

Newsletter of the Wertman Family Association

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# Reserve now!

- Annual Wertman Family Reunion
- 27 & 28 September 2019
- Gettysburg, Adams Co., PA

# Dear Wertman Descendants,

The 2019 Wertman Family Reunion focuses on at least six related Wertman family members who participated in the greatest battle that has ever taken place on the North American continent – Gettysburg. It is known as the turning point of the Civil War. Please consider bringing your children and grandchildren for the opportunity to learn about their own and this country's history by being there. This sort of history is not taught in schools!

On 4 March 1861, Abraham Lincoln stood at the United States Capitol to deliver his first Inaugural Address. Trying to prevent a war that was to come, he said, "Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all

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over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature." He was talking about Revolutionary War patriots who fought to create this nation.

Perhaps similar mystic chords of memory, but from our many Wertman relatives who fought to preserve this Union, will stretch forth from every battlefield and grave to your living heart. The Wertman soldiers in blue came from Pennsylvania, New York, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Ohio, and would serve in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, West Virginia, and Virginia. Some were captured, some wounded; many fell seriously ill; and at least three were laid to rest in national military cemeteries far from their families. Those who came home were profoundly affected the rest of their lives.

On Friday we will have a Wertman Research meeting in the morning followed by a visit to the National Park Service Visitor Center in the afternoon. This includes a film, Cyclorama, and Museum. There will be a Family Dinner and Speaker in the evening. On Saturday, we will walk in the footsteps of those who fought in this greatest battle of the war by touring the battlefield on a coach bus.

When dedicating the Monument to the 20th Maine Regiment on the field at Gettysburg, General Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain said: "In great deeds, something abides. On great fields, something stays. Forms change and pass; bodies disappear; but spirits linger, to consecrate ground for the vision-place of souls. *And reverent men and women from afar, and generations that know us not and that we know not of,* heart-drawn to see where and by whom great

things were suffered and done for them, shall come to this deathless field, to ponder and dream; and lo! The shadow of a mighty presence shall wrap them in its bosom, and the power of the vision pass into their souls."

Please come to Gettysburg this September and join us at our reunion events. Let our families' soldiers' vision pass into your soul.

Russell C. Dannecker, President Wertman Family Association 6th Great Grandson of George Philip Wertman I



# Why Did Meade Let Lee Escape After the Battle at Gettysburg?

Find the answers to this and other questions as our after-dinner presenter, David T. Booz, speaks on Lee's Retreat.

Dave has been an adjunct instructor at Gettysburg College in the Civil War Era Studies program since 2006, as well as an historical consultant. He speaks to various groups on historical topics with an emphasis on the American Civil War, and has been a teacher and principal in public schools as well as an Associate Professor at Carroll Community College.

Dave's interests include Civil War firearms and artifacts. He is President of the Maryland Arms Collectors Association and National Commander of the North-South Skirmish Association. In 2005, he was Executive Director of the Friends of the National Parks at Gettysburg.

You won't want to miss this opportunity!

# **2019 Reunion Schedule**

The Wertman Family Association Reunion Committee is pleased to announce the schedule for the 2019 Reunion and Family Business Meeting, Friday and Saturday, 27and 28 September, in Gettysburg, PA. We hope that you make every effort to attend.

## Thurs, 26 Sept

## 5:30 p.m. — Get Acquainted (Optional)

All arriving early are welcome to join the group at the nearby TGI Fridays restaurant to eat, chat and get acquainted!

## Fri, 27 Sept

#### 9:00 a.m. - Annual Business Meeting

Meeting room at the Country Inn & Suites. This is the hotel where we are staying.

9:30 a.m. — Research Meeting

Meeting Room at the Country Inn & Suites

12:30 p.m. — Lunch

Lunch is on your own at a nearby restaurant in the Outlet Shoppes at Gettysburg. Selections are: Auntie Anne's Pretzels, Branding Iron BBQ, Chopsticks Express, Corrado's Pizza, Subway, and TGI Fridays.

2:00 p.m. — Gettysburg Visitor Center Meet at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center located at 1195 Baltimore Pike (Rt 97) with a back entrance from the Taneytown Rd (State Rt 134). It is 1.7 mi from the Country Inn.

See a film entitled "A New Birth of Freedom," narrated by Morgan Freeman; view the famous Gettysburg Cyclorama oil painting, which, along with light and sound effects, immerses visitors in the fury of Pickett's Charge during the third day of the Battle of Gettysburg. The Gettysburg Museum of the Civil War features items from one of the largest collections of Civil War relics in the world. Learn more with interactive exhibits, and browse in the Book Store. The cost for all three: Adults ages 13-65, \$15; Seniors and Veterans, \$14; Ages 6-12, \$10; Under age 6, no charge

5:30 p.m. — **Dinner & Speaker.** We will eat together as a group at Dunlap's Restaurant, 90 Buford Ave. (Rt. 30, west of the square). Dinner selections are: (1) Roast turkey, stuffing, gravy, mashed potatoes and vegetable of the day, \$20; (2) Fried shrimp basket with fries and slaw, \$22; and (3) vege-

table stir-fry over noodles with house salad and apple sauce; \$23. Children 10-under may order a smaller turkey dinner for \$16.

After dinner, our speaker, David T. Booz, talks about Lee's retreat after the Gettysburg campaign.

#### Sat, 28 Sept – Tour Gettysburg Sites 9:00 a.m. — Guided Bus Tour

We will leave from and return to the Country Inn & Suites. Our focus will be the monuments of the regiments in which Wertman related soldiers served, as well as the United States Regular Army and State of Pennsylvania monuments.

# Noon — Box Lunch Picnic

Box lunch sandwich choices include: (1) Bacon, lettuce and tomato on white bread; (2) Chicken salad with lettuce and tomato on wheat bread; and (3) Ham and cheese with lettuce and tomato on rye bread. Beverages, chips, fresh fruit, and cookies are included. Adult lunches are \$9; Children 10-under may order a smaller ham and cheese sandwich for \$8.

After Lunch, continue our bus tour of the battle-field.

**Return to Hotel** no later than 4:00 p.m. Sorry, there will be no **Family Auction** this year. It will return next year.

## Please make your reservations by 20 August.

We have reserved a block of rooms at the Country Inn and Suites by Radisson for Thursday through Saturday nights at a group rate of \$135 plus tax, per room, per night. A hot/cold breakfast is included. You may reserve your king or double-queen room by calling 717-337-9518. The group code for the Wertman Family Association is 101.

The hotel offers 83 air-conditioned rooms with refrigerators and microwaves, 32-inch LCD televisions with cable programming, and complimentary wireless Internet access. Shower/tub baths have complimentary toiletries and hair dryers.

Recreational amenities include an indoor pool, a spa tub, and a fitness center. A grocery/convenience store serves Country Inn guests.

## **Directions to Hotel**

The hotel is at 1857 Gettysburg Village Dr., Gettysburg, PA, just off Rt. 15, next to the outlets.

# Why Gettysburg?

By Russell C. Dannecker, WFA Research Meeting 2018

# The Significance of Gettysburg

- July 1 to July 3, 1863
- Confederate Army vs Union Army It would determine whether General Lee's invasion of the North would be successful. He also wanted to gather supplies from the North, and hoped a major victory in Union territory would make the Union lose the will to fight.
- Union army: The tide of the war turned in the Union's favor.
- Confederate army: The second and final attempt to invade the North seriously weakened their army.

# The Losses

# Largest Regimental Loss in a single battle

26th North Carolina Infantry at Gettysburg went into battle with 800; by end of third day, 708 were dead, wounded or missing. In one Company of 84, every officer and man was hit.

Largest Numerical Loss in a single battle

- Union 21% were killed or wounded.
- Confederate 30% killed or wounded
- Over 51,000 Causalities in three days. 23,000 Union soldiers 28,000 - Confederate soldiers 8,000 - killed

# Significance of Union Victory

- Eradicated Slavery Paved the way for Civil Rights Legislation
- Established Abraham Lincoln as an important figure in United States and world history
- Kept the young country together



Gettysburg Museum and Visitor Center Entrance



Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., 20th Massachusetts and Supreme Court Justice



# The Civil War: Defining Experience

- Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.
- Born in Massachusetts in 1841
- Civil War veteran who was wounded three times in battle and who met President Abraham Lincoln on one of the President's visits to the front. Served in the 20th Massachusetts.
- In 1902 He was appointed to the Supreme Court of the United States. *"We have shared the incommunicable experi-*

we have shared the incommunicable experience of war. We have felt, we still feel, the passions of life to its top ... In our youths, our hearts were touched by Fire."

# Wertman Soldiers

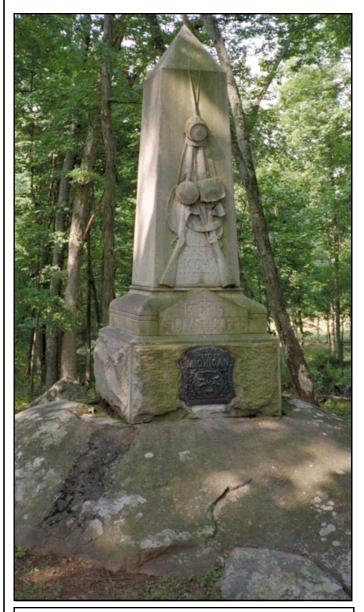
- Identified so Far = 76
- Known Relationship to George Philip Wertman I = 70 (including DNA connection)
- Descend from four of GPI's five Sons: Jacob, Michael, Simon and Martin

Daniel Heimbach<sup>5</sup> [Himebaugh] (1836-1915);

Daniel Himebaugh<sup>4</sup> (1793 -1850); Katharina Wertman<sup>3</sup> (1765 - abt 1821); Jacob Wertman<sup>2</sup>; George Philip Wertman<sup>1</sup>

# Co. B, 1st Michigan Infantry Regiment

- Colonel Ira C. Abbott, a merchant from Burr Oak, MI, Commanded at Gettysburg; wounded on July 2; Lieutenant Colonel William A. Throop took command; also wounded.
- Into battle: 21 officers and 240 men.
- Losses: 1 officer and 4 enlisted men killed; 6 officers and 27 men wounded, and 4 men missing. Total = 42, or 16%.



1st Michigan Infantry monument at Gettysburg

## Wertman Lines / June 2019 / 5



14th US Infantry monument at Gettysburg

**William George Moffett** (1847-1931), husband of Elmira R. Wertman<sup>5</sup> (1858-1933); Isaac Wertman<sup>4</sup> (1821-1898); Daniel Wertman<sup>3</sup> (1775-1858); Jacob Wertman<sup>2</sup>; George Philip Wertman<sup>1</sup>

Co. G, 1st Battalion, 14th U.S. Regular Infantry

- Captain Crotius R. Giddings Commanded at Gettysburg.
- July 2: Moved across Plum Run near Little Round Top at 5 p.m. with the Brigade.
- Engaged the Confederates but retired under heavy fire on both flanks and from the rear after the Confederates had possession of the Wheatfield in the rear of the Brigade; went into position on Little Round Top.
- Losses: 16 men killed; 2 officers and 106 men wounded; 4 men missing.

**Aaron Moser**<sup>5</sup>; Burkhart Moser III, husband of Rebecca Wertman<sup>4</sup>; George Philip Wertman<sup>3</sup>; Jacob Wertman<sup>2</sup>; George Philip Wertman<sup>1</sup>

Co. E 28th Pennsylvania Infantry

- Captain John H. Flynn commanded at Gettysburg.
- Into battle: 13 officers and 290 men



28th Pennsylvania Infantry monument; one of two markers at Gettysburg

• Losses: 6 men killed and mortally wounded; 1 officer and 19 men wounded; 2 men captured or missing. Total = 28 or 9.2%

**Gideon Moser<sup>5</sup>;** Burkhart Moser III, husband of Rebecca Wertman<sup>4</sup>; George Philip Wertman<sup>3</sup>; Jacob Wertman<sup>2</sup>; George Philip Wertman<sup>1</sup>

Co. E, 28th Pennsylvania Infantry See notes above for his brother



28th Pennsylvania Infantry monument; second of two markers at Gettysburg



11th Pennsylvania Infantry monument at Gettysburg also honors Sallie, their smallest member

**Joseph Moser**<sup>5</sup>; Burkhart Moser III, husband of Rebecca Wertman<sup>4</sup>; George Philip Wertman<sup>3</sup>; Jacob Wertman<sup>2</sup>; George Philip Wertman<sup>1</sup>

Co. H, 11th Pennsylvania Infantry

- Colonel Richard Coulter commanded at Gettysburg. He took over command of the brigade. Captain Benjamin F. Haine commanded next, until he was wounded on July 3; then Captain John B. Overmyer commanded.
- Into battle: 23 officers and 269 men.
- Losses: 13 men killed and died of wounds; 8 officers and 54 men; 57 men captured or missing. Total = 132 or 45.2%.



11th US Infantry monument at Gettysburg

**Jacob Vogel,** husband of Lydia A. Wertman<sup>5</sup>; Jonathan Michael Wertman<sup>4</sup>; Daniel Wertman<sup>3</sup>; Johan Michael Wertman<sup>2</sup>; George Philip Wertman<sup>1</sup>

Co. E., 2nd Battalion, 11th US Regular Infantry

- Major Delancy Floyd-Jones, career Army officer from Oyster Bay, NY, commanded at Gettysburg.
- July 2: moved across Plum Run near Little Round Top at 5 p.m. with the Brigade .
- Engaged the Confederates but retired under heavy fire on both flanks and from the rear after the Confederates had possession of the Wheatfield in the rear of the Brigade; went into position on Little Round Top.
- Into battle: 25 officers and 281 men.
- Losses:8 officers and 16 men killed; 7 officers and 85 men (including Jacob) wounded; 9 men missing. Total = 125 or 40.8%.

Attend the reunion at Gettysburg to hear of other Wertman family soldiers discovered through Russ Dannecker's June 2019 research at the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, D.C.

# 2018 Reunion Minutes

Family Research Meeting Sugarcreek, OH, 17 August 2018

# **Tuscarawas County Wertman Research** – Richard Daniels (Richard provided all meeting participants with a CD containing the texts of his two presentations plus the list of all Tuscarawas burials of Wertman relatives.)

The Tuscarawas Wertmans are connected to the George Philip Wertman 1 (GP1) family. DNA testing showed this, but there is no paper trail.

Jacob Wertman was born 08 February 1806 in Northumberland Co., PA, and then moved with his parents to Mifflin Co., PA, and Bedford Co., PA, before settling in Dover Twp., Tuscarawas Co., OH, in 1855. He was found in Sugarcreek by the 1870 census and died 11 March 1889. He is buried at Union Hill Cemetery in Sugarcreek (which we could see from the Carlisle Inn, where we met). We need to find the names of his parents; they were not listed in his obituary.

Jacob Wertman was married to Sarah Harris. They had 12 children. Richard gave a detailed presentation on the twelve, their children, who they married, and where they were buried.

# Methods of Research – Richard Daniels

There are over 10,000 descendants of GP1. This presentation was divided into three periods; each requires different research tools and methods:

*Before 1850 Census* -- County libraries; genealogical and historical societies (old newspapers, local histories); church records (including cemetery records); court house (land records, wills, probates, miscellaneous deeds); U.S. and state archives, including early military records.

Between 1850 and 1940 -- U.S. and state census; birth, marriage, and death indexes; death certificates; military records (Civil War, World War I); city directories; FindAGrave.com; BillionGraves.com.

*After 1940* -- Social Security Death Index; Social Security Application and Claim Index; obituaries; U.S. Public Records Index; military records (World War II, Korean War); FindAGrave.com; Billion-Graves.com.

What to do with your research:

• Document it – write it down

- References where you got your information
- Distribute paper; electronic

# Ohio Civil War Soldiers – Russ Dannecker

Jacob and Sarah Wertman:

- Daughter Anna M. Wertman married James S. Gordon, who served in Co. I of the 171st Pennsylvania Regiment; was a Sergeant
- Daughter Rachel Wertman married James Kilgore, who served in Co. K of the 163rd Ohio Regiment [see article, pg. 9]
- Daughter Mary Wertman married William R. Blackburn, who was a Quaker who served in the 2nd Pennsylvania Cavalry

**Other Wertman Families of Northeast Ohio and Northwestern Pennsylvania** – Prepared by Hal Merz; delivered by Shirley Daniels in his absence

Several families with the Wertman and similarly spelled surnames located in NE Ohio and NW Pennsylvania moved to the area in the early 1800s. Some new information has been discovered that may help, but more research is needed.

*Peter Musser* (1740-1808) and Margaret (Wurtman) Musser (1743-1821) – this family came to Ohio circa 1801. We have no information on Margaret's family.

Jacob Wertman (1799-1871) and Rebecca Smith Wertman – This family lived in Lawrence Co., PA, very close to the Ohio border. Proof has not been established, but some evidence suggests he could be the son of the Jacob Wertman who died in 1806 in Northumberland Co., PA.

*Michael Wertman* (1765-1837) – He and his family appear to have located in Columbiana Co., OH, in 1810 and later moved to Liberty Twp., Trumbull Co., OH. The graveyard where he is buried is the final resting place of several families who were Wertman neighbors that migrated from Lynn Twp., Northampton Co., PA, — Oswalds and Everetts. His descendants mostly adopted the spelling Wortman. Some of his male descendants with the Wortman surname still live in NE Ohio. A descendant has been tested who matches the GP1 haplotype.

# EBay Wertmans – Russ Dannecker

Russ again emphasized the value of looking on eBay for Wertman-related materials. He bought a photograph of Marine Sergeant Albert P. Wertman, a

former POW from the Korean War who was captured in February 1952 and released in August 1953. Albert's father was Charles V., his mother Mabel. Albert has ties back to our family.

#### Too Many Jacobs - Tom Young

A lot of early researchers made assumptions. Some of these are known to be wrong; some we believe are wrong. Many Wertman researchers are aware that primary documents on early Wertman generations are hard to come by.

Using lists of Oaths of Allegiance, militia membership, confirmation classes, taxes, assessments, censuses, and Revolutionary War pensions to trace early Wertman ancestors, Tom's unproven conclusion is that it is likely that Jacob of Northumberland is the son of GP1's son Michael, and Jacob of Schuylkill is the son of GP1's son Jacob. In discussing the sons of GP1, Tom said that Michael's family generally moved away, and Jacob's family generally stayed home.

#### Wertman Big Y – Tom Young

Tom explained in detail the results of STR (Single Tandem Repeat) tests of 14 individuals. Thirteen of the 14 match each other with 0-4 mismatches. All match the probable haplotype of George Philip 1 within two mis-matches. It is a good, tight group of matches. The 14th, John of Northumberland, has five mis-matches. He is likely related but is a statistical outlier. Determining the probable haplotype of GP1 is a worthwhile first step.

The secondary goal is to learn if other groups of Wertmans whose relationships to GP1 are not yet known are related to GP1. Five individuals tested whose ancestors are of unknown origin are, in fact, related to GP1. For example, Jacob Wertman, who is buried in Union Hill cemetery in Sugarcreek and has a large number of descendants buried in cemeteries in the Sugarcreek area, is related to GP1.

The primary goal is to learn George Philip 1's ancestors. This has not yet been accomplished. Big Y is a discovery test (SNP or Single Nucleotide Polymorphism) rather than a verification test (STR). Results provide a distant archeological time frame. As more men test, we hope that matches will refine the results to a genealogical time frame. This is a very active area of research and the future of Y DNA testing.

#### 2019 Reunion, Gettysburg – Russ Dannecker

Seventy-six Wertman soldiers from the Civil War have been identified so far. Seventy are definitely related through a DNA connection with one of four sons of GP1 (Jacob, Michael, Simon, and Martin). A handful married into the family. Six are known to have been at Gettysburg [see pg. 3]:

- Daniel Heimbach (Himebaugh), Co. B, 1st Michigan Infantry Regiment
- William G. Moffett, Co. G, Its Battalion, 14th U.S. Regular Infantry
- Three brothers: Aaron and Gideon Moser Co. E, 28th Pennsylvania; and Joseph Moser, Co. H, 11th Pennsylvania (the Wertmans and Mosers lived in New Tripoli)
- Jacob Vogel, 2nd Battalion, 11th U.S. Regular Infantry (wounded).

#### 2018 Business Meeting, Tuscora Park, New Philadelphia, OH, 18 August 2018

The 19th annual business meeting was called to order by President Russ Dannecker at 1:03 p.m. Twenty-five members were present for the meeting.

#### Attendance Awards/Recognition

Came the longest distance – Penny Doerrer Most senior lady – Minerva Arner Most senior gentleman – Richard Daniels Youngest in attendance – Andrew Wertman

#### Vice President's Report

Hal Merz was not in attendance.

#### Secretary's Report

Doug Wertman asked for approval of the minutes of last year's business meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was seconded and approved unanimously.

#### Archivist's Report and Webmaster's Report

Kathy Bucher was not in attendance.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Maryann Cronk reported that the WFA's balance as of 10 August 2018 was \$6,095.09, with some expenses for the 2018 reunion not yet paid. A motion to accept the report was seconded and approved unanimously.

#### **Report on the Ancestry Committee**

Tom Young reported that the website yields quite a few ancestral inquiries. When directed to him, he solves what he can and forwards the results to Russ. The more complicated cases are shared with Russ, Tom, and others for a group solution.

#### **Report on the DNA Project**

Tom Young reported that Phase 1, determining the probable George Philip 1 haplotype using known descendants, is complete. Phase 2, determining if branches of unknown ancestry are related to GP1, is ongoing. There are always more branches to explore. STR (Single Tandem Repeat) tests were used for phases 1 and 2. Phase 3, determining GP1's origins uses a SNP (Single Nucleotide Polymorphism) test and is ongoing. Current results provide a distant archeological time frame. As more men test, we hope that matches will refine the results to a genealogical time frame. This is a very active area of research and the future of Y DNA testing.

#### Newsletter Editor's Report

Shirley Daniels reported that she had done January and June issues of *Wertman Lines* in 2018. In addition to members, the newsletter was distributed to 76 organizations. Shirley expressed her appreciation to all who submitted articles and urged all WFA members to continue to do so, with sources.

#### **Reunion Committee Report**

Future Reunion Plans:

2019 – The 20th reunion will be held at Gettysburg, PA, 27-28 September 2019. The Reunion Committee is Russ and Barbara Dannecker, Richard and Shirley Daniels, and Doug Wertman. We plan to have tee shirts for next year.

2020 - Lockport, NY

2021 – After discussion, a motion was made and unanimously approved to hold this reunion in Carbon Co., PA.

*Nominating Committee* We need to appoint a nominating committee this year to prepare nominations for officers to be voted on at next year's business meeting. Earl Maurer will be chair and will pick other committee members.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:33 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Douglas Wertman, Sec'y

# Sarah Killgore Wertman

by Russell C. Dannecker

The Wertman family spread from coast to coast; so, as you travel, always look for our family. In December 2018, Barbara and I traveled to Seattle, WA, to visit our son Max and his family for Christmas. Being curious, I searched Find-A-Grave for Wertmans buried in Washington state. As it turned out, some of our family is buried in Seattle!

After a visit to the Space Needle, my wife, son, two grandchildren, and I (three generations) visited the Mount Pleasant Cemetery in the Queen Anne section of Seattle. With the help of cemetery staff, we located the graves of Sarah Wertman, nee Killgore (1843-1935), [wife of Jackson Shields Wertman<sup>5</sup> (1846-1909); William Wertman<sup>4</sup> (1815-1880); Johann Jacob Wertman<sup>3</sup> (1785-1863); Simon P. Wertman<sup>2</sup> (1747-1820); George Philip Wertman<sup>1</sup>], her daughter, Helen Madge Waddington (1881-1919), her son, Shields Killgore Wertman (1877-1955), and his wife, Eva M., nee McKinney (1887-1960). Find-A-Grave states that Sarah's husband, Jackson, is buried in Seattle. Not true! He died at the home of his sister in Ohio, and is probably buried in the Ashland Cemetery.

An American lawyer, Sarah was a quite famous individual. She was born to David and Elizabeth Killgore in Jefferson, Clinton Co., IN, 01 March 1843 and died 21 May 1935 in Seattle, King Co., WA. She was the first woman to study law at the University of Michigan, one of the first women to receive a degree from the University, and the first woman to be admitted to the State Bar of Michigan (or of any United States bar) and to practice before the Supreme Court of Michigan..

Her religious upbringing and early, liberal education from her parents led Sarah to attend seminary school, graduating from Ladoga (IN) Seminary in 1862. Then came a period of school-teaching which lasted until 1869. Her father was a prominent local attorney and encouraged his daughter's study of law. She began at Chicago University (now the University of Chicago) in 1869. Meanwhile, Michigan had just opened its doors to women and on account of the greater convenience it afforded her, she completed her studies there. She graduated with an LLB in March 1871. Later that year she was admitted to



Sarah Killgore Wertman, American Lawyer

the Michigan State Bar. Soon after her graduation, however, she became an invalid for more than a year, delaying her period of active practice.

She became the wife of Jackson S. Wertman, a practicing attorney of Indianapolis, on 16 June 1875. The statutes of Indiana at the time, unfortunately for her, required for admission to the Bar, "male citizens of good moral character;" hence she was compelled to content herself with practicing real estate matters as well as office tasks, while her husband made court appearances.

The couple had three children, Shields K., Helen M., and Clay (who died in infancy). In November 1878, they moved to Ashland, OH, where, as soon as the care of her two children permitted, Sarah resumed her profession and engaged with her husband in the practice of law and the business of abstracting. She was admitted to the Ohio Bar at Columbus in 1893. She returned to her husband's law practice, specializing in real estate law.

Sarah was a lifelong member of the Equity Club, an organization of women lawyers based at the University of Michigan. The club began with a small group of women at her alma mater, and soon developed into a nationwide correspondence club for all women involved in the legal profession. The Equity Club provided female lawyers and law students with a way to transcend the geographic distance that separated them and to build a community of women with similar professional interests and concerns. In their letters to each other, the members grappled with the professional identity of women lawyers and how to strike a balance between their femininity and their professional roles.

In a letter to the members of the Equity Club on 07 May 1888, Sarah wrote, "Woman's place in the practice of law, as elsewhere, is not so much to bring to it wisdom and justice, as the purifying graces...." She believed that women lawyers should emphasize their femininity and alleged inherent moral superiority in order to uplift the legal profession. As one of the first woman lawyers in the nation, Sarah did not question or fight against gender stereotypes, but rather embraced and embodied the Victorian Lady ideal of the day, while practicing law.

Sometime later, she and her husband followed their son and daughter west, where she lived with her son in Seattle, still active and well-informed. Among her associations were some of the foremost women in her time, such as: Elizabeth Stanton, reformer and philanthropist; Mary Thompson Hill Willard, mother of Frances E. Willard; Zerelda Gray Wallace, the step-mother of Gen. Lewis Wallace, the author of *Ben Hur*; Belva Ann Lockwood, who graduated from the National University Law School, Washington, D. C., in 1873; and others.

Sources: Wikipedia; Woman of the Century, Fourteen Hundred-Seventy Biographical Sketches Accompanied By Portraits Of Leading American Women In All Walks Of Life, ed. Frances E. Willard and Mary A. Livermore; Assisted by a Corps of Able Contributors; Buffalo, Chicago, New York; Charles Wells Moulton, 1893; Michigan Bar Journal, June 1984, Volume 63, No. 6; and The 1934 Michigan Alumnus, Page 241.



Sarah Wertman's grave marker in Seattle, WA.



# **New Tee Shirts**

If you did not place your order in January for a new Wertman Family tee shirt, there are a few extras available in adult sizes. The shirts are navy cotton and will be on sale at the reunion for \$6.00 each, as long as the supply lasts. There is a limit of one per person and shirts will be sold on a first-paid, firstchoice basis!

# 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 Co., 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, Johann Martin, Johann Michael, and Simon.

We invite you to join us!

# **2019 Nominations for Officers**

by Earl Maurer, Chair, Nominating Committee

The 2019 Nominating Committee (Earl Maurer, Shirley Daniels and Tom Young) has proposed the following slate and received each candidate's approval to be placed on the ballot for election at the 2019 Annual Meeting in Gettysburg, PA.

The nominees are: (Two year terms): President – Russell C. Dannecker; Vice-President – Hal Merz; Secretary – Doug Wertman; Treasurer – Maryann Cronk; Archivist – open; Webmaster – Kathy Bucher; Board Members – (4year term) – Shirley Daniels, Nancy Johnson.

The Archivist keeps genealogical and historical records and artifacts of the Association, and keeps an inventory of records in possession of Association members. This position needs a volunteer!

Officers, Wertman Family Association
President:
Russell C. Dannecker dannecker123@verizon.net
Vice President :
Hal Merz halbren7@hotmail.com
Secretary:
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To be appointed '21, Mary Ellen Wagner '21

**Newsletter:** *The next issue is January 2020.* Look for the latest family news and information on *wertman.info* or in electronic or postal mailings.

Plan now to attend the Annual Wertman Reunion 27 & 28 September, Gettysburg, PA

# 2019 Wertman Family Reunion Registration Form Friday & Saturday, 27 & 28 September 2019 Gettysburg, PA

#### **Please** print Name/s Address City/State/Zip Telephone Cell phone E-mail □ Please e-mail WFA newsletters □ Please send newsletters by US Mail (only mailed if dues are paid) **Reunion Event Cost Per Person Total Cost** Number Attending \$15.00 Friday, 27 Sept: Film, Cyclorama, Museum □ Ages 13-65 □ Seniors & Veterans \$ 14.00 $\Box$ Children 6-12 \$ 10.00 \$ 0.00 $\Box$ Children under 6 Friday, 27 Sept: Speaker, David Booz $\Box$ Child <10 Turkey \$ 16.00 □ Ages 11-up Turkey \$ 20.00 Dinner at Dunlap's Restaurant □ Ages 11-up Shrimp \$ 22.00 □ Ages 11-up Stir Fry -\$ 23.00 Vegetables Saturday, 28 Sept: Battlefield Bus Tour □ Adults 18-up \$ 20.00 □ Children, Teens \$ 0.00 Box Lunch Picnic Sandwich Selections: □ Chicken Salad □ Ages 11-up \$ 9.00 $\Box$ Ham and Cheese $\Box$ Small Ham & Cheese $\Box$ Children 6-10 \$ 8.00 □ Bacon. Lettuce and Tomato Will you be joining the Thursday evening, 26 Sept, get-together? Yes No \$20 per family \$ Annual Dues, WFA, July 2019-June 2020 \$ Reunion & Dues (Make check payable to Wertman Family Assoc.) TOTAL

Mail your check and Registration Form *by 20 August* to Maryanne Cronk, WFA Treasurer, 201 Neiger Hollow Rd., Barton, NY 13734 If you have Reunion questions, phone or e-mail Russell and Barbara Dannecker at 401-647-3991; or *dannecker123@verizon.net* Or Shirley and Richard Daniels at 410-871-3008 or *rdaniels22@verizon.net* Some events have participant limits; space is on a first-reserved, first accepted basis.