

Wertman *Lines*

Newsletter of the Wertman Family Association

ISSN 1535-7856 / June 2015 / Vol. 14 / No. 2

Register NOW!

- Annual Wertman Family Reunion
- 21 & 22 August 2015
- Danville, PA

Please Join Us

The Wertman Family Association (WFA) returns to Danville this summer for its 16th annual reunion. We invite you to come, learn, have fun, and meet cousins from around the country!

Deep Roots in Danville Area

Michael and Simon, two sons of our earliest known Wertman ancestor, George Philip Wertman (GP¹), migrated from Lynn Twp., present-day Lehigh County, to the Danville area in the early 19th Century. Two of Michael's sons, John and Henry, settled in Hemlock Twp. Nearby were two of Michael's daughters, Catherine (m. Conrad Ebner), and Christina (m. Jacob Fenstermacher). Other grandchildren of GP¹ who moved to the area were Daniel, a son of Jacob, and four of his sisters: Barbara (m. Philip Heimbach); Katherine (m. Michael Heimbach); Elisabeth (m. Henry Krum); and Margaret (m. Michael Sander). Two centuries later, some descendants remain nearby.

New This Year

Several members suggested holding a more compressed reunion, so we have scheduled events on only two days this year. On Friday, researchers will meet, followed by a family dinner and a speaker. On Saturday, attend a catered picnic, the annual meeting and auction, and visit cemeteries.

Tee Shirts

We are offering Wertman Family Reunion tee shirts this year for \$8. Please order your shirts by **20 June** using the reunion registration form on page 17.

Hotel

The 2015 Reunion Committee is holding a block of rooms Thursday through Sunday nights, 20-23 August, at the Best Western Plus Danville Inn, 79 Old Valley School Road, at the group rate of \$101.99 plus tax. To reserve your room, call the hotel at 570-275-5750. Be sure to mention that you are with the Wertman Family Reunion. Please make your reservations as early as possible for your choice of a room with two double beds or one king bed. The rooms will be held until **20 July**.

Early Bird Get-Together

Those who arrive by dinnertime on Thursday can enjoy an informal pre-reunion dinner. Meet in the hotel lobby at 6 p.m. to form car pools and select a restaurant. Later, compare research notes!

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Friday, 21 August

Learn of new discoveries from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday at the Mahoning Twp. Municipal Building, 1101 Bloom Road. No food or beverages (except water), are permitted in the meeting room. Lunch is from noon to 1 p.m. at a restaurant of your choice. Please contact Tom Young (teyoung3@verizon.net or 570-275-3626) if you are planning a presentation and estimate the amount of time you will need so that he can schedule you on the program.

Meet at 6 p.m. Friday for dinner at the Creekside 2 Family Restaurant, 587 Valley Road. Order from the regular menu; separate checks will be provided.

The after-dinner program will be "The Whitmore Saga," an account of an Indian raid in nearby Jerseytown during the Revolutionary War and the adventures of five Whitmore children carried away as captives. Bill Baillie, our presenter, is a retired Professor at Bloomsburg University, former president of the county historical society, and author of ten books on local and family history. He spoke at our 2009 reunion in Danville.



MARGARETHE/ SAUNDER. / war geboren den / 12 Julius 1773 / Ihre Taufzeugen waren / George Philip Wortman, / und seine Ehefrau. Sie / brachte ihr Leben auf 72 / Jahr 2 Monath und 22/ Tage.

Saturday, 22 August

The catered picnic begins at noon at Saint James United Church of Christ, 2507 Bloom Road. Enjoy fried chicken, sides, biscuits, beverages and dessert (\$9 per person, payable with registration). The pavilion has bench tables; bring a lawn chair, if you would be more comfortable. Rest rooms are nearby. Wear your new WFA tee shirt! The annual business meeting and auction of art, crafts and other items will follow lunch.

Cemetery Tours

Examine Margarethe Saunder's oddly worded tombstone and others at Saint James's cemetery. After the picnic, drive to the New Rosemont Cemetery in nearby Espy to see Simon and Barbara Wertman's final resting place.

Reservations Now Open

Tee shirt orders are needed by 20 June, so register for reunion events and pay your WFA dues at the same time. (Otherwise, 1 August is the deadline.) Details and a registration form are on page 17 and also on the Wertman Family Association website, www.wertman.info. If you have questions, contact Tom Young, 2015 Reunion Chairman, at teyoung3@verizon.net or 570-275-3626.

Nominations

The 2015 Nominating Committee of Minerva Arner, Kathy Bucher, and Shirley Daniels, presents the following slate of officers to be elected at the 22 August business meeting:

- President, Russell Dannecker
- Vice President, Hal Merz
- Secretary, Doug Wertman
- Treasurer, Maryann Cronk
- Webmaster, Kathy Bucher
- Archivist: Kathy Bucher
- Board Members: Shirley Daniels, Earl Maurer

Board Members serve four-year terms; other terms are two years. Terms of Board Members Ken Cool and Mary Ellen Wagner expire in 2017. Any WFA member in good standing may submit one additional nomination for each position to a Committee member. The Committee is required to obtain permission of each candidate to run for office.

Four More Civil War Soldiers

Russell Dannecker

2014 Reunion Presentation

Richard Daniels has discovered four new Civil War soldiers in the Wertman family:

- David Cope
- Eli Cope
- Benjamin Crossley
- Franklin R. Mantz

The Wertman Soldiers

- Identified so Far: $31 + 4 = 35$
- Known Relationship to George Philip Wertman¹: $28 + 4 = 32$
- Descend from four of GP¹'s five sons: Jacob, Michael, Simon and Martin
- Of the known Wertman and related soldiers, all but four were four generations down from George Philip Wertman¹

Interesting facts about Wertman Soldiers

- Oldest: Reuben Wertman, born 1819, was 43 years old when he enlisted.
- Youngest: Norman, George Westley and Willoughby Wertman were 17 when they enlisted, but based on date of enlistment, Norman was the youngest to enlist at age 17 years, 3 months, and 20 days.
- Last to die: Philip Levan Wertman in 1929 at age 93

Roll of Honor (Died as a Result of War Service):

- 1862 -- Reuben Wertman, Homerville, OH after Shiloh, age 43
- 1863 -- John Levan Wertman, Falmouth, VA, age 22
- 1863 -- George W. Wertman, Van Buren Hospital, LA, age 20
- 1863 -- David Cope, unknown, age 31
- 1864 -- Eli Cope, Cold Harbor, VA (Killed in Action), age 22

Wounded

- William W. Wertman at Sparta
- William Walter Wertman at Cold Harbor
- Jacob Vogel at Gettysburg

Prisoners of War

- Emanuel B. Wertman
- Jacob Vogel

Deserted

- James P. Wertman
- Isaac Wertman (questionable)

Not brother against brother, but brothers fighting beside brothers

- Eight families with two brothers
- One family with three brothers

David Cope⁶

- Irwin Simon Cope and Susan Heimbach⁵
- Philip Heimbach⁴ and Eva Geiger
- Michael Heimbach and Katharina Wertman³
- Jacob Wertman²
- George Philip Wertman¹

Little information is known

- 1850 U.S. Federal Census, Oakfield, Genesee, NY: David Cope; age 17; birth year abt 1833; birthplace: New York
- 1860 U.S. Federal Census, Northwest, Williams, OH: David Cope; age 27; birth year abt 1833; birthplace: New York
- Entry on Find A Grave states that he enlisted from Michigan
- Tombstone in East Oakfield Cemetery, Genesee Co., NY, reads David Cope, Co. H. 8th. NY H. Art. (NY Heavy Artillery, same as his brother), died 18 Aug 1862, aged 31 yrs.
- No military records have been found in any state for a David Cope



Eli Cope⁶

- Irwin Simon Cope and Susan Heimbach⁵
- Philip Heimbach⁴ and Eva Geiger
- Michael Heimbach and Katharina Wertman³
- Jacob Wertman²
- George Philip Wertman¹

What we know

- Born about 1842 in NY
- Not Married
- Enlisted in Co. H, 129 NY Infantry 12 Aug 1862 in Elba, NY, age 20
- Killed in Action, Battle of Cold Harbor, VA, 3 June 1864
- Reported buried on the Battlefield
- Marker in East Oakfield Cemetery, East Oakfield, Genesee County, NY

Draft Registration

The U.S. Civil War Draft Registrations Records, 1863-1865, show Eli Cope of Oakfield, NY; Class 3; Congressional District 29; Age 21 on 1 July 1863; Estimated birth year abt 1842; Race: White; Place of Birth: New York.

The New York 8th Heavy Artillery

The 129th NY Infantry was organized at Lockport in August 1862, and was changed to the 8th NY artillery 19 Dec 1862. In 1864 – Grant’s Campaign against Richmond – Fought at Spotsylvania Court House, North Anna River, Cold Harbor and the Petersburg Campaign.



3 June 1864: The Last Charge at Cold Harbor

Eli Cope made the charge, and died. In the span of just twenty minutes the 8th NY lost over two hundred men.

The men showed incredible bravery by attacking a position that many of them knew was impossible to take. As the men sprang from their entrenchments and marched at the double quick, the Confederates opened fire, sending volley after volley into the Union ranks. The results were appalling and the men began to stagger back from the sheets of southern musketry. The 8th got within fifty feet of the enemy before Colonel Porter was struck four times and fell dead between the lines. With their Colonel dead on the field, the 8th NY fell back to the protection of their earthworks and as they swept back to safety many of the men tripped over their comrades who lay dead or dying.

General Grant said of the battle in his memoirs, “I have always regretted that the last assault at Cold Harbor was ever made.... No advantage whatever was gained to compensate for the heavy loss we sustained.”

Benjamin Crossley⁵

- Joseph Crossley and Catherine Heimbach⁴
- Michael Heimbach and Katharina Wertman³
- Jacob Wertman²
- George Philip Wertman¹

What we know

- Born about 1827 in PA
- Married Mary Shultz before 1860 in PA
- Enlisted in Co. G, 1 MI Engineers and Mechanics 24 Aug 1864 in Jackson, MI, age 37
- Reported to unit near Atlanta, Georgia
- The Record of Service of Michigan Volunteers in the Civil War, 1861-1865, says that he participated in the battles of Shiloh and Murfreesboro. These were before his enlistment in 1864; therefore, he may have served in this or another unit earlier. More research is needed.
- Discharged 6 June 1865 in Washington, DC
- Died 4 Mar 1896 in Schoolcraft, Kalamazoo, MI MI 1st Engineers and Mechanics
- Participated in General Sherman’s 285-mile March to the Sea 15 Nov-21 Dec 1864, capturing Atlanta and Savannah, and disrupting southern economy, transportation networks, and morale.

Franklin R. Mantz⁵

- Reuben Mantz and Maria Magdalena Wertman⁴
- George Philip Wertman³
- Jacob Wertman²
- George Philip Wertman¹

What we know

- Born 31 Aug 1833 in Lynn, Lehigh Co, PA
- Moved to Homer OH in 1837 with his family
- Married 31 Aug 1854 to Miss Phoebe J. Edson
- Age 29 on 9 Aug 1862 when he enlisted in Co. K, 42nd OH Volunteer Infantry. (Garfield's regiment)
- Served until unit was mustered out; then was transferred to Co. E, 96th OH Volunteer Infantry
- Served until the close of the war
- Prominent among the battles in which he took part are Arkansas Post, Vicksburg, Jackson, Mobile, Spanish Fort, Fort Blakely and others
- 1900 Census shows him living in KY with his second wife, Lida. He is 66, she is 25.
- Died 5 Sep 1907

OH 42nd Infantry

1863 - Advance at Fort Hindman, where, soon after getting fairly under fire, the enemy surrendered Champion's Hill and Big Black River Bridge, but the loss was comparatively slight

Charges on the works at Vicksburg, the division of which it was a part holding an advanced position in the 13th Corps. In these assaults, the regiment lost heavily, especially on May 22.

After the surrender of Vicksburg, the regiment marched to Jackson, participated in the reduction of that place and then returned to Vicksburg... until ordered to the Department of the Gulf. The remainder of its term of service was spent in Louisiana.



OH 96th Infantry

Engaged in the operations around Mobile, taking part in the siege of Spanish Fort until its evacuation and in the capture of the city

The regiment was mustered out 7 Jul 1865.

Below: The Consolidated list of all persons of Class II subject to military duty in Congressional District 2 records Benjamin Crosley of Schoolcraft Co., MI, age 36 in June 1863.

Consolidated list of all persons subject to military duty between the age of twenty and thirty-five years, and all unmarried persons subject to military duty between the age of thirty-five years and under the age of forty-five. Class II comprises all other persons subject to military duty.

TABLE II.—CONSOLIDATED LIST of all persons of Class II, subject to military duty in the *Second* Congressional District, consisting of the Counties of *Alcona, Branch,* *Benoni, and Kalamazoo* and State of *Michigan*, enumerated during the month of *June*, 1863, under direction of *Capt. W. C. Stanton*, Provost Marshal.

RESIDENCE	NAME	DESCRIPTION			PLACE OF BIRTH (Naming the State, Territory, or County)	FORMER MILITARY SERVICE	REMARKS
		AGE 30, 35, 40	WHITE OR COLOR	CITIZENSHIP, QUALITIES, OR TRADE			
<i>Schoolcraft</i>	<i>Crosley Benjamin</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Michigan</i>		

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Reunion Minutes

Research Meeting, Wertman Family Association

Holiday Inn Express, Hastings, MI
Friday, 15 Aug 2014

9:05 a.m. — Vice President Frank Strickling welcomed everyone to the 15th Reunion. President Russ Dannecker is in England for about 18 months at the Preston, England, Temple.

Richard Daniels reported some data on the cemeteries in Michigan. There are over 110 cemeteries with Wertman relations, comprising over 735 descendants with spouses. He has found over 1,000 descendants in Michigan in 25 different counties. Children of Reuben and Rebecca (Leiby) Wertman settled in Michigan: William W., Harriet, Phebe, Joseph B. and Sanderson. The group will visit cemeteries of Banfield, Cedar Creek and East Hickory this weekend.

Other burials are in Branch., St. Joseph, Calhoun, Cass, Ingham, Ionia, Hillsdale, Kalamazoo, Mescota, Genesee, Charlevoix, Grand Traverse, and Otswego counties.

9:30 a.m. — Marsha Binkley spoke on ancestors coming from Germany in 1737 on the Ship Samuel. There were four sons in the Revolutionary War and they are listed in DAR records. In 1859 Peter Fenstermacher married his first wife, Elisa (Wertman), daughter of Michael. Cheap farmland drew many families to Michigan. The Fenstermachers are buried in the Evergreen Cemetery in Kingsley. There were ministers, farmers, lawyers, and more in the large family:

Daniel, possibly disabled;
Benjamin Franklin;
John;
Elizabeth married to Samuel Lamberson;
Peter;
Elias;
Rebecca married to Nathaniel Overdoff;
Sarah;
George Washington;
Joseph;
Christian; and
Sarah.

10:30 a.m. — Hal Merz spoke on the Wertmans of Trumbull Co., OH. [See Jan 2015 *Wertman Lines*]

11:00 a.m. — Kathy Bucher spoke on a Pennsyl-



Marsha Binkley at the 2015 WFA picnic

vania mystery solved in Michigan. [See Jan 2015 *Wertman Lines*]

12:00 noon — Pizza lunch served.

1:00 p.m. — Hal Merz reported on Wertmans in North Carolina. Large groups of German families migrated to Virginia and North Carolina along the Great Wagon Road. Many names' spelling variations are found in the records. [See January 2015 *Wertman Lines*]

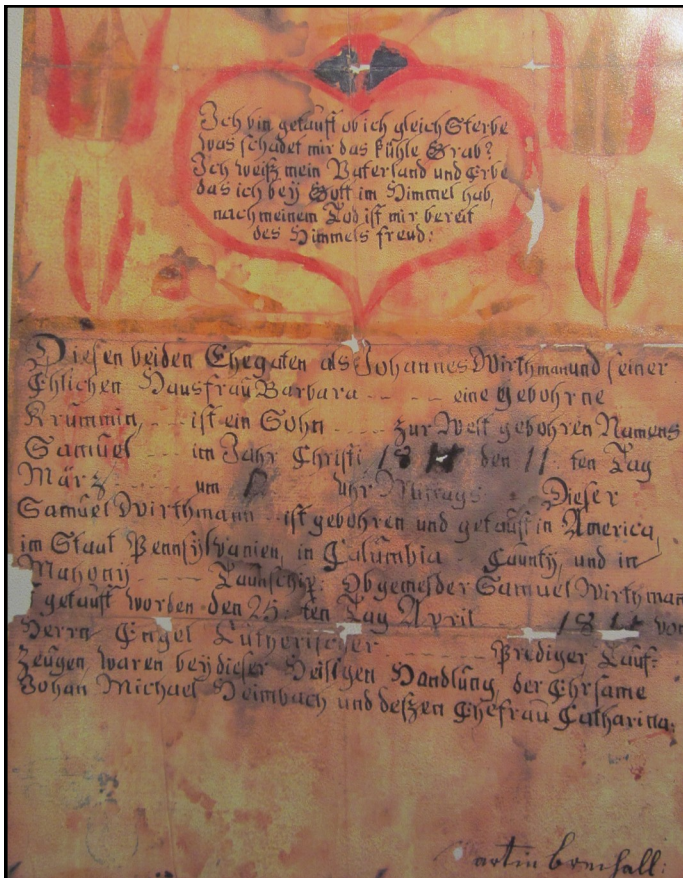
1:15 p.m. — Power Point presentation on four newly identified Civil War Soldiers in the family, prepared by Russ Dannecker. [See pp 3-5, this issue]

- David Cope (Susan Heimbach⁴, Katherine Wertman³, Jacob², George Philip¹), age 31, died 1863, unknown location
- Eli Cope (Susan Heimbach⁴, Katherine Wertman³, Jacob², George Philip¹), killed in charge at Cold Harbor on 3 Jun 1864 and buried on battlefield. [The 2016 WFA Reunion will be in the Richmond - Cold Harbor, VA, area.]
- Benjamin Crosley (Maria Magdalena Wertman⁴, George Philip³, Jacob², George Philip¹),
- Franklin Mantz (Susan Heimbach⁴, Katherine Wertman³, Jacob², George Philip¹)

Russ has found eight families with two brothers and one family with three brothers. Brothers fought side by side.

Announcements:

Esther Mae Walton died 2010 in Hastings. On Wednesday, Richard and Shirley visited her hus-



One of Esther Walton's documents shows Samuel, son of Johannes Wirthman [sic] and wife Barbara Krumm, born 11 Mar 1811 in Mahony [sic] Twp., Columbia Co., PA, and baptized 25 Apr 1811. Sponsors were Johan Michael Heimbach and wife Catharina.

band, who was celebrating his 88th birthday. He has donated Esther's research to the Michigan Genealogical Society and graciously allowed Shirley and Richard to photograph some copies of documents.

2:00 p.m. Meeting was adjourned.

6:00 p.m. Dinner catered by Seasonal Grille in the hotel meeting room

Speaker: Brian Reynolds

Brian is a land surveyor in Hastings, a member and past president of the Barry County Historical Society. He is very interested in historical research.

Wertmans arrived in Michigan after the Civil War. Land records show them in Cedar Creek. Modern day roads follow the Indian trails. Barry County was not on the major trails and has been bypassed by Interstates and major development.

Thomas Jefferson designed the rectangular survey system for land division. The Federal Government survey crew worked in uncharted territory in the newly opened Midwest, through swamps and forests. Each section measured one mile on a side.

Two or three ax men cut trees on the line. A compass man kept the surveyors on line, adjusting for magnetic north and true north. Chains were used to measure in half-mile increments (40 chains) to set corners. A chain was 66 feet. Easier to work with, a half-chain, 33 feet, was laid and secured with a chain pin. This continued until all the pins on a ring were used. The man in the rear collected the pins. The chain was held horizontally level over hilly ground.

A corner is permanently wherever the government surveyor put a monument, whether or not someone moved the monument. A sharpened tree trunk was pounded halfway into the ground. Two witness trees had large notches pointing to the monument.

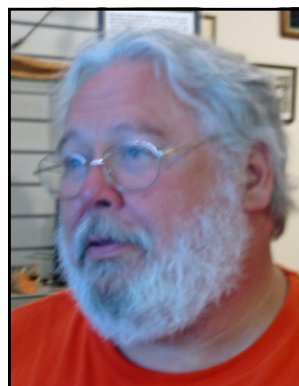
Next, the county surveyor came to allocate parts of 40 acres — a quarter of a section — or more for buyers. His job was to put a permanent marker in place of the wood, using the witness trees. He found two more witness trees and put in a more permanent marker, a pointed, marked stone, along with something man-made, such as a horseshoe, broken glass, crockery or junk iron, so future surveyors would know the stone was the correct marker.

In the late 19th Century, corner markers were replaced with tiles. Later markers were iron stakes or pipes. Now, markers are solid iron tubes with a cap. Surveyors can use metal detectors to find buried markers. Using GPS technology, surveyors will not need markers in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Minerva Arner

Recording Secretary



Our Friday after-dinner speaker, Brian Reynolds, a surveyor and historian, invited family members to stop by his office in downtown Hastings on Saturday morning. He showed us old maps and explained surveying equipment

Business Meeting, Wertman Family Association

Fish Hatchery Park, Hastings, MI
Saturday, 16 Aug 2014

Vice President Frank Strickling called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. He thanked Richard and Shirley Daniels and Mike Wertman for organizing the reunion this year. President Russ Dannecker continues to work at the Preston, England, Temple.

Secretary Minerva Arner handed out minutes from the 2013 meeting. A motion to approve was made, seconded and carried.

Genealogical/Historical Secretary Kathy Bucher has a data base and lists everything in the WFA archives and where documents are located.

This obelisk in the Cedar Creek Cemetery marks the burial place of "Grandma" [Rebecca Leiby] Wertman, who was born 12 Feb 1818 and died 3 Dec 1904. She was the widow of Reuben Wertman, a Civil War veteran who died in Ohio. After the War, Rebecca took five of their seven children to Michigan. [See June 2012 Wertman Lines, pg 10]



Information can be e-mailed to her at ktbucher@hotmail.com.

Treasurer Shirley Wertman was not present. Minerva Arner presented a report with what information was provided by Shirley. Frank suggested the report not be approved as all information was not available. A motion to that effect was seconded and carried.

Historical Committee submitted no report as Tom Young was not present.

Reunions: 2014 Reunion Committee Chair Richard Daniels reported there were 18 at Thursday's informal dinner, 24 at the researchers meeting, 24 at Friday dinner, and 34 at the picnic. Income was \$1,243; expenses, \$1,178. Frank thanked Mike Wertman and Nancy McCormick from the Hastings area for the set-up of the picnic.

The 2015 reunion will be held in Danville the third weekend of August, with Tom Young as chair. Watch for details in the newsletter and on the WFA website.

The 2016 reunion will be held in southern Virginia near Cold Harbor and Richmond. Russ Dannecker is in charge.



Frank Strickling was the auctioneer at Saturday's picnic. Judy Strickling was his assistant. The event raised \$169.20 for the association.



On Sunday, 17 Aug 2014, Nancy McCormick led a caravan past Wertman land. The group stopped at the Banfield, Cedar Creek and Hickory Corners cemeteries.

Newsletter: Shirley Daniels will continue with the newsletter. Six members receive the newsletter by postal mail. Please send articles to Shirley. The next issues will be in January and June 2015.

Appointment of Committees:

Historical committee: Tom Young, Russ Dannecker, and Richard Daniels

Reunion Committee: 2015 Tom Young in Danville.

Nominating Committee, 2015 election of officers: Shirley Daniels, Kathy Bucher, Minerva Arner

New Business: Treasurer Shirley Wertman wishes to be relieved of the Treasurer responsibilities. After discussion, it was decided to appoint Maryann Cronk as interim treasurer until that term runs out, to start as soon as possible after getting the information from Shirley Wertman. Maryann may start an account at her chosen bank with the money from the auction until the time that Shirley can clear all the checks that were outstanding with her bank. Judy seconded the motion. Members approved the motion.

Hal Merz suggested forming a committee to welcome or recruit new members and do publicity. Kathy Bucher suggested our web site be better functioning for information to be obtained by Wertman relatives. She will check into the cost and will talk with Webmaster Tom Young.

1:45 p.m. The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Minerva Arner
Recording Secretary

Proposed Updates to Bylaws

Please read these bylaws and bring your comments to the August 2015 Business Meeting, when we will discuss changes and vote for adoption. Underlined text denotes a change. Original Bylaws are on the Wertman website at www.wertman.info.

Wertman Family Association Bylaws

Article I — Name

Section 1. The name of the organization shall be the Wertman Family Association.

Article II — Non-Profit Organization

Section 1. The Wertman Family Association shall be operated as a non-profit organization. No part of the income shall go to the personal and/or private benefit of any member.

Article III — Objectives

Section 1. The objectives of the Association shall be:

A. To collect, analyze, disseminate, and preserve genealogical, historical, and biographical data pertaining to all those of Wertman ancestry. (In this document, Wertman shall also refer to the alternative spellings of Wertman, Wartmann, Warthman, Warthmann, Wertmann, Werthman, Werthmann, Workman, Wortman, Wortmann, Worthman, and Worthmann, as well as any others that may be identified, and surnames of female descendants.)

B. To promote interest in genealogical and historical research with emphasis on the Wertman family.

C. To provide guidance and stimulate interest in the use of efficient procedures and the adherence to principles of accuracy and thoroughness in such research.

D. To encourage high ethical standards and professionalism in all genealogical and historical research practices, including careful and thorough documentation.

E. To promote fellowship and interaction between all the progeny of our Wertman ancestors.

Article IV — Membership

Section 1. Any individual or institution interested in promoting the stated objectives of the Asso-

ciation may be deemed by the Board of Directors to be eligible for membership.

Section 2. Members in good standing are those who have (A) paid their annual dues, and (B), are at least 18 years of age, and (C) if Wertman Family descendants, submitted information about their lineage to the Ancestry Committee.

Article V — Officers

Section 1. The Officers of this Association shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Archivist, Webmaster, and four Directors at Large.

Section 2. Officers must be members in good standing.

Section 3. Terms of Office for all Officers except Directors shall be two years, unless reelected. The Term of Office for Directors shall be four years. Two Directors shall be elected every two years so that their terms are staggered.

Section 4. There shall be no limits on the number of terms an Officer may serve.

Article VI — Board of Directors

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall be the Governing Body of the Association and shall consist of the Officers and the Immediate Past-President.

Section 2. Actions and/or approvals of the Board of Directors require a majority vote.

Article VII — Duties of Officers

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of members, and all meetings of the Board

of Directors. The President shall be the principal executive officer of the Association, with responsibility for the general supervision of Association affairs and obtaining the objectives of the Association pursuant to policies established by the Board of Directors. The President shall appoint committees and committee chairs as necessary to carry out the business and obtain the objectives of the Association. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

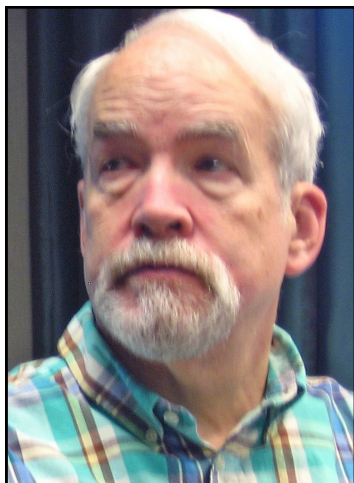
Section 2. In the absence or temporary inability of the President, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the office of President. In case of the permanent absence or inability of the President to act, the Vice President shall ascend to the office of the President for the unexpired portion of the term. The Vice President shall promote membership in the Association, publicize its activities, encourage attendance at the annual Reunion, and notify members who are in arrears of dues.

Section 3. The Secretary shall keep accurate minutes of the Annual Reunion, the Association and Board proceedings, carry on correspondence for the Association, and be custodian of such records, in a manner satisfactory to the Board of Directors.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall have custody of the funds of the Association; shall deposit them in such financial institution(s) as approved by the Board of Directors; and shall make disbursements as directed by the President or Board of Directors. Payments in excess of \$50.00 may be executed only by authorization of the Treasurer and President. The

New Nominees for Office

Hal Merz, Vice Pres.; Doug Wertman, Sec'y.; Mary Ann Cronk, Treas.; Earl Mauer, Director



President or a designated member of the Board of Directors may sign checks with the Treasurer. The fiscal year of the Association shall be 1 October to 30 September. Dues for the ensuing fiscal year shall be due by 30 September. The Treasurer shall notify the Vice President of members in arrears. The annual report of the Treasurer for the prior fiscal year shall be distributed to the Board of Directors on 1 October, with a preliminary report presented at the Association's Annual Meeting. The funds, account books, and associated documents in the Treasurer's hands shall at all times be subject to verification and inspection by the Board of Directors and shall be audited annually by two individuals approved by the President.

Section 5. The Archivist shall maintain all genealogical and historical records, items and artifacts, which may come into the possession of the Association, in a manner satisfactory to the Board of Directors, and shall keep an inventory of records in possession of Association members.

Section 6. The Webmaster shall maintain the Association's Internet Web Site in a manner that promotes the attainment of the objectives of the Association and satisfies the Board of Directors.

Section 7. Directors at Large represent the members of the Association. They are specifically charged with helping to insure the Association meets the objectives set forth in Article III and shall otherwise assist the organization as necessary.

Article VIII — Nominations and Elections

Section 1. Regular elections will be held every two years following the first election.

Section 2. Election of Officers shall be held during the Business Meeting at the Wertman Family Annual Reunion. Any Association member in good standing who is present shall be eligible to vote and to nominate any other member who has consented to run for election at the Business Meeting.

Section 3. A Nominating Committee, composed of three Association members in good standing, shall be appointed by the President prior to each regular election. This shall be done at least sixty (60) days before the Business Meeting at the Wertman Family Annual Reunion. The Nominating Committee shall elect its own Chair. Any member in good standing may submit up to one (1) nomination for each posi-

tion that shall be forwarded to the Nominating Committee Chair, postmarked or electronically dated no later than thirty (30) days before the Business Meeting at the Wertman Family Annual Reunion. The Nominating Committee shall compile a list of nominees, including those who have been received by mail or e-mail and any others from the members of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall obtain the written consent of nominees before placing their names on the ballot. The Nominating Committee shall present its written report to the membership during the Business Meeting at the Wertman Family Association Annual Reunion.

Section 4. If a Wertman Family Reunion does not occur during a regular election year, the election shall be held as follows: nominations shall be obtained as outlined in Section 3 of this Article, except the Nominating Committee shall present its written report by the 1st of September. By that date the Nominating Committee shall cause a paper ballot to be mailed or e-mailed to each Association member in good standing. Completed ballots shall be returned by the 15th of September to the Vice President, who with the assistance of one Association member in good standing (who is not a candidate) shall open, tabulate and forward the results to the President. The results shall be transmitted by mail or e-mail to all members.

Section 5. Newly elected Officers shall take office immediately after the Business meeting at which they are elected.

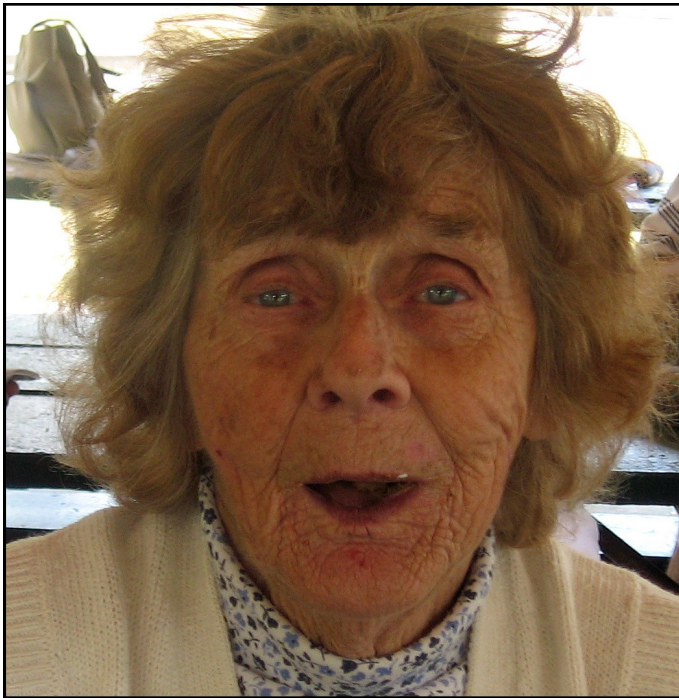
Section 6. All Officers shall make all records and correspondence pertaining to their respective offices available to their successors at the time of succession, or no later than fifteen (15) days after their terms expire. Copies of all pertinent documents shall be provided to and retained by the President.

Article IX — Filling of Vacancies

Section 1. A vacancy in any elective position, other than the President, shall be filled for the balance of the term thereof by appointment of the President with the concurrence of the Board of Directors.

Article X — Dues and Fees

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall determine annual dues for individual members. Any other fees shall also be determined by the Board of Direc-



Helen Wertman, most senior lady at the 2014 WFA Picnic

tors and may include a one-time registration fee, family memberships, and/or life memberships.

Section 2. Dues are payable by the 1st of October. Members admitted after the 1st of June shall be credited with dues paid for the following fiscal year. Members in arrears on the 1st of October shall be considered inactive. Inactive members may be reinstated upon payment of dues for the current fiscal year. Association members in good standing may resign.

Section 3. The Association's membership is on a fiscal year basis and entitles the member to voting privileges at all meetings of the Association.

Article XI — Reunions & Meetings

Section 1. The Annual Reunion and Business Meeting shall be held on or about the third weekend in August if practicable. The date and place shall be announced at least six months in advance. Notice of the Annual Reunion and Business Meeting shall be made by mail or e-mail to all Association members in good standing. Twenty percent (20%) of the membership in good standing shall constitute a quorum at the Annual Meeting. Other special meetings may be called as necessary by the President, or by the Board of Directors. Fifteen (15) day notice by mail or e-mail to all Association members in good standing

shall be required to call a special meeting. Ten percent (10%) of the membership in good standing shall constitute a quorum at the special meeting.

Article XII — Committees and Appointments

Section 1. From time to time committees may be formed. The President with the approval of the Board of Directors may form committee(s) and appoint the Chair except the Nominating Committee, which shall elect its own Chair.

Section 2. In addition to committees formed by the authority of Section 1 of this Article, every two years the President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint an Ancestry Committee. This committee shall insure that information presented to the public about the Wertman family is the most accurate information available. This committee shall forward to the Association's Webmaster only documented information to be put on the Association Web Site. Two thirds (2/3) of the committee membership is needed to settle any discrepancy in family history information. The President shall appoint the Chair.

Section 3. In addition to committees formed by the authority of Section 1 of this Article, each year the President shall appoint a Reunion Committee. This committee shall make all necessary arrangements for the subsequent year's Wertman Family Reunion and Business Meeting. The President shall appoint the Chair.



April Wertman at the 2014 WFA picnic in Hastings

Section 4. The President may appoint a Newsletter Editor for a two-year term. Any newsletter shall promote the objectives of the Association and satisfy the Board of Directors. Any Newsletter shall be e-mailed twice yearly, posted on the Association's Web Site, and mailed to selected historical societies, genealogical libraries, and Association members in good standing who request printed copies.

Article XIII — Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. Robert's Rule of Order (the most recent edition) shall govern in all cases where they are consistent with these Bylaws.

Article XIV — Adoption of Bylaws

Section 1. Adoption of these Bylaws requires a majority vote of those members in good standing who attend the Business Meeting.

Article XV – Amendment of By Laws

Section 1. An amendment to these Bylaws may be made by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting, such proposed amendment having been submitted to the President in writing and signed by a majority of the Board of Directors or upon petition to the Board of Directors by a least ten (10) members in good standing.

Section 2. Any Bylaws changes shall be submitted on the next ballot with the election of Officers, and shall be voted upon in the same manner. If the Board of Directors deems it of urgency, they may call a special election. It shall be by written ballot, mailed or e-mailed to members, and to be returned by them to the Vice President who shall with another Officer open the ballots, tabulate them and submit the tabulation results to the President, who shall report the outcome to the Association members. The President shall cause the results to be sent to the members in good standing.

Section 3. Bylaws changes shall become effective immediately upon tabulation provided they received the necessary vote.

Bylaws adopted 18 August 2001

Revised 22 August 2015

Deaths

Betty J. Hill¹⁰ (George Hill⁹, Gertrude Ketchledge⁸, Susanna Billman⁷, Isabella Wertman⁶, Reubin⁵, John⁴, George Philip³, Jacob², GP¹) 84, of Tamaqua, formerly of Andreas, passed away on Wednesday, 22 April, in the St. Luke's Miners Memorial Hospital, Coaldale.

Born in Palmerton, she was a daughter of the late George L. Hill Sr. and the late Verna M. (Hill) Hill.

The deceased was a 1950 graduate of Tamaqua High School. She had worked in the textile industry.

Surviving are a niece, Carol Stickler, a nephew, Glenn Hill (wife, Debra), great-nieces and -nephews.

She was also preceded in death by a brother, George L. Jr.; and an infant brother in 1934.

She was a member of Zion Stone Church of West Penn Township and the Pocahontas Council of Clamtown.

Interment was in Zion Stone Church Cemetery, New Ringgold.

Condensed from *Times News*, Apr. 24, 2015

Helen Stang⁸, (William Henry Wertman⁷, John F.⁶, John⁵, Daniel⁴, Simon³, Martin², GP¹) age 102 years, 4 months, 25 days, died on Monday, 9 March, at The Village at Rockville, MD. She was the wife of the late Preston J. Stang, who died in 1998. They had been married 61 years.

Born in Washington, D.C., she was the daughter of the late William Henry Wertman Sr. and Ada (Sprecher) Wertman. She was also predeceased by a brother, William Henry Wertman, Jr.; three sisters, Aida Ruth Wertman, Mary DeJarnette, and Marion Lovelace; and a niece, Patricia Worthington.

Survivors include two nephews, William H. Wertman III and Cliff Lovelace; four nieces, Shirley Daniels, Ruth Dyche, Clara Chambliss, and June Danis, 10 great-nieces and -nephews, and 21 great-great-nieces and -nephews.

She was a member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Bethesda, MD. Inurnment was in the Columbarium at Emmanuel. She attended the 2005 WFA reunion in Berks County.

Burdell L. Troxell¹⁰ (Lester⁹, William Herbert⁸, Pierce⁷, William⁶, Marie Haberman⁵, Susanna Abigail Wertman⁴, George Philip³, Michael², GP¹) also

(Lester Troxell⁸, Raymond Andreas⁷, Louisa Steigerwalt⁶, Priscilla Houser⁵, Elizabeth Wertman⁴, George Philip³, Jacob², GP¹), 73, of Andreas, died Sunday, 1 March, in his home. He was the husband of Dolores A. (Lusch) Troxell. They were married for 49 years.

Born in West Penn Township, he was a son of the late Lester W. and Hilda M. (Andreas) Troxell.

He was a seventh generation dairy farmer.

He was a member of Ben Salem U.C.C., Leighton, and a 1960 graduate of Tamaqua High School.

Richard C. Wertman⁸ (Clarence⁷, Llewellyn⁶, Daniel⁵, John⁴, George Philip³, Jacob², GP¹), 67, of Pottsville, passed away Thursday, 5 February, at Schuylkill Medical Center. Born in McKeensburg, he was a son of the late Clarence and Althea (Adams) Wertman.

He served in the Army during the Vietnam War. An avid hunter and fisherman, he was a member of the Tall Trees Rod and Gun Club, the NRA, and the North American Hunting Club.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, Earlin and Lamar Wertman.

Rich is survived by his wife of 46 years, Gloria J. "Sue" (Lewis) Wertman, two daughters, Wendy S. Neifert (husband, John) and Tammy Warner; son Richard Wertman Jr. (wife, Victoria), seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Condensed from *Republican & Herald*, 7 Feb 2015

Sean J. Wertman¹⁰ (Roger⁹, Robert Jr⁶, Robert Sr⁷, Henry⁶, Samuel⁵, George Philip⁴, George Philip³, Jacob², GP¹), 33, formerly of Exeter Township, died Sunday, 28 December, in Myrtle Beach, SC. Born in West Reading, He is survived by his parents, Roger J. "Herbie" and Valerie H. (Farrell) Wertman.

Also surviving are brothers Eric (wife, Angela) and Ryan (wife, Amy), five nieces and nephews, and his maternal grandmother, Josephine (Screpesi) Farrell. He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Eleanor (Matchette) and Robert Wertman.

Sean was a 2005 graduate of Kutztown University with a degree in Business Management, and a member of St. Catharine of Siena Roman Catholic Church in Exeter Township. Private interment was in Berks County Memorial Gardens.

Condensed from *Reading Eagle*, 7 Jan 2015

Isaac Reichelderfer Letter

from Brenda Merz

How did family members communicate when they had moved to new locations far away? The following is a letter, originally written in German, from Isaac Reichelderfer in Philadelphia to his uncles living in Pickaway County, Ohio. This family was related to Simon and Martin Wertman by marriage. The source of the letter is the Birds of a Feather site maintained by Wayne Thomas of Lancaster, OH, about 20 miles from Circleville. This researcher is very good and was trying to put together Salt Creek Township genealogy. My G-G-Grandfather was living a few feet from this township line after he moved to Ohio. The individuals listed in this letter were from the Corner or Brick Church.

"Philadelphia, Feb 6, 1859

"Dear Uncles: Jacob Reichelderfer, Henry Reichelderfer, John Reichelderfer, William Stump, Samuel Fetherolf, and to all the rest; too many all to name.

"I am in good health and hope that these few lines will find you also, all in good health and likewise all the other friends that live in your part of the world. Times here are still hard, however, not quite so hard as they were a year ago, and I think by next summer will be much better. By all signs as it now appears there will be a good deal of building here next summer. For my part I did not have much to complain of on that account, for I always had work through all the hard times. Though the wages were low, it was better than doing nothing, for I have made a living. But I cannot write concerning my brothers and sisters for I have not heard from them for a long time, and have seen none of them since I came back from Ohio.

"I am not at home since I came back from you. On that account I do not know much from Albany. Jacob Reichelderfer, why did you not come to Philadelphia when you were in Pennsylvania a year ago? I would like to have spent a few days with you and to have shown you the elephant, and I think you would not have regretted it.

"I would have written long ago but I have been all the time expecting a letter from cousin William Fetherolf. He promised me when he was here last spring that he would write to me as soon as he got home but I have not heard from him since I left. We have not had much winter so far; very little snow but a great deal of rain.

"I do not know much further to write for this time; so much from me, your friend and well wisher, Isaac Reichelderfer

"Write soon and don't forget it. (Excuse my bad writing for my ink and pens are bad.) Direct your letter South East Corner Third and Buttonwood Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania."

Wortsman on Warrant

From Hal and Brenda Merz

We came across a Warrant of George Boon dated 15 December 1748 for 500 acres near the lands of one Curdeman and one Wortsman on Andelanny Creek in Bucks County.

The survey below, dated 20 November 1749, is for 332 1/2 acres on Pine Creek in Philadelphia County for George Boone.

So, who is this Wortsman?

Tightening the Screws: Embracing our Ancestry, Part II

by Hal and Brenda Merz

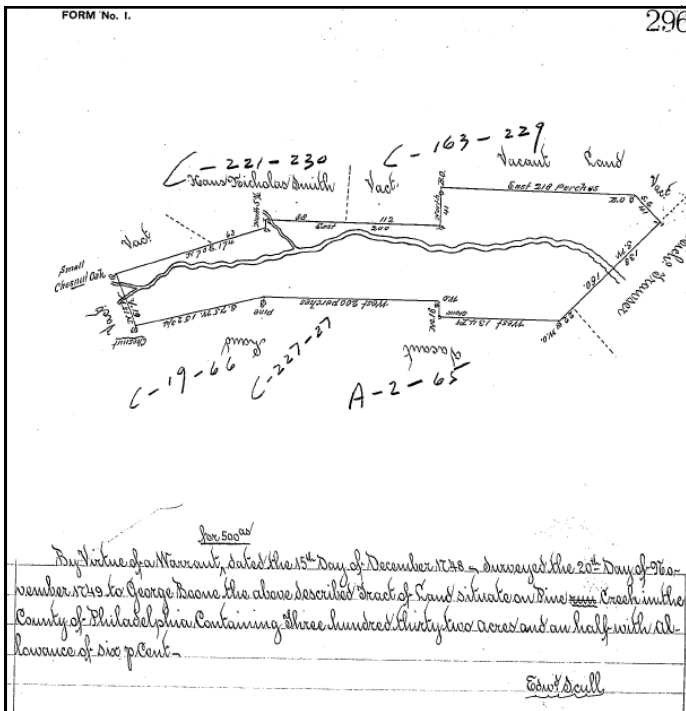
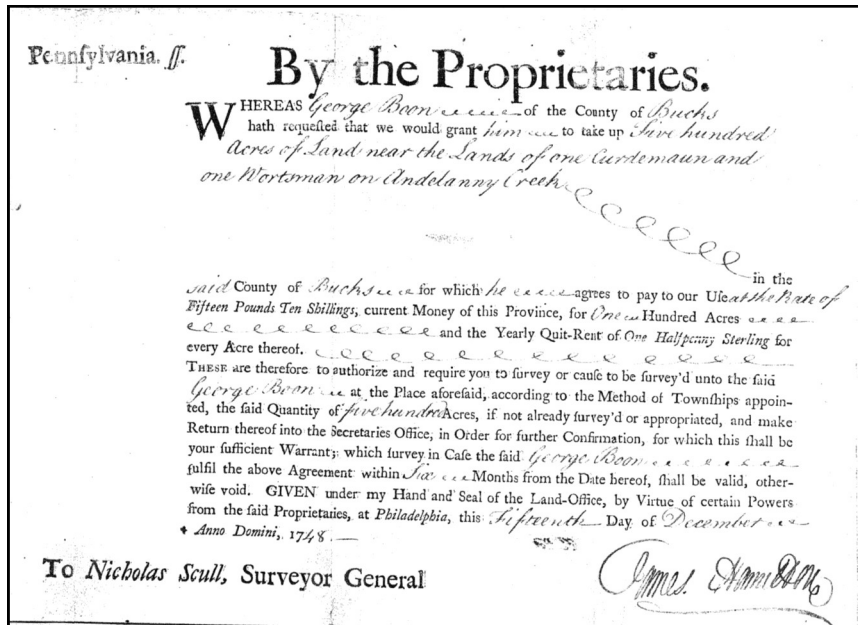
In Part I of this article (January 2015 *Wertman Lines*), we outlined conditions the Wertman family faced before and after the Revolutionary War. Now we explore the “tightening screws” of laws and actions that forced people to consider the consequences of continuing to hold Loyalist convictions. Much of the information comes from a book by Dr. Anne Ousterhout, a Professor at Michigan State, “A State Divided,” detailing the circumstances and treatment of Pennsylvania Loyalists.

There was more and more pressure for Pennsylvanians to actively support the American Revolution by joining and participating in the militia organizations in each county. It was recognized that some people, (Quaker and Mennonite pacifists) might have legitimate reasons to not participate in the Revolution. A series of acts of the Pennsylvania Assembly made it increasingly tough for those not joining the militia.

It was suggested that the pacifists and others who did not want to join the militia should voluntarily support the militias by contributing supplies and money. In November 1775, the Assembly passed regulations requiring all males age 16 to 50 to join the militia, or face a fine starting at 2 Pounds, 10 shillings and increasing to 100 pounds by 1779 (the fine collections didn't actually start until 1777).

Early on, there were very few cases of people being charged with crimes in connection with their political views of Loyalism. Less than 50 people suffered “public condemnation” before 1777. Most were just charged for something like disturbing the peace. Privately, many pacifists and Loyalists were mistreated by their neighbors from insults through property vandalism. Meanwhile, the Quakers pushed back by strengthening their opposition to military service, disciplining more than 140 members in 1775 for joining the militias.

After the Declaration of Independence, the Pennsylvania Assembly created additional penalties for



non-participation in military service. In September 1776, every “non-associator” (person not joining the militia) between 16 and 50 years of age was to be fined 20 shillings for every month that they avoided the militia practices. Every non-associator over 21 had to pay a property tax surcharge of 20% on normal taxes. An additional ordinance authorized the militia colonels to collect firearms from the non-associators. As the British won a number of battles and were approaching Philadelphia, tensions rose and in June 1777, the Assembly passed the “Test Act,” with the following provisions:

All white males over 18 were required by July 1 to take an oath or affirmation to renounce their allegiance to the King of England.

Justices of the Peace were required to keep lists and provide each juror (person taking the oath or affirming) with a certificate to prove that he had done so.

Anyone not having a certificate could not hold office, serve on a jury, buy or sell land, or own a firearm. He could not travel without having the certificate on his person.

The Test Act was widely opposed even by Pennsylvanians supporting independence. For example, two townships in Northampton County were left without magistrates. Both of the appointees refused to sign. Dr. Ousterhout summarized the situation at that time: “Any Pennsylvanian with misgivings about independence who was also disturbed about the lack of orderly government might be strongly tempted to defect to the British Army as it drew near, especially if he had suffered from arbitrary measures or vigilantism. It is not surprising that many would join the British during their occupation of Philadelphia.”

George Phillip Wertman II was one of an estimated 6,000 Pennsylvanians who went to the British during their time in Philadelphia from September 1777 to June 1778. The Pennsylvania Assembly, which had relocated from Philadelphia to Lancaster, passed a property confiscation law applying to people who had joined the British cause. In February 1778, William Thomas was one of the first people in the state to have his property confiscated and sold. Recall that William Thomas was one of the leaders of the Loyalist movement in Lynn Township, and later became a leader of a Loyalist regiment. The

Assembly added an act that required certain people to appear for trial. If they did not report within 40 days, they would be declared guilty without a trial and their property was to be confiscated. From May 1778 to April 1781, there were 11 different proclamations listing a total of 491 people.

The “Test Act,” which had required Pennsylvanians to make a formal declaration of loyalty by signing documents, was amended and strengthened in March 1778. Anyone who had not signed previously was given until 1 June 1778 to do so. The lists show that some of the Wertmans waited until nearly the last permissible day to make their declaration – Simon Wertman on one of the last days in May.

The consequences of not signing the amended Test Act increased. The new fines included one of 500 Pounds levied on people not signing the Act who were connected with schools, law, medicine or trade. Any two Justices of the Peace could summon any white male over 18 to take the oath. If he refused, he could be jailed for three months or fined 10 Pounds. And if he had not signed at the next quarter session court for his county, he would be given 30 days to take the oath, or be ordered to leave the state and forfeit his property. The price of maintaining a Loyalist or pacifist view became very, very high. In May 1778, the Northampton County court used the new law to summon all white males from Upper Saucon Township, an area inhabited largely by Mennonites. When they refused to sign, justices ordered 12 Mennonites to leave the state and forfeited their property. Sheriffs confiscated their property and sold it at auction in July 1778. A later amendment softened these requirements, but did not restore the property to those who had suffered confiscation. Brenda and I saw a letter where two ladies whose property was confiscated wrote to the authorities asking that their bed sheets be returned!

The treatment of wives and families of Loyalists was of concern. Wives or other family members were given passes and crossed Patriot lines to visit their husbands in Philadelphia or New York. Others sent packages of clothing and supplies to their husbands. The volume of visitor pass requests and the packages grew, and was a security issue for the Patriot forces. They suspected that espionage was being conducted through communication between Loy-

See “Tightening,” page 18

2015 Wertman Family Reunion Registration Form

Friday-Saturday, 21 & 22 August 2015 Danville, PA

Please print

Name/s	
Address	
City/State/Zip	
Telephone	Cell phone
E-mail	<input type="checkbox"/> Please e-mail my WFA newsletters
<input type="checkbox"/> Please send me printed newsletters by US mail (only mailed to those with dues paid!)	

Thursday, August 20	<i>Number Attending</i>	<i>Cost per Person</i>	<i>Amount Due</i>
Informal Dinner		Pay at restaurant	
Friday, August 21			
Research Meeting		No charge	
Dinner with Speaker		Pay at restaurant	
Saturday, August 21			
Catered Picnic		\$9	\$
Cemetery Tour		No charge	

2015 WFA Tee Shirt (Order by 20 June!)	\$8	\$
Child ____ S ____ M ____ L		
Adult ____ S ____ M ____ L ____ XL ____ 2X ____ 3X		

Wertman Family Association dues of \$20 per family are due.
 To continue receiving mailed copies of the newsletter, be sure your dues are paid!

Annual Dues	\$20 per family	\$20
2015 Reunion Events, Meals, and Dues	Grand Total, Check Enclosed	\$

Please make your check payable to the **Wertman Family Association**.
 Mail your check and Registration Form **by 20 July** to:
 2015 WFA Reunion, c/o Shirley Daniels, 1233 Weller Way, Westminster, MD 21158
 If you have questions, call 570-275-3626 or e-mail Tom Young <teyoung3@verizon.net>

“Tightening,” from page 16

alists and their family members. As a consequence, the state of Pennsylvania in June 1780 passed a law requiring the wives and children of attainted Loyalists to leave the state within 10 days! We do not know how many wives actually left Pennsylvania as a consequence of the 1780 law. Some might have been tempted to flee to British-occupied zones such as Philadelphia (and later, New York City). But those places were not safe or convenient places to bring a family. Housing was scarce due to the large number of British troops temporarily staying there, and prices were driven up due to supply shortages. Many of the Loyalists were essentially military volunteers who did not receive wages from the British, and had to depend on foraging and whatever meager

savings they had brought with them. So they did not have the means to support a family.

The reality was, many of the Loyalists had to say “goodbye” to their wives and families. There is evidence of this in a list drawn up in 1784 in Digby, Nova Scotia. The list shows the names of George Phillip Wertman II and about 150 other Loyalists. There is a column on the list to show the number of family members. *Very few of the men listed any family members.* We know that George Phillip Wertman left behind a daughter, Margaret, and may have left others as well.

Perhaps GPII wasn't just a hot-head who left his family. It is possible the entire family stood in disbelief as they had to relive old ways of war and agony from the mother country. Embrace your ancestry with dignity!

About The Wertman Family Association (WFA)

Since 2000, the rejuvenated Wertman Family Association has held annual reunions in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, New York, and Virginia. Those who attend learn more about relatives who lived before them, and form relationships with cousins from around the country. A unique feature of these events is a full-day session for researchers to share their discoveries. An earlier family association held reunion picnics in Pennsylvania and Michigan for a large group of relatives in the 1920s and 1930s.

Via our website, *wertman.info*, strangers can discover long-lost family connections. The Wertman web pages disseminate accurate information about the family's heritage. In August 2007, the association dedicated a monument in the old graveyard at Ebenezer Union Church in New Tripoli, Lehigh County, PA. The black granite stone is in memory of the Wertman family that came to Lynn Township by 1749, including the “founding father,” George Philip Wertman (a deacon at Ebenezer Church), and his five known sons, George Philip, Jacob, Johan Martin, Johan Michael, and Simon.

We invite you to join us!

Officers, Wertman Family Association

President:

Russell C. Dannecker <dannecker123@verizon.net>

Vice President :

Frank Strickling <fjstrick@zoominternet.net>

Corresponding Secretary:

Minerva Arner <mmarner@ptd.net>

Genealogy/Historical Secretary:

Kathy Bucher <WFAArchives@hotmail.com>

Treasurer:

Maryann Cronk <mcronkak2@aol.com>

Historical Committee Chair:

Tom Young <teyoung3@verizon.net>

DNA Project Manager:

Tom Young <teyoung3@verizon.net>

Webmaster:

Kathy Bucher <WFAArchives@hotmail.com>

Website: <wertman.info>

Directors at Large:

Ken Cool '17; Shirley Daniels '15;

Hal Merz '15; Mary Ellen Wagner '17

Newsletter: *The next newsletter is January 2016.*

In the interim, look for news and information on <wertman.info> or in electronic or postal mailings.

Register NOW for the Wertman Family Reunion 21 & 22 August, Danville, PA
