

2022

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

Research Data: getmandata.org

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Message from the President of the Getman Family of America

What are your genealogy goals for this fall and winter?

As the cold and snow of winter is approaching here in Minnesota, more of my activity will occur indoors....from golf to indoor pickleball, and of course, more attention to my genealogy hobby/addiction!

I plan to update my family files (an ongoing process) and re-evaluate my genealogy goals.

One of my goals is to contact the DAR with some additional Getman documentation in order to approve my membership application. This involves Bartlett and Catherine (nee Getman) Getman. Bartlett is listed as number 1119 on pages 76 and 253 in Wayne's book; Catherine is listed as number 947 on pages 66 and 253. There is just not much documented information about Bartlett ((1805-06--28 May 1880) and Catherine (13 March 1806-14 July 1872) in order to prove their parentage, marriage, and children. I'm not sure I can break down this brick wall but I will give it another shot!

So good luck and happy genealogy hunting! There may be others in our association who are looking for ancestor information. Please don't hesitate to contact others....somebody must have that tidbit of information for which you are looking! We're all in this together!

Hope you all stay safe and healthy during the coming cold winter months!

Marjorie Rosendahl

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.

Are You Able to Help?

1. We need a DNA manager for the Y DNA project through Family Tree DNA. It would be beneficial for a male with the surname Getman to take on this task.

2. We need volunteers for board members.

Your board members are:

Marjorie Rosendahl, President

Maureen Getman, Secretary

Randy Getman, Treasurer

Wayne Getman, Historian

Clyde Getman

Marty Chase

Tom Helmer

Tom Getman

Jody Adams

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)

A Peculiar Accident

Fort Plain Standard, NY
Thursday, July 10, 1919

George B. Deal, manager of the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Store, at Division and Clinton streets. Amsterdam, 13 confined to his home, 60 Arnold avenue, with severe injuries to his eyes, as the result of a peculiar accident which occurred in the store recently. Mr. Deal was closing business for the day and was opening a can of chloride of lime to pour into the sink before he went home. The cover was one of the indented kind that fits tightly into the can, and is pried off. Mr. Deal was lifting it in the usual manner of applying leverage with a knife blade, when the entire contents of the can flew into his face. For some reason unexplainable the stuff had exploded. The cover was far enough off so that the force did not shatter the tin of the container, but simply lifted the contents directly upwards with great force. Bewildered, blinded and in great pain, Mr. Deal was nevertheless able to walk to the city hospital, which is but a short place from his place of business. The injuries were found to be entirely to the eyes, which will be kept bandaged for some time, although the physician states that vision will not be lost and that in all probability the sight will eventually be restored to normal.

George B. Deal, (GFG - I) 1866-1938 is a fourth great-grandson of Anna Maria Getman (GFG - I) 1921-1811 and Johann H. Meyers 1715-1810

Chloride of Lime - A white powder with the approximate formula CaOCl_2 , obtained by treating slaked lime with chlorine and used for disinfecting and bleaching.

Lieut. James E. Getman

unsourced

James E. Getman, born 20 July, 1891 and died 7 November, 1918. He was educated in public schools at Philadelphia Pa., Pennington, N.J. and Port Byron, N.Y. He went west to Minneapolis after second year of high school and learned the electrotyping trade with George R. Hodeen Electrotyping. In 1913, he came to Rochester, N. Y. and took a clerkship in wholesale grocery but found it too confining for his health. Then had a job with NY State Railways. April 6, 1917, enlisted in the 3rd Regiment and ordered to Pelham Bay Park. In October, this regiment merged with another and was made 108th Regiment of the U.S. Army. Then went to Camp Wadsworth at Spartansburg, So. Carolina. On 1 May 1918, went to Newport News and sailed for France, landing at Brest 23 May, 1918. Sent to training School at Lampres, France because of his work. On 25 Sept, commissioned 2nd Lieutenant. Reported to 305th Regiment, 77th Division. He was wounded by shrapnel in left arm 15 Oct, 1918. Sent to Red Cross Hospital at Paris. Discharged 2 Nov, he reported for duty. He had a 20 day sick leave in his pocket and a useless left arm Adjutant said "change is too

great from the hospital to the firing line." 2nd Lieut. Getman reported "My men need me." He left with his men to go north from St. Pierrepont. Trail was obstructed by broken trees so men had to go single file. They reached a swamp about noon when the Germans struck, dropping gas shells in the swamp. The 3rd Battalion went north and the 2nd Battalion went south. About 5 o'clock, a halt was called. Some heavy shells fell among the men, a splinter of one wounding Lieut. Getman in the side. Eleven other men were wounded. When Dr. Pope came to dress the wound, the officer said "my men first". So Dr. Pope informed the officer's mother in a letter. "The officer's wounds bled copiously and he became unconscious after his wound was dressed." The wounded were taken to a field hospital near St. Pierrepont where Lieut. Getman died 7 Nov. 1918

James Edgar Getman (GFG – B 729 / A) 1891-1918

Have You Seen One of These?

Newspaper Article

The Leader-Herald, Gloversville and Johnstown, NY
Thursday, May 12, 1955

Mr. and Mrs. Amon Young of Johnstown RD 2 (Caroga Lake Road) believe they have a rather unusual flock of chickens. Twice within a week they have discovered a double egg laid by one of the chickens. The larger shelled egg contained a second, small, but perfect egg.

Janet and Daniel Young, children of the couple, are rather amazed over the unusual incident.

Last week Mrs. Young started to break an egg to use in cooking. She was somewhat surprised when she broke the shell to find there was a second perfect egg inside the larger one.

Yesterday she discovered the second egg.

Inside the first shell there is a perfect egg with yolk and the white part. Floating around in the white was the second egg, rather little. She reports that the second egg, although about the size of a small pullet's egg, was also perfect with yolk and the white.

The Youngs regard the incident as rather unusual. They never encountered an experience quite equal to this one in so far as their chickens are concerned.

The article included a photograph of the Janet and Daniel with the second of these unusual eggs.

Janet and Daniel Young (GFG I) are 6th great-grandchildren of Anna Maria Getman (GFG – I) 1721-1811 and Johann Henrich Meyers, 1715-1810.

Firearms Safety

The Fulton County Republican, Johnstown,
NY

April 14, 1886

On Thursday last as Asa Getman, son of J. A. Getman and Oliver, son of Nathaniel Getman were out playing with a small revolver Oliver received one of the balls in his neck. He stood off a short distance and told Asa to shoot at him. The boy thinking the cartridges were all empty, took aim and fired with the result, as above stated. He afterwards fired his pistol at a stonewall, after which he broke it up. Dr. Wood was called immediately but did not get the ball as it was rather dangerous to probe for it. Boy should be more careful with firearms.

Oliver N Getman (GFG – B 221) 1871-1940, age 15 at the time and Asa C Getman (GFG – B 504 / B / A / A) 1872-1952, age 14.

Send Us Your Stories

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

wayget@ntcnet.com

This month we have an article submitted by a Getman descendant who is rightfully proud of a special ancestor's accomplishments when dealing with indigenous people in the American Midwest. I hope you find it interesting. (Editor)

Native Americans and Dr. Nathan E. Getman, 1875-1957

By Thomas R. Getman (grandson), October 2022

There is oral history, and some documental evidence, that the Mohawks of the Iroquois Confederation tribes graciously received Getman immigrants and saved their lives when they faced their first winter outside the 1710-12 royal work camps. Records* show Natives of the Schoharie Valley shared their lands, shelters, and resources when the Palatines set out on Indian trails toward the Schoharie valley. In addition, the Oneidas provided alliance in the days before and during the War of Independence, and may have even left some marks of their presence on the properties Getmans farmed and passed down to later generations. Perhaps the grateful appreciation our forebears had for their Native American / First Nation hosts, has carried on to us over 300 years of cross-cultural generosity and kindness?

My grandfather, Dr. Nathan Earnest Getman was one of the Westward settlers is a descendant of our family progenitor Frederick Getman (1693-1781) and son Christian (1734-1821). Ernest's Great Grandfather Aaron (1794-1860) settled first in Illinois-then in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, and Grandfather Nicholas (1818-1892) established his family in Wisconsin and Minnesota. They were among the first of our family's pioneers in the Upper Midwest. Grandfather's father Richard (1845-1924) settled in Toma, Wisconsin, and later joined the further Western migration to Southeast Minnesota, and finally arriving in Northwest Iowa. He knew his two immediate forbears. They lived their lives as hard scrabble farmers surrounded by the skirmishes and

wars between the native indigenous and white settler populations. The best known (and last of the Midwest uprisings) occurred in Southern Minnesota, an example is the tragedy of the Mankato massacre. [Dakota uprising begins in Minnesota HISTORY](https://www.history.com/history-in-history) [tps://www.history.com/history-in-history](https://www.history.com/history-in-history). "Minnesota erupted in violence as members of the Dakota tribe attacked white settlements along the Minnesota River. The Dakota were eventually overwhelmed..."

My siblings and I, along with our cousins, discovered an interesting comment in our Grandfather N.E.'s memoirs. He stated, "Frederick the First purchased his Stone Arabia property from the Indian Chief in Upper New York". Our family historian Wayne Getman observes however that our immediate family was not actively included in this early arrangement of land purchased or leased by Palatine families during the first years after leaving the Hudson River work camps. But, oral traditions, and actions shown in a few museum documents, of other Palatines' actions, must have planted in N.E. Getman's mind a desire to treat original caretakers of the land as partners, not enemies, and he valued their respect for creation. Many of his children and grandchildren acquired this sensitivity.

Nathan Ernest Getman's father, Richard, and his mother, Evelyn Williams (a Civil War widow), and children moved to Northwest Iowa seeking better farmland and safer communal surroundings. No doubt they were influenced by Quaker and previous family settlers. Their 12-year-old

son, “Ernest”, lived and worked from 1885 with Evelyn’s brother Uncle Frank Williams, a cattle rancher in Larchwood, Lyon County. Later he lived and worked with Uncle Jim Williams in his drug store (see photo). As a result, Ernest became acquainted with Plains “Indians” especially in Northwest Iowa just across the Sioux River from Dakota Territory (prior to South Dakota 1889 statehood). This area became Gitchie Manitou (“the Great Spirit”) Park. It was formally dedicated as a historical, geological, archeological, and biological reserve in 1969. The park was then dedicated to the previous inhabitants which included Nathan Ernest Getman and others in recognition of their efforts. Only recently was it declared a proper national monument. It is now partly managed appropriately by descendants of Native Americans who may well have been associated with our progenitors in the late 1800s. A 1939 Lyon County Reporter* newspaper feature about N.E. said it was “*the old Sioux Indian campground ...on Blood Run Creek*”. The name “Blood Run”* was not because of the actual blood shed there but because of the color of the tributary when it eroded the banks of red clay from red granite rock. The so called Sioux Quartzite is a [Proterozoic quartzite](#) found in the region around the intersection of Minnesota, South Dakota, and Iowa. Pipestone “Catlinite” (as in peace pipes) is also in this classification. Many of the buildings in the region were built using the “red granite” and are monuments to the past transcendent spirituality.

From the ongoing archeological research and continuing discoveries, it appears the land of Blood Run National Monument* was the location where Plains Indians (after a long period of “fierce” inter-tribal battles) held peaceful tribal confederation gatherings for peacemaking, trading, and burial. Recent excavations indicate significant tribal presence in the

early 1800s, but the site was likely not heavily inhabited when the Getman relatives first arrived. Grandfather Ernest said in his memoir it was “*sparsely settled*”. And he added, “*The Sioux, or more properly the Dakota, were loath to give up this beautiful country...because of the game and fish and wild fruit and garden spots which gave them life and happiness. But they had to go when the white men desired. The rightful owners must seek other homes in the more arid sections of the country.*” He also observed that in 1851 “*the Sioux Chiefs sold to the Federal Government all the land to the Minnesota state line for 10 cents per acre ...and it is possible the agents beat them on the measurements*”.

Family lore has also persisted that Ernest associated freely with Indian acquaintances beginning at age 12 when he was Uncle Frank William’s “*herd boy*” for 2000 cattle. The Sioux Falls’ Pettigrew Museum evidence indicates that he and friends continued interaction from 1894 when he was an intern in the “drug trade” for the second uncle mentor, pharmacist Jim Williams in Larchwood, Iowa. Ernest is on the right of the included photo under a familiar Coca Cola logo. Eventually, he bought the pharmacy after passing the Iowa State Board qualification.

Later upon receiving a trial case of vision-testing refracting lenses from an indebted physician, he took a correspondence course to become the first optometrist in Iowa. From his files I’ve discovered his last public school report card from nearby Holstein, Iowa, and indicates his formal education was only through 5th grade. During these early pioneer days people seemed to advance who learned from curiosity and experience rather than formal education. Both he and his wife Eliza earned professional optometric degrees from the University of Kansas.



Therefore, because of Ernest's early work, and later career pursuits, the oral history indicates his friendship with some of the remaining local Indian population. His admiration for the Native American generations was surely inspired by the accessible archeological sites. However, most of the tribal peoples on the very land where he was working had moved west or were forcibly removed just after his cowboy exploits. The overarching result was he expressed great respect and affirmation for the predecessors' culture, their history, along with the "Indian relics" he, his uncles, and a few friends, discovered. His concern for the well-being of the remaining native representatives was clear well into the 1940s and 50s. After all, only a short time after he was established as a pharmacist, most of the original indigenous population had been moved to the reservations, or worse at the time of South Dakota statehood in 1890. I

became conscious of the evocative surroundings because he introduced us to those places from his boyhood and early adult life, as well as, to Native Americans friends at the Pipestone quarries, including the religiously anointed "*Chief peace pipe carver*". In the Black Hills we met spiritual leader Black Elk and his son Ben the "Chief greeter" at Mt. Rushmore.

For over 40 years, local newspapers recorded his collecting of "Indian relics" and survey maps for several well-regarded local museums including his own. The "Plains Anthropologist Journal"* and a Smithsonian historian reported "*N.E. Getman provided one of the earliest and most accurate surveys of the ancient meeting and burial grounds*" and sought to forestall an intrusive gravel company. I remember with great delight going with Grandpa to see 143 burial mounds which in this century have been more appropriately excavated by trained

anthropologists. They have attributed many of the “arrow heads, corn grinders, wampum, beaded sandals, Pipestone pipes, and pottery to the mound builders who inhabited the region even before the various Plains Indian tribes. (Some findings are carbon dated to the 1300-1400s). Both the early 19th Century amateur anthropologists /archeologists and the later professionals have fortunately left most of the skeletal remains where they were buried. Native American archivists have assisted in the proper documentation of both early and later findings at the Pettigrew Museum in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, the Sanford Museum in Cherokee, Iowa, as well as in libraries of several regional universities.

I offer this introduction to inspire more long-awaited proper historical facts and reparation activities. This will happen primarily through the work of the Blood Run National Monument. The site where 12- to 16-year-old Nathan Ernest Getman’s early awakenings to the advanced cultures and contributions of the Plains Indians occurred. I’m eager to learn from others additional information about cross-culture collaboration, from N.E. Getman’s extensive logs of those early pioneer years and the testimony of others.

The ongoing work of the Pettigrew and Sanford museums, and the active anthropological work by universities and scholars, will supplement what knowledge is currently available. I hope it will open the doors to more reflection (and revelations) on the collaboration between our settler families and local populations with whom the interacted. Sometimes being ennobled, even if sometimes endangered, by joint participation in early New York and then Westward movement and settlements.

The circa 1880-90 peace pipe in the attached photo was given to my father by Grandfather Getman, and is assumed to be what he received when he was named an

“honorary chief” ... probably after the turn of the 20th C. It has been authenticated by both the Smithsonian and the Mitchell Museum of the American Indian in Evanston, Illinois.

Others among the Getman News readership may have recollections (or corrections) to add. Please feel free to share them. My email is

tom.getman@gmail.com



The framed photo of a similar pipe is dated 1880-90 in the Mitchell Museum.

The tobacco pouch, pipe stem & fringe, & Australian eagle feathers are added by me.

(It is illegal for non-Natives to possess American eagle feathers)

Other Resources and References:

Otterness, Philip. 2004 *Becoming German, The 1709 Palatine Migration to New York*. Cornell University.

The Lyon Country Reporter. March 2, 1939, *Rock County Naturalist Found Interesting Relics*.

Henning, Dale R. & Gerald F. Schnepf. 2014 *Blood Run...The “Silent City*. Iowa Books, DesMoines, Iowa.

Buffalohead, Eric. 2004 *Plains Anthropologist*, Edited by Dale R.