The foundation was endowed in 1990 to provide college & trade tech scholarships to Kenton High School graduates as well as to the employees of the Kenton, Ohio cup manufacturing plant.

Richard Elwood Allen (GFG – A) 1920-2019, was a fourth great grandson of Elizabeth Getman (GFG A 7) 1771-1957 and Johannes Saltsman, 1767 – 1832.

Getman Family Directors Met Last Friday

Enterprise and News
St. Johnsville, NY

Thursday, October 27, 1949

A meeting of the Board of directors of the Getman Family was held Friday night, October 21st at the home of Mrs. Albert Getman, Fort Plain, N. Y.

Suggestions were offered for stimulating interest in the family organization. It was agreed that a committee be appointed, with representatives in all sections of the county especially in the Mohawk Valley area, to make a survey and locate all pertinent records and data. After this information has been assembled at a central point, an inventory will be made. This will locate all family bibles, deeds, wills, church and other records which contain family history. The members of this committee will also assist in correcting the mailing list, report births, marriages, , deaths and secure all other information which may be of mutual interest. Mr. Franklin J. Bowman of Scarsdale. N. Y., the family historian, presented the board with a , booklet of blueprints which contain over five thousand names of descendants of their ancestor Frederick Getman. He stated that with the assistance and cooperation of all members of the family, this record should eventually contain over ten thousand names.

A plan to publish a quarterly magazine was discussed. It was pointed out that in as much as the Getman family has now spread from coast to coast, the only method of maintaining mutual interest and binding this group together, is through the publication of a magazine.

This matter was referred to a committee for study. The next meeting of the board of Directors of the Getman family will be in May.