

2016 Reunion Plans Under Way August 12-13-14

Watertown is our destination for 2016. A block of rooms has been set aside for the Getman Family Association at the Holiday Inn, while the detailed arrangements are being developed. The second Saturday of August falls on the 13th so our activities will seem later than usual (2015 it was the 8th.)

Arrangements have been made for the Getman 2016 reunion to stay at the Holiday Inn Express, Watertown, NY <http://www.hiexpress.com/watertownny>.

What Would You Like to do at Watertown in 2016?

As indicated earlier the Getman Association will be gathering in Watertown next year. Many Getman descendants live in the area. We are in hopes that some of them will be able to join us.

While we are there, we will have an opportunity to visit sites that the Association has not seen before. Send in your suggestions for consideration. If you can help with arrangements that will be even better.



Getman Reunion 1940

Evening Recorder, Amsterdam, NY
Tuesday, August 6, 1940

Ralph Parent, Herkimer, was elected president of the Getman family at its 18th annual reunion held at Brookwood Park, Herkimer, Saturday. Other officers named were Vice president, Mrs.- Sidney Palmatier. Fort Plain; secretary, Frailer Shults, Fort Plain; treasurer, Donald Saltsman, Fort Plain; historian, Byron L. Getman, Gloversville. Directors for two years are Byron L. Getman. Gloversville; Horance Getman, Port Henry; Frank Getman, Mohawk; Mrs. Elmer Snell. St. Johnsville; and Mrs. B. J. Oxner, Dion.

The principal address was given by Dr. Arthur K. Getman, chief of the Agricultural Bureau of the State Education Department who drew lessons in economics from the life of the founder of the family Frederick Getman. The problems of the olden times, said the speaker, are the same as the problems of today except that the circumstances differ. Fundamentally their solutions now as then lie in the intelligence and spirit of American citizens. Their problems lay in the crisis that dealt with the practical ways of establishing democracy. Our problem is the preservation of that democracy.

Another speaker was Mrs. William T. Van Dusen of Fonda, who told anecdotes and stories of the past. Annual reports of the officers 'were heard. The youngest member present was Martha Getman, aged four, of Broadalbin. The oldest was Mrs. Adeline Wheeler, 88, of Albany. A sports program was conducted by Esther Oxner of Ilion.

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 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.

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)

Some Interesting Newspaper Stories About Getman Descendants.

Getman born in Cuba

Obituary

The Lyons Republican & Clyde Times, Lyons, NY
Thursday, December 9, 1948

Franklin S. [sic] Getman, 35, the son of Mrs. Frank L. Getman of Fairport and the late Mr. Getman died of a heart attack Dec. 4. in Baranquilla, Colombia, where he was employed by the Panama Construction Company, according to word received here Sunday night.

Mr. Getman's mother is a native of Fairport and his father was born in Lyons. When the elder Getman, a civil engineer, was a young man he took his wife to Havana, Cuba, and there constructed a water works for the government. After the project was finished he went into the automobile business.

Frank Getman, a native of Havana, came to the United States when he was 14 years old and attended Mercersburg Academy and the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Finance. After he was graduated from the latter school he worked for the National Broadcasting Company in New York City. From there he went to Bogata, Colombia, and did radio advertising work for Sterling Drug Products, Inc., of New York City. He engaged in similar work in Havana before going to work for the construction company at Baranquilla, about two years ago.

Mr. Getman's father died 19 years ago in Havana and shortly afterward his mother and sister, Mrs. John U. Ross, came to Fairport to live.

Besides his mother and sister. Mr. Getman is survived by his wife, Nancy, and a son, W. Bishop Getman, both of Baranquilla. Burial was in that city, Dec. 5.

Deceased was a nephew of Miss Marion Getman of Concord, N. H., and the late Dr. William Getman of Buffalo and George T. Getman of Lyons.

Havana death

Obituary

The Herald Mail, Fairport, NY
Thursday, November 20, 1930

The Lyons Republican of last week contained the following in relation to the death of Frank L. Getman in Havana, Cuba, whose wife was formerly a resident here, Miss Belle Tubbs, a daughter of Mrs. Sarah Tubbs, who resides at the corner of South Main and Pleasant Streets.

Funeral services for Frank L. Getman, 55 years old, a native of Havana, Cuba, where he had lived for the past 25 years, were conducted Monday afternoon in the Lyons Presbyterian church, the Rev.- Albert Thomas officiating. Burial was in South Lyons cemetery. The bearers, all old friends of the deceased were: F. W. Gucker, John W. Rodenback, Daniel Moran, Willard Ennis, Harvey Shepard and Fred Mirick.

Surviving are his widow; a daughter, Mrs. John Ross of Havana, Cuba; a son, F. L. Getman of Mercersburg, Va., Academy; a sister, Marion of Lyons, who has been visiting in Concord, N. H.; and two brothers, Dr. William T. Getman of Buffalo and George T. Getman of teh Getman - Moore Drug Company.

Mr. Getman lived an eventful life, was prominent in this state as an engineer and well know throughout the island of Cuba for his business enterprises there. He spent 25 years of his life in Cuba, going there from Albany, N. Y., following work for two years as the first deputy state engineer. Previously he had been city engineer in Ithaca and Hudson, N. Y. He was a graduate of Cornell University.

When he arrived in Cuba Mr. Getman undertook the supervision of a large contract to construct pavements and sewers throughout the island. He liked Havana and decided to remain there. Business appealed to him and he set himself up in the produce business. This led to his taking up the agencies for automobiles. Mr. Getman did a large business on the

island as the dealer for the Mack truck, the Chrysler automobile and later the Reo.

He frequently made, trips to the factories and always when he did made it a point to stop in Lyons. Every summer, in fact, he spent a month or so visiting in his old home town. He spent the month of August here this year, and while not feeling well did not indicate to his friends that he was not in good health. His brother, George, however, believes that malaria, coupled with business worries, was taking its toll of Frank. The latter complained at times that he might be suffering from the gripe.

Mr. Getman enjoyed his visits to Lyons, partly because he was a native, partly because of his many friends, and because he liked so much to come to the cottage he had at Sodus Point. While here he renewed friendships too numerous to mention, of men with whom in companionship he had spent much of his younger life.

The Getman-Moore Drug store was closed over the week-end in respect to the memory of Mr. Getman.

The funeral service for Mr. Getman in the Presbyterian church was attended by a large gathering of his friends. A simple and brief address by the pastor of the church, the Rev. A. J. Thomas emphasized the love and respect in which Mr. Getman was held by all who knew him. He was a man of quiet demeanor, and perhaps his chief asset was kindly thought and deeds for others.

The body arrived by train Monday and was accompanied by Mrs. Getman

A Tall Tale

Newspaper Article
The Baldwinsville Messenger
September, 1944

Coach Wes Getman Writes – A Letter Home
[Newspaper Column]

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Chewing the fat with Roily and a group which included Fred Coates the other night on the 4 corners. Fred came up with a tall tale. One of the local triple threat men (hunter, fisher and poacher) passed on the other side of the street reminding Fred of a yarn once spun to him by the aforementioned character. It seems our triple threat once owned a very sprightly and lightning-fast spaniel who accompanied him on all poach—that is, fishing trips. One day in a clump of alders on the river bank, the master whistled to his dog, who was sorting out a delightful variety of scents some yards behind. The pup, responding with his usual speed, skidded sharply *as* he weaved in and out of the trees and was thrown violently against a

razor-sharp alder shoot which cleaved him into two parts, fore and aft Our triple-threat never at a loss in an emergency, quickly spliced the two pieces together. So clean had been the slice and so prompt the action of our hero, that the dog was immediately as well as ever, and lived to a ripe old age. The tale should end there, but it seems that our triple threat in his haste and agitation, had cemeted the hind quarters on upside down. But this proved more of an advantage than a handicap, for the spaniel would run along on his front legs with his hind legs up in the air, until his front legs tired, then roll over and run on his hind legs. The possibilities are endless!

Fred Coates is the husband of Aneita B Drake b. (GFG-A), b. 1908, Oswego, NY. Aneita is a maternal great-granddaughter of Michael Getman (GFG – A 127)

Wes Getman (GFG – A 1142 / A) was coach of the local school teams and a 5th cousin of Aneita, although he most likely did not know of the relationship.

Violets as a Way of Life

Utica Observer-Dispatch, NY
Wednesday, September 3, 1986

DOLGEVILLE - Their life together has been full of violets; they indulge a mutual passion for purple, pink, mauve, lavender and similar shades.

They have grown together over the last half-dozen years, and the ties that bind their marriage are blue ribbons.

They are the Soranos. Paul and Sidney, who own the Lyndon Lyon . Greenhouses. She, Sidney, is an Oklahoma woman who chose-nursing as a career and raised African violets as a hobby. He is a Dolgeville native, the grandson of Lyndon Lyon, the man known all over the world for the varieties of African violets he developed, who grew up with vermiculite under his fingernails but- studied electronics at .Mohawk Valley Community College and raised African violets as well because that's what everyone else in the family did.

She carried her hobby, which had developed into a small business, as far as an African Violet Society of America (AVSA) competition in Denver. He was there for the same reason, and they found themselves head-to-head in judging for the "best new seedling" competition.

When the-petals settled, she-had taken first place and he had come in second, "so I decided to stop competing" he said "I figured. What the heck, if you can't beat 'em. Join 'em." And he married her.

That happened six or seven years ago, he said, and since then the two of them have carried the reputation of the greenhouse to new heights.

Last May, for instance, they swept the competition at the annual AVSA convention in St. Paul, Minn. They entered 15 violets, and came home with 15 blue ribbons. Their honors included "best new Saintpaulia for 1986" (Saintpaulia is the botanical name for African violets) and "best new commercial plant for 1986." They took first and second places in the best seedling awards, first place for the best display table and first place in horticultural perfection.

The Soranos entire life revolves around African violets. There isn't time for anything else. The plants are remarkably hardy under proper conditions, and easier to grow than the non-grower might think, but there are tens of thousands of them to be tended. Paul and Sidney run the business — which they bought in 1982 when Lyon retired with only the full-time assistance of his brother and the part-time help of his mother and another woman.

"There are no days off," Paul said. "especially from October on." If whim or necessity should tempt them away from the-premises, they must be back before dark. A failure of the heating system could wipe out the entire operation past all hope of recovery, Paul said.

If the major-business of the Soranos' life is selling African violets to customers from Dolgeville and "just about every place on the planet." their major interest is hybridizing. Every year, Paul said, they develop between 30 and 40 new varieties.

Sidney does most of the hybridizing. Paul said, which is a delicate operation in which minute grains of pollen are scraped from tiny anthers for transfer to the pistil of another plant. Plants are chosen according to desirable characteristics such as flower size, color, configuration.

From the time Sidney nudges pollen from one blossom to another to the day the new plant unfolds its petals and reveals the success or failure of the hybridizing, 18 months to two years have elapsed. It is not a process for the impatient, and the violets the Soranos will enter in the 1988 national AVSA competition are "already being developed.

The humdrum part is growing the thousands upon thousands of plants for sale, each from the leaf of a parent plant, with each leaf producing as many as six to 10 replicas of the parent.

But although business is blooming raising African violets is not. In every-sense, a growth industry.

"We're in the same crunch the farmer is in." Paul said "Our costs have gone sky-high, but the prices we charge can't go up to cover them. We're heavily dependent on the petroleum industry for fuel and materials - plastic pots (he said they use between

100,000 and 150,000 a year) are an oil derivative and the vermiculite used as a planting medium has to be dried, which uses a lot of heat - and the energy crisis really hurt us."

Still, it's a business with a built-in challenge and very tangible rewards. Their special goal, Paul said, is to develop African violets with bigger flowers. "Our largest so far is just over three inches across." He said. That's about the-size of the rosette on one of those blue ribbons.

Paul Sorano (GFG # A / C / VIII) is a great-great-great grandson of Marie Getman b. 1786 (GFG – A 22) and Andreas Miller b. 1784.

Buffalo Courier-Express, NY
Sunday, May 20, 1951

5 From Area Studying At Mexico City College

Special to the Courier-Express

Mexico City, May 19 - Five students whose homes are in the Buffalo are getting a better perspective on their own country by studying in Mexico.

They are among students from the United States who are now living in Mexico City and attending Mexico City College, The only American type educational institution in Latin America.

Patricia B. Gregory, ...William A. Allen, ... Leroy F. Reece, ..., Albert A. Sidel,

William T. Getman attended Yale University and served five years in the Navy Air Corps in the Pacific before coming to Mexico City College where he is majoring in Art.

These and most other students at the college live in Mexican homes where they not only become proficient in Spanish, but also are able to observe first hand the family life and customs of the country.

Another attraction is the exchange rate of 8.65 pesos for \$1, U. S., which enables the student with a small income to live comfortably and cheaply and still have enough left to go to a hai-alai game, a bull fight or other fascinating activities in the city and nearby. For veterans who are studying at the college under the GI Bill, this is especially advantageous.

Other appealing features, particularly for students of anthropology, are the hundreds of archaeological ruins and sites near Mexico City.

"Most important of all," says Dean Paul V. Murray, "is the college's service in developing a better understanding between different peoples. We believe we are taking a step ahead in bringing all nations more closely together."