

# Wertman *Lines*

Newsletter of the Wertman Family Association

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## *Save these Dates!*

- 2012 Wertman Family Reunion
- Friday-Sunday, 17-19 August
- Circleville, Pickaway Co., Ohio

## **Dear Wertman Descendants,**

By 1749, George Philip Wertman<sup>1</sup> had settled in Lynn Twp., Northampton (now Lehigh) Co., Pennsylvania. On 26 November 1884, another George Wertman died, and lies in rest at the Zion Lutheran Church Cemetery, Washington Twp., Pickaway Co., Ohio. For years we could not find a connection.

This is a case where the “science” of genealogy (DNA testing) shows that these two Georges are connected. While the paper records have not been located, the DNA signature indicates a match, thanks to a direct male Wertman descendant who volunteered to be tested.

What records have we found? George Wertman, a son of John Wertman, was born in Union Co., Pennsylvania, 21 June 1805 and died 20 November 1884, aged 79 years, 5 months and 5 days. He came to Ohio in 1814, when this part of the state was wilderness; he lived to see the wilderness tamed and the area thickly settled. His family moved in a four-horse wagon, the only means of overland transportation at that time.

George’s obituary (see *Democrat & Watchman*, 1883-84, Marriages and Obituaries, page 114) states that he was born in 1805 in Northumberland (now Union Co., Pennsylvania, and names his father as John. We have found no John Wertman who died there during that period. There is a Jacob Wertman

who died in 1806 (perhaps Johan Jacob). His wife was Susanna (Schooch/Shuck, we believe). Jacob Wertman is found in the 1800 U.S. Census in Penns Twp., Northumberland Co., Pennsylvania, listed as Jacob Westman. Next, we find the family in the 1810 U.S. Census, still in Penns Twp., Northumberland Co. Jacob had died, so the head of household was Susanna Wartman (widow). She is found there in 1810, but gone by 1820. Andrew Hine and his wife Susanna sold the Hine and Wertman land in 1814 to move west. [See Timeline on page 4 for more information.]

So, this year we move west also, to Circleville, Ohio, for our Family Reunion. Please join me in thanking Brenda and Hal Merz for taking charge of this year’s reunion arrangements. Brenda is a direct descendant of the George Wertman of Pickaway Co.

We look forward to seeing you in Circleville, Ohio, Friday-Sunday, 17-19 August 2012.

Russell C. Dannecker, President  
Wertman Family Association

6th G-Grandson of George Philip Wertman ▲

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## 2012 WFA Reunion Plans

by Brenda & Hal Merz

The Wertman Family Association Reunion Committee invites you to join us in quaint and historic Circleville, Ohio, for the 2012 Reunion 17-19 August. Circleville is best known for its original circular city plan that followed an Indian earthwork, and for the famous Circleville Pumpkin Show. Circleville was settled by many families from eastern Pennsylvania. The first of the Wertman clan in Ohio, George Wertman (1805-84), came from Northumberland Co., Pennsylvania, and settled near Circleville in 1814.

### Reserve Room by 2 August

The WFA has a block of rooms reserved at the Holiday Inn Express, 23911 U.S. 23. The rate is \$82 per night if reserved by 2 August. To make your reservation, call 1-740-420-7711 or the national line, 1-800-315-2621, and specify the Wertman Family Association Reunion block.

If you qualify for the government (military, federal, state) rate of \$77 per night, make your reservations without mentioning the Wertman Reunion.

The hotel offers free high-speed, wireless Internet access throughout, a complimentary, hot breakfast bar, a fitness center, and free parking. Roosters, a casual, sports theme restaurant, is within walking distance and a Bob Evans is across the road.

### Directions to Circleville

Circleville is on U.S. 23 about 30 miles south of Columbus. Since downtown Columbus has much freeway construction, we advise you to use the Outerbelt, I-270.

*From the East:* Take I-70 to I-270 South (about 8 miles east of downtown Columbus); exit #52 is U.S. 23 South.

*From the North:* Take I-71 to I-270 (about 6 miles south of downtown Columbus); 1 mile to exit #52, U.S. 23 South.

The Holiday Inn Express is on U.S. 23, about 1.5 miles south of Circleville (GPS 39° 34' 56.67" N, 82°57'11.44" W).

### Friday Schedule

Researchers will meet on Friday at St. Paul's Methodist Church, 22976 Ringgold Southern Road, Stoutsville. Several Wertmans attended this church,



*Circleville's winning pumpkin in last year's Pumpkin Show, grown by Dr. Bob Liggett, weighed 1,436.5 pounds. Source: [www.pumpkinshow.com](http://www.pumpkinshow.com)*

formerly of the Evangelical Association. Lunch at the church is \$8 for assorted sandwiches, potato salad, relish tray and drinks. Coffee tea and lemonade will be available throughout the meeting.

The church is less than a mile from the beautifully restored home of George Wertman's son, John. This 1860's house is occupied by Merz relatives who will give us a tour on Friday. The owners found an old feed sack with the name Wertman on it. They have made it into a pillow case and will have it on display when we view the home.

### Directions to Research Meeting

Take U.S. 23 North from hotel, exiting for U.S. 22/OH 56 Circleville. When you reach Main Street, continue to the right (East), following directions to keep on Route 56. In 2.4 miles, turn left onto Old Tarlton Pike, then go 2 miles and turn left onto Ringgold Southern Road. St. Paul's is on the right, ½ mile (GPS 39° 35' 34.70" N, 82° 52' 18.23" W).

### Friday Dinner and Outdoor Drama

Doors open at 4:30 p.m. for a buffet dinner at the Tecumseh Theatre, 5968 Marietta Road. The cost is \$12.50 per adult, or \$8 for children 10 and younger.

Tecumseh Outdoor Drama, one of the oldest and best-recognized historical dramas in the Midwest, portrays events from 1780 to 1813 and provides an historical backdrop to the era when George Wertman's family and others were moving to Ohio. The Shawnee tribe had villages in Pickaway County, and one notable battle occurred just two miles from what became the Wertman property. The three-hour show begins at 8:00 p.m. The cost is \$22 per adult and

\$15.50 for children 6-10. Due to gun noise, the production is not recommended for children under 6.

In case of a weather-related show cancellation, any reserved ticket becomes a rain check that can be used at any time. An alternate reunion activity is planned in case of rain, to take place in the meeting room of the Holiday Inn Express.

#### **Directions to Theatre**

From hotel, head South on U.S. 23 for 13.5 miles. Take the OH 159/U.S.23 Business/Bridge Street exit toward Kingston for .2 miles. Turn left onto OH 159 N/North Bridge Street, continue 1.6 miles and turn right on Delano to the Tecumseh.

#### **Saturday Picnic at Starkey Pavilion**

The picnic is in Circleville's newest park, named for the Crites (Creutz) family, also migrants from Berks County. Starkey Pavilion in the well-equipped Virginia Crites Hannan Park is air-conditioned, with sliding doors to move up or down for sunny or rainy conditions. There are extensive playgrounds, walking paths and a fishing pond on-site. A catered picnic lunch featuring grilled chicken, hamburgers and picnic sides is \$12 for adults, \$6 for children.

The Annual Business Meeting and auction will follow the picnic.

#### **Directions to Park**

From hotel, take U.S. 23 North to exit for U.S. 22/OH 56 Circleville. Take Main Street and turn left on Court Street (third major street). Continue .6 miles and take right fork for OH-188 E. Go 1.6 miles and turn right on Pontius Road. (GPS 39° 37' 25.45" N, 82° 54' 41.68" W)

## **Tradesmen in Lynn Township, 1763**

*from Kathy Bucher, Genealogy/Historical Secretary*

What were the occupations of the people who lived in Lynn Twp., Lehigh Co., Pennsylvania, with George Philip Wertman in 1763? According to a tabulation of tradesmen in Lynn Twp. at that time, there were: one innkeeper, two weavers, four smiths, three shoemakers, one tailor, one mason and five poor people. There were no laborers, carpenters, millers, coopers, doctors, saddlers, wagoners, shopkeepers, locksmiths, potters, or bakers. Most people were farmers who did their own work. In addition, these tradesmen owned farms and worked at their trades only part of the time.

Source: Williams, D. G. (1950). The Lower Jordan Valley Pennsylvania German Settlement. *Proceedings of the Lehigh County Historical Society*, (18), pg 69. ▲

#### **Sunday Tours**

Zion Cemetery, where George Wertman was buried, is close to the picnic site, so some may wish to go there on Saturday afternoon.

Other burial sites with Wertmans are Forest Cemetery near downtown Circleville, and Maple Hill Cemetery in Stoutsville, 6 miles from Circleville. We believe that George Wertman's mother and stepfather, Susanna and Andrew Hine, are buried in the Tarlton Cemetery, about 7 miles from Circleville. The cemetery is very close to the land where George's family first settled in 1814. The land George Wertman bought from a Bogart was across the road from Jacob Brobst land.

We recently visited this area in Madison Twp., Pickaway Co. George lived three miles from the Rock Mill in Bloom Twp., Fairfield Co., where he likely took his grain to be processed. This mill is under restoration and due to be fully operational next month. There is also a Brobst Historical Grocery and diner in the village of Marcy, about five miles from the Rock Mill. Another point of interest for parents and young children is an old-time farm, Slate Run Historical Farm, two miles from the Rock Mill.

#### **Other Sites of Interest**

- National Palatine Library at the Columbus Metropolitan Library (downtown Columbus)
- Top-rated Columbus Zoo and Zoombezi Bay Water Park
- Ohio Historical Society (Columbus)
- Ohio Genealogical Society (Bellville)
- Pickaway Genealogical and Historical Society (Circleville)
- Ted Lewis Museum honoring early Big Band leader (Circleville)
- Logan Elm Monument, site of Chief Logan's speech (Circleville)
- Adena, historic home of early governor Thomas Worthington (Chillicothe)
- Mount City National Monument, prehistoric earthworks (Chillicothe)
- William Tecumseh Sherman house (Lancaster)

#### **For More Information...**

Call Hal and Brenda Merz at 614-488-7347 or e-mail <halbren7@hotmail.com>. ▲

## Jacob and George Wertman Timeline

by Brenda Merz

In preparation for the reunion, we compiled a timeline for Jacob and George Wertman, Northumberland Co., Pennsylvania, to Pickaway Co., Ohio. We have supporting documents.

**1779** Petition/letter to Pennsylvania revolutionary government with a Jacob \_\_\_ above Simon Wertman. Though unproven, this may be our Jacob Wertman, who died in 1806.

**1795** Jacob Wertman purchased land in Penns Twp., Northumberland Co., Pennsylvania, from Peter Leonard, who had bought the land from William Gill, the original land owner.

**1795** Jacob Wertman and Elizabeth were sponsors for John Jacob App, son of Mathias App, at Salem or Rowes Union Church, Penns Twp.

**1799** Jacob Wertman was a surety to Johannes Shock's 1799 estate administration. A surety would stand by you and state that your promise to handle the estate responsibly and honestly was good. Shock was born in Lynn Twp., Lehigh Co., in 1761. The administrator stated that Johannes Shock was a son of Martin Shock, who moved to Kentucky. Johannes lived 40 miles from Jacob Wertman. This could indicate that their relationship was more than that of casual neighbors.

**1805** Michael Dries/Dreese, related through Simon Wertman's wife (Stapleton), bought land in Washington Twp., Ross (now Pickaway) Co.

**21 June 1805** George Wertman was born.

*[This is NOT the George P. Wertman on page 6.]*

**Early 1806** Jacob Wertman died. His administration was not completed until 1812. We learned much about the person through his administrator. Jacob Wertman was a carpenter and farmer. He had a large collection of carpentry tools. There were two public sales in 1806. The family sold three spinning wheels, suggesting they made a lot of cloth. He also had 26 gallons of whiskey. This seems to support the information from a Schock researcher that Jacob had a weekend, unlicensed tavern. The Wertman family lived close to the Susquehanna River and App's Mill. Travelers from road and river stopped there. Simon Wertman was one of the largest creditors in Jacob Wertman's administration. Others included those who later moved to Pickaway Co., Ohio.

Just before his death, Jacob had completed a financial deal with Conrad Price from Berks Co., Pennsylvania, who was buying Jacob's land on a multi-year contract. The profits were shared and certain improvements were to be made by Wertman including development of an orchard. Conrad Price was most likely a Dunkard. His family lived in the vicinity of Pricetown, about 20 miles from Albany Twp., Berks Co., where Simon Wertman lived.

**1808** Court documents show Andrew Hine was involved with estate administration for the late George Christman, making sure there was a way to educate George's minor children.

**1808** Michael Dries died.

**1809** Conrad Price made the final payment for the Wertman land.

**1812** Susanna Wertman, Jacob's widow, asked the Orphans Court to appoint a guardian of her minor sons, Jacob and George. John Jacob Hummel was appointed guardian.

**1812** Susanna Wertman married Andrew Hine.

**1813** Susanna and Andrew Hine moved to Selinsgrove. They bought and improved two houses.

**1814** Susanna and Andrew sold their property to Adam Dambauch before moving to Ohio in a Conestoga wagon, probably made by Shoemaker wagon-makers.

**1815** Andrew Hine bought land from Jacob Greenough in Clearcreek Twp., Fairfield Co., Ohio, just north of Zane's Trace, on land next to the prehistoric Adena Indian Cross Mound that is a park today. He lived across the valley from Reichelderfers and Shoemakers.

**1818** Andrew Hine bought land from the Shoemaker family to ensure the orphaned son of J. Shoemaker had money for his education.

**1823** A different Andrew Hines bought land in Washington Twp., Pickaway Co., Ohio. He married Mary Leitner (War of 1812 military record). In 1826, they sold their land and moved to Henry Co., where some other families from Pickaway Co. moved as well. We suspect he is a relative of Andrew Hines in Clearcreek Twp., Fairfield Co., Ohio.

George Wertman, the stepson of Andrew Hines and son of Susanna Wertman, was a lad of 10 when he came to Ohio. He was apprenticed to Peter Rowe, a potter, also from Northumberland Co., for a few years before deciding farming was more to his lik-

ing. Peter kept a cabin in Washington Twp., Pickaway Co., where migrants could stay.

**1827** George Wertman married Susanna Leist, a daughter of David Leist, and granddaughter of Revolutionary War Andrew Leist. They had two boys, David (1829-1896) and John (1836-1924), who is my direct ancestor. A girl, Katie, died as a child.

**1828** The George Wertman family moved to Madison Twp., Pickaway Co. He bought land from Isaac Bogart. A neighbor was Jacob Brobst (an allied family — Andreas Wertman had married his sister; they lived in Schuylkill Co., Pennsylvania).

**1831** George and his family moved to Washington Twp., Pickaway Co., buying land and living next to Jacob Greeno. We originally thought the young Wertman family followed Jacob Hines (son of Andrew Hines) to Madison Twp., but documents show George Wertman moved there first.

**1833** Susanna Hines sold a lot in Tarlton to widowed stepdaughter, Margaretta Holtsman.

**1842** George was administrator of Jacob Greeno's estate, but withdrew due to a fake, forged document by a member of the Greeno family.

**1843** Jacob Hines, son of Andrew Hines died. (Andrew Hines partition records)

**Late 1843** Susanna Hines died. (Estimated from information in Andrew Hines Administration)

**Late 1844** Andrew Hines died. According to his administration in Fairfield Co., Ohio, John Critz tended to his needs the last year of his life.

**1842 or 1847** George Wertman became treasurer of the Zion Church, a post he held until 1879.

**1860** George had a home built, which remained in the Wertman family until 2003, when it was sold to the Leist family.

**1866** The Leist Family sold George Wertman valuable land. We do not know the specifics of why, though it may have been due to a death in the family.

**1873** George's wife, Susanna (Leist) died..

**1884** George Wertman died. He, his wife, Susanna, and their son, David, are buried in Zion Cemetery, about two miles from their home.

George's two sons, David and John, carried on the family tradition of farming, being active in the Grange, church, school and community. Darroll Wertman, a great-grandson of David, still lives in Pickaway County. David's children were mostly female, and many of their descendants married local families. ▲

## What's in the WFA Archives

by Kathy Bucher, Genealogy/Historical Secretary

Funerals and burials provide interesting clues about the lives of our ancestors. Willoughby Wertman<sup>6</sup> (David August<sup>5</sup>, David<sup>4</sup>, George Philip<sup>3</sup>, Johan Michael<sup>2</sup>, George Philip<sup>1</sup>) was born 12 November 1844 in West Penn Twp., Schuylkill Co., Pennsylvania, and died 28 June 1920 in Allentown, Lehigh Co. On 14 January 1875, he married his third wife, Mary Margaret Hein, born 25 June 1857, Port Carbon, Schuylkill Co. (Source: R. Dannecker database)

Suzanne Wertman Spector, Willoughby's great-granddaughter, submitted copies of documents about Willoughby and Mary Margaret to the WFA Archives and the Primary Source Document Project. Among the items was a copy of the receipt from the V. F. Wonderly & Son funeral home, Allentown, PA, for the 1922 funeral of Mrs. Mary Margaret Hein Wertman. Itemized expenses included:

|                                |           |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Embalming the body             | \$ 10.00  |
| Square oak burial casket       | 130.00    |
| Black satin slippers           | 4.00      |
| Black silk stockings           | 1.25      |
| Slumber robe                   | 9.00      |
| Auto hearse service            | 8.00      |
| Undertakers services           | 5.00      |
| Funeral notices in daily paper | 2.50      |
| Walled grave on Union Cemetery | 32.20     |
| 1 auto for family to cemetery  | 4.50      |
| Rev. Brownmiller               | 10.00     |
| 2 singers                      | 4.00      |
| Total                          | \$ 220.45 |

Mary was receiving a pension of \$30 per month for Willoughby's service as a private, Company D, 173<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, Pennsylvania Drafted Military Infantry and Company A, 74<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Pennsylvania Infantry. Thus the cost of her funeral exceeded seven months of pension income.

We can also learn something about Willoughby and Mary's son Robert from his burial. According to a note in the archives, Robert Wertman and his wife, Stella M. Kriebel Wertman, were so estranged that they were buried in separate cemeteries with their respective parents. ▲

## Daniel Wertman of Turbotville

by Tom Young, transcribed by Suzie Arner

George P. *Workman* (GP VII) lived in Spring Twp., Centre Co., Pennsylvania, in 1850; *Wartmer* in 1860, Benner Twp., Centre Co.; *Weetman* in 1870, Bristol Twp., Fillmore Co., Minnesota.

A death record shows George Philip Wertman died 21 December 1877, male, white, farmer, married, age 57y 9m 12d; born Pennsylvania; cause of death, abscess. Names of parents are unrecorded. The 1921 death record of his oldest known son, William (born ca 1845), gives his mother's name as Rebecca Vail. From this, we calculate that GP VII was born 9 March 1820 and married ca 1844, in Pennsylvania. [See "Another Wertman Connection" on page 10.] The name George Philip Wertman points to our Lynn Twp. family. But, where is the connection?

A candidate is Daniel<sup>3</sup> (Jacob<sup>2</sup>, GP<sup>1</sup>), who lived about 60 miles east of Lynn Twp., near Turbotville, Northumberland Co., Pennsylvania, 1803-1858. His will names only his youngest son, Abraham, and a daughter, Catherine, wife of Abraham Long. John Wertman (married to Catharine Winkleman), Daniel's neighbor in 1840, was a witness in a lawsuit brought by Abraham. A descendant is part of the WFA DNA project and matches the GP I haplotype. Baptismal records of children of Daniel<sup>4</sup> and Jacob name the grandparents, and a birth fraktur for Jacob names his parents, Daniel Wertman<sup>3</sup> and Anna Maria (Brobst).

A descendant, Nancy Newcomb, provided a newspaper death notice: Isaac Wertman (31 December 1821-29 March 1898), deceased, born in Delaware Twp., was a twin of Abraham Wertman, who is the only living member of a family of 12. The age at death does not calculate to the birth date, but birth fraktur provided information. Abraham and Isaac appear to have been "midnight" twins. Using 1800-1840 U.S. Census numbers, let's say Daniel<sup>3</sup> had six sons: John b 1800; Daniel; Jacob; George Philip; Isaac; Abraham; a daughter, Catherine, and five unknowns. Abraham and Catherine Long found in 1850 and 1860 in Lewis Twp., Northumberland Co., had children, Zacharias, Mary and Isaac. Catherine lived with Zacharias in 1870, was gone by 1880.

The Federal tax of 1798 indicated that Daniel was living on property owned by his father, Jacob.

U.S. Census records provide the following clues:

1800: Lynn Twp., PA, Daniel Werthman

- 1 male, age 16-26 (b 1774-1784, Daniel)
- 1 female, age 0-10 (b 1790-1800, Catherine)
- 1 female, age 16-26 (b 1774-1784, Mary)

1810: Turbot Twp., PA, no Wertman; D. Whiteman

- 1 male, age 0-10 (b 1800-1810, John)
- 1 male, age 26-45 (b 1765-1784, Daniel)
- 5 females, age 0-10 (b 1800-1810, ?, ?, ?, ?, ?)
- 2 females, age 26-45 (b 1765-1784, Mary, ?)

1820: Turbot Twp., PA, Daniel [torn page]...ertman

- 3 males, 0-10 (b 1810-1820, George Philip, Jacob, Daniel)
- 1 male, 16-18 (b 1802-1804, John (males, age 16-18 counted twice; age slightly off.))
- 1 male, 16-26 (John)
- 1 male, over 45 (Daniel)
- 2 females, 0-10 (?, ?)
- 3 females, 10-16 (?, ?, ?)
- 1 female over 45 (Mary)

1830: Turbot Twp., PA, Daniel Wortman

- 2 males 5-10 (Abraham, Isaac)
- 2 males 10-15 (George Philip, Jacob)
- 1 male 15-20 (Daniel)
- 1 male 50-60 (Daniel)
- 2 daughters and wife
- also John Wortman, 2 males 0-5 (Daniel, Noah);
- 1 male 20-30 (John)

1840: Turbot Twp., PA, Daniel Wortman

- 2 males 15-20 (Abraham, Isaac)
- 2 males 20-30 (George Philip, Jacob)
- 1 male 60-70 (Daniel)
- 1 female (?, granddaughter or neighbor)
- 1 female 60-70 (Mary)
- Daniel is head of household in same township;
- also John Wortman

1850: Lewis Twp., PA, Abraham Wertman, 28; Catharine, 29; Mary, 3; Daniel, 2; Amelia, 0; Daniel Wertman, 75; Mary A. Wertman, 72; Also, Milton Troxel, 29; Margaret Troxel, 26; Noah Wartman, 21

A Noah is buried next to Daniel and Mary. Noah could be a son of John and grandson of Daniel, or a son of Daniel.

Finally, have we proved the ancestry of GP VII? No - only presented a circumstantial case. There are problems, including unidentified children. The search continues. We know that GP VII had a mother and father; just where does it all fit? ▲



## A Brief Look at Catherine “Kitty” Ann Wertman Leiby’s Life

by Joe Kistler

My brother, two cousins and I made a visit to our Leiby great-grandparent’s home in West Penn Twp., Schuylkill Co., Pennsylvania. Kitty, born in 1848 to Daniel H. Wertman and his wife Sarah (Zettlemyer), at age 19 married Nathan Leiby, age 27, circa 1867, and gave birth to four children in the following order, as best we can determine from the U.S. Census:

1. Daniel, born about 1868, and named after both his maternal and paternal grandfathers;
2. Susannah, born about 1869, and most likely named after her paternal grandmother;
3. Janet (Jeanetta) born about 1870; and
4. Clara Kate, born 13 October 1878, our grandmother.

Our great-grandfather, Isaac J. Kistler (1851-1892), had a home that was only 200 yards from Kitty and Nathan’s. Clara became the bride of Isaac’s son, Charles, about 1901.

At age 62, Kitty became a widow after 43 years of marriage with Nathan. Kitty lived with her granddaughter, Kate (Catherine A.) Clause (or Clouse), the wife of Mahlon Gerber, for 31 years before she died in 1941 at the ripe old age of 93.

The 1920 Census recorded four generations of household members:



*The addition, most likely made by Nathan, could have been a very small shop for Nathan, a cobbler.*



*Five generations are shown, left to right: Kitty Ann Wertman Leiby; Kitty’s father, Daniel Wertman; Kitty’s grand-daughter, Catherine Clause Gerber; Kitty’s great-grandson, Lloyd Gerber; and Kitty’s daughter, Janetta Leiby Clause.*

1. Mahlon J. Gerber, age 30, husband of
2. Kate A. (Catherine) Clause Gerber, age 26;
3. Lloyd C. Gerber, age 7;
4. Ralph J. Gerber, age 3;
5. James A. Clause, age 52, Kate’s father;
6. Janetta Leiby Clause, age 49, Kate’s mother;
7. Levi Clause, age 82, Kate’s paternal grandfather;
8. Katherine Clause, age 80, Kate’s paternal grandmother;
9. Lewis A. Clause, age 55, unmarried son of Levi and Katherine, thus Kate’s uncle
10. Kitty (Kate Wertman) Leiby, age 72, Kate’s maternal grandmother

Kitty, short and wiry of build, was a tough lady to live as long as she did in those times. She was laid to rest next to her husband, Nathan, at the Zion Stone Church cemetery in West Penn Twp., about one-eighth mile from the home where they raised their family.

Levi and Katherine Clause, Kate Clause Gerber’s other grandparents, are buried immediately behind Kitty and Nathan and share the marker. Their graves can be found in section one, site 42. ▲

## Wertman Family Reunion Research Meeting Report

19 Aug 2011 at Ebenezer U.C.C., New Tripoli, PA

*Transcribed by Suzie Arner*

### Welcome

President Russ Dannecker opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m., welcomed those gathered, and thanked Larry and Shirley Wertman and Minerva Arner for organizing the event. Russ introduced his new wife, Louise.

### Year in Review

Tom Young reported a connected, unknown line found through the DNA project. More information will be included in Tom's DNA Project report in the afternoon.

Old postcards connect Al Wertman with Art "Birdboy" Smith, who built planes in Fort Wayne Indiana, and G. Wertman, son of Emanuel Wertman, who operated G. Wertman Hardware Store in 1915 near Manhattan.

Catharina Magdalena Wertman is one probable daughter of George Phillip<sup>1</sup> (GP I). In two or three baptismal records of Rev. Schumacher, she is a sponsor, recorded as a single woman. She is most likely a daughter, but possibly a niece; a second Wertman family exists, but is very hard to verify. Many records have been lost.

Tom talked about Internet use for genealogy.

### E-Bay Wertmans

Russ Dannecker found a 1927 Fenestra Case-ments magazine ad for a cement home, the F. (Floyd) Wertman Home, in Detroit, Michigan. Floyd is in Russ's database.

Russ purchased 16 related pictures from West Penn Twp., each with a Wertman connection. The seller said these small tintypes came from the same family album that he bought from an antiques store. There were many other unlabeled pictures. These pictures portrayed:

- Aaron Moser, son of Daniel Moser and Elizabeth Wertman
- Kate Gerber (1855), daughter of Solomon Gerber and Elizabeth Brobst
- Mary Ann Gildner, married Daniel D. Wertman
- Franklin Wertman

- Dora and Ira Wertman, grandchildren of Daniel H. Wertman and first wife
- Brothers Alvin A., Willis Ambrose, Edwin O., and Austin Granville Wertman, grandchildren of Daniel H. Wertman and second wife. Alvin A. Wertman, became a doctor and married Olivia Longacre; his brother Austin G. Wertman became a doctor and married Carrie Longacre, Olivia's sister. According to a memorial clipping, Austin studied at the Medico-Chirurgical College of Philadelphia and University of Baltimore School of Medicine; assisted his brother in Tannersville, Monroe Co., Pennsylvania; had an active practice in Kunkletown, Monroe Co., for four years; moved to Aquashicola, Carbon Co., Pennsylvania, then Effort, Monroe Co., Pennsylvania; and died suddenly of cerebral apoplexy 18 January 1905.)
- Elias Wertman (Which one? There are three.)

### World War Wertmans

Russ Dannecker found the following information on the American Battle Monuments Commission website and used other sources. He will focus more on James Wertman (WWI) and Lester Wertman (WWII). Others were:

- John J. Wertman, WWI Honor Roll, Private, U.S. Army, 161<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment, 41<sup>st</sup> Division, entered service from Illinois, died 14 October 1918, buried plot A row 35 grave 9, Oise-Aigne American Cemetery, Fere-en-Tardenoise, France

- Gene A. Wertman, WWII Honor Roll, Private First Class, U.S. Army, 185<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 40<sup>th</sup> Division, entered service from Pennsylvania, died 23 February 1945, buried plot N row 15 grave 29, Manila American Cemetery, Manila, Philippines; awarded Purple Heart

- Richard E. Wertman, WWII Honor Roll, Aviation Machinist's Mate, Second Class, U.S. Navy, entered service from New York, Tablets of the Missing at Manila American Cemetery, Manila, Philippines, 18 January 1946, list him as missing in action or buried at sea; awarded Air Medal and Purple Heart. He was killed 30 April 1944 in action over Truk Island, a rear gunner on an Avenger torpedo bomber piloted by Lt. Cmdr. Dick Upson, Commanding Officer of VT-5.



### **James A. Wertman**

WWII Honor Roll, Private First Class, U.S. Army, 109<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 28<sup>th</sup> Division American Expeditionary Forces, entered service from Pennsylvania, killed in action 6 September 1918, buried plot C row 1 grave 21, Oise-Aisne American Cemetery, Fere-en-Tardenois, France

James was killed when his division attacked several German-held strong points and reached a line extending from the northern edge of the Bois Vigneux toward the northwest, along the high ground, to the vicinity of la Croisette.

James's mother, Hattie S. Wertman, of Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, was listed on a U.S. War Department compilation of mothers and widows given the opportunity to visit their loved one's grave in Europe on Mother's Pilgrimages in 1930. The 1900 U.S. Census shows Hattie and George Wertman in Colorado, with George's birthplace given as Pennsylvania. Living next door was Albert Wertman, who descends from the Tuscarora Wertmans. The 1880 Census shows George Wertman's parents born in Württemberg. The 1930 Census lists a George W. Wertman in Los Angeles, married to Sadie. He apparently abandoned Hattie, who declared him dead, in Pennsylvania, while he was living in California. He died 19 February 1877. George's mother was listed as Louisa Catharine (Messinger) Wertman, born in Germany. There is no connection, yet, to our Wertmans.

### **Lester A. Wertman**

WWII Honor Roll, Private, U. S. Army, 36<sup>th</sup> Armored Infantry Regiment, 3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Division, entered service from Pennsylvania, killed in action 24 December 1944, buried plot D row 12 grave 56, Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery, Henri-Chapelle, Belgium, awarded Purple Heart.

Lester<sup>7</sup> was born 20 March 1921 in Lynn Twp., Lehigh Co., Pennsylvania. (William<sup>6</sup>, James<sup>5</sup>, Daniel F.<sup>4</sup>, Andrew<sup>3</sup>, Jacob<sup>2</sup>, George Philip<sup>1</sup>.) He was baptized, confirmed, and married to Ida S. E. Hartman at Ebenezer Church. They had a daughter, Darlene Ann, still living.

Lester died when a shell exploded as his unit was attempting to take the town of Grandmenil. His next of kin chose to have him buried overseas with his comrades, rather than at home. The Belgian family

of M. Jadot Jales has adopted Lester's grave. The family decorates the grave at least one a year, and the adoption passes down the family lineage. Lester is honored on the Lynn Township WWII memorial.

For extensive information on Lester's unit in the Battle of the Bulge, see the January 2012 *Wertman Lines*.

Russ ended his presentation with thanks to Tom Young, Louise Dannecker, Ida Wertman, James, Lester, and all Wertmans who have sacrificed so much in defense of our country.

### **Michigan Wertmans**

Richard Daniels gave an overview of Wertmans in southwest Michigan -- Kent, Barry, St. Joseph, and Branch counties. Wertman descendants who went directly into Michigan from Pennsylvania were Samuel B. Wertman, Jesse Wertman, Daniel Wertman, and (not covered) Peter Fenstermacher and Daniel and Peter Heimbach/Heimebaughs. The Reuben Wertman family came by way of Ohio.

#### **St. Joseph Co.**

Jesse Wertman (1834-1916): married Elizabeth Hess, had seven children born in Michigan:

1. William (1865-1866) died as infant
2. Samuel (1863-1947) had sons who never married
3. Susan (1866-) married James Langen in 1903, no other information
4. Jesse (1867-) may have died young
5. Mary E. (1869-aft 1950) married Ezra C. Eldridge, stayed in St. Joseph Co.; listed grandchildren
6. Catharine (1873-) may have died young
7. Ida (1877-1962) never married

#### **Branch Co.**

Samuel B. Wertman (1810-1889): married twice (Sarah St. Clare, Elizabeth Berridge), changed spelling of name to Wortman. Most descendants were farmers who stayed in Branch Co. Seven children

- Homer Wortman (1849-1929) listed three grandchildren
- Samuel (1844-1845), Sarah (1852-1853), Ellen J. (1854-) no information
- Benjamin F. (1859-1932), Edmond D. (1862-1947) and James (1866-1936) took over the farm. They ever married; no children. James spent last 15 years in a hospital.

### **Kent Co.**

Daniel Wertman (1847-1934) married Mary A. Barch (in Wisconsin). One child

- George W. Wertman (1868-1918) married Bertha A Welliver, then Margaret Marion. They had four daughters, hard to follow.

### **St. Joseph Co.**

Jacob Wertman (1817-1897) connection unsure, born Danville, Pennsylvania, married Mary Rasbaugh, had two sons, Andrew: never married, farmer; Daniel: never married, farmer.

Reuben Wertman (1819-1862, Civil War veteran) married Rebecca Leiby; died in Ohio. Seven children; Rebecca took five children to Michigan at close of Civil War.

1. William W. (1840-1922) married Sarah B. Harlen in Michigan (1864); five children, several grandchildren and great-grandchildren listed. Richard has exchanged e-mails with a great-granddaughter.
2. Harriet (1842-) married Francis Wilkes; two sons with descendants
3. Phoebe Ann (1844-1914) married Moses Horn, probably in Pennsylvania, four children with descendants
4. Joseph B. (1847-1914) married Maria E. Evert in Michigan, 1870, five children with descendants. A sixth child, Ida M. Sortman, is a step-daughter from Maria's previous marriage.
5. Mary Alice (1849-) no information
6. Sanderson (1855-1940) married Mary A. Hastings; three daughters and one son. Richard has exchanged e-mails with two of Sanderson's great-grandchildren.
7. Ida Elauda (1857-1884) married Amos Kime (stayed in Medina Co., Ohio) Amos remarried after Ida's death.

Lots of work needs to be done! Need proof for Jacob. Heimbach/Himebaugh branch needs updating. Don't believe undocumented family trees on the web! Contact Richard Daniels, <[rdaniels22@verizon.net](mailto:rdaniels22@verizon.net)> for more information.

### **Questions & Thoughts**

There is not a lot of traffic on the website. Tom Young has set up Facebook groups for the Wertman Family Association and for the DNA project.



*A highlight of the 2011 WFA reunion was a tour of Burkhard Moser's 1801 log home on rocky Dutch Hill led by a volunteer from the Tamaqua Historical Society. Burkhard was Tamaqua's founder.*

### **Resumed at 1:35 after lunch at the church**

Welcomed back by Russ, who covered what is coming up on the Agenda

### **Another Wertman Connection**

Russ Dannecker introduced another Wertman connection that goes back to a 2006 contact with Eric Wertman from California and his grandfather, George Wertman, from North Dakota.

Do we have a George Philip VII?

GP I - George Philip Wertman b ca 1714;

GP II - the Loyalist b 1741;

GP III - Michael's son b 1763;

GP IV - Jacob's son b 1779;

GP V - son of GP IV b 1809;

GP VI - grandson of GP 5 b 1884;

GP VII - George b 1820

Richard Daniels talked about the descendants of George P. Wertman (GP VII), born 1820, who married Rebecca Vail in Centre Co., Pennsylvania, in 1844. George and Rebecca moved to Minnesota with their children. Some of their descendants moved to California. They had 10 children.

1. William T. - born in Pennsylvania; had three children, two never had children; one had five children.

2. Daniel T. - born in Pennsylvania, married in Minnesota, died in South Dakota, all five children born in Minnesota. Part of line moved to California.
3. Caleb M. - married Nancy Walton, last found in 1925 in Canada; wife came back to South Dakota with three children, one born in Canada. Children moved around.
4. Willis H. - mentioned sometimes as William. One son ended up in Iowa; a grand-daughter is in California.
5. Margaret - born in 1856, lost track in Minnesota after 1875
6. John M. - lost track in 1916 in Canada; became Canadian citizens, moved to British Columbia
7. Leo - never married, no children
8. Henry M. - died at age 12
9. George M. - born 1862, last found in 1880
10. Mary N. - six children, ended up in Nebraska

Under Caleb's (# 3) line: His son, James McClellan Wertman, had three children: George M., Goldie, and Vanus Claude. We have a James Wertman in South Dakota (1946-2009) who seems to be connected to George J., a grandson of James McClellan Wertman. Vanus Claude Wertman has a huge line, with youngest generation being teenagers -- promising for DNA purposes!

Richard named 15-20 website sources of information used in his presentation.

### **Daniel Wertman from Turbotville**

Tom Young's presentation on George Phillip VII's ancestry is a separate article. [See page 6.]

### **Family DNA Project**

Tom Young reported that the Wertman DNA project has connected a Wertman who lived in Northumberland Twp., Pennsylvania, and moved west to Ohio. He discussed two unknown lines. These lines match the presumed haplotype for George Philip Wertman I, estimated by using the most common value returned at each marker tested. The question is, where do these lines fit into our Wertman line?

Tom explained types of DNA and how our project works. Y-chromosome DNA is passed unchanged from father to son, but mutations can occur. Mitochondrial DNA is passed unchanged over many

generations (deep ancestry). Our project is y-chromosome based. The WFA will pay for testing two Martin and three Simon descendants. We also need males of unknown descent to volunteer for testing. The easy sampling requires swabbing the mouth and returning the test kit to the lab. We provide privacy by using an ID number for each subject that indicates from which son of George Philip Wertman he descends, or his earliest known Wertman ancestor. So far, all males tested have been a match.

### **2012 Reunion**

Brenda and Hal Merz are in charge of the next reunion, to be held in Circleville, Pickaway Co., Ohio, 17-19 August. Hal introduced the topic of Westward migration (1790-1850) as settlers moved to central Pennsylvania, to central Ohio, to Ohio's northern and northwest counties, to eastern Indiana.

Native Americans affected the migration patterns as did the War of 1812 and the price of land.

The meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m. ▲



*After the 2011 WFA reunion dinner, Native American storyteller Darius Puff shared artifacts and stories of Pennsylvania's Lenape people.*





*"Most senior lady" Mary Englar was a child in the 1924 Wertman Reunion photograph taken at Victory Park, Slatington, PA, 87 years ago.*

## 2011 Business Meeting Report

*compiled by Shirley Daniels*

The Wertman Family Association Annual Business Meeting followed a picnic lunch at Victory Park in Slatington, PA, on 20 August 2011. President Russ Dannecker called the meeting to order and welcomed guests. Russ presented attendance awards to Earl Maurer for coming the longest distance, Mary Englar as the most senior lady, Herb Dannecker as the most senior gentleman, and Kailey \_\_\_ as the youngest in attendance.

Members voted to accept the following reports:

Acting Secretary Jenny Ewing's recorded minutes from 2010.

Treasurer Shirley Wertman's report of a current balance of \$6,629.72 in the checking account before deducting this year's reunion expenses.

Historical Committee Chairman Tom Young's report on the DNA project.

Newsletter report by Shirley Daniels that two issues of *Wertman Lines* this year were posted on the WFA website and printed for the postal mailing list.

The 2011 Reunion Committee Report from Larry and Shirley Wertman, with expenses of \$3,591.72 to be paid from the checking account.

Russ appointed Brenda and Hal Merz as the 2012 Reunion Committee for Pickaway County, Ohio. Members voted to hold the 2013 Reunion in Berks Co., Pennsylvania, and the 2014 reunion in Michigan.

Shirley Daniels presented the Nominating Committee Report and the following officers were elected by voice vote:

Russ Dannecker, President; Frank Strickling, Vice President; Minerva Arner, Secretary; Kathy Bucher, Genealogy/Historic Secretary; Shirley Wertman, Treasurer; Tom Young, Webmaster; Shirley Daniels and Hal Merz, Board.

After President Dannecker adjourned the meeting, he conducted the annual auction.

On Sunday, a caravan of Wertmans visited the 1801 Moser log cabin in Tamaqua, and nearby cemeteries. ▲

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## Obituary: Victor G. Wertman, 84,

... of 332 Cypress St., Lehighon, passed away Saturday, 4 Feb. 2012, in the Lehigh Valley Hospital, Salisbury Twp., PA. Born in Lehighon, he was a son of the late Mahlon E. and Stella (Edinger) Wertman. He was a Navy veteran of World War II.

Prior to retiring, he was employed by Carl Subler Trucking, Auburndale, Fla., for over 40 years. He attended services at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lehighon. Wertman was a member of American Legion Post 314, its World War II Last Man's Club, and the V.F.W. Post 264. He was a member of Lehigh Fire Co. No. 1. He was a very enthusiastic Penn State sports fan.

Surviving are a daughter, Dana L., wife of David Snyder, of Lehighon; a son, Shawn V., and his wife, Thea, of East Wenatchee, WA; four grandchildren, two great-granddaughters, and nieces and nephews. He was also preceded in death by two sisters, Shirley Rehrig and Ferne Banks, and a brother, Mahlon.

Graveside services were held Wednesday, 8 Feb., at Lehighon Cemetery, with the Rev. Robert A. von Frisch officiating, followed by full military honors conducted by the Lehighon Area UVO.

Minerva Arner forwarded this information from the *Times News*. Our condolences to the family. ▲

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## 2012 Wertman Family Reunion Registration Form

**Friday-Sunday, 17-19 August 2012      Circleville, Pickaway County, OH**

Please print

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Name  |   |
| 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!) |   |

| <i>Reunion Event</i>  | <i>Number attending</i> | <i>Cost per person</i>      | <i>Total cost</i> |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Fri., 17 Aug.,</b> Researchers' Meeting  |                         | \$ 0                        | \$ 0              |
| <b>Fri., 17 Aug.,</b> Lunch at church   |                         | \$ 8.00                     | \$                |
| <b>Fri., 17 Aug.,</b> Dinner at Tecumseh Theatre, adults<br>Dinner at Theatre, 10-under             |                         | \$12.50<br>\$ 8.00          | \$                |
| <b>Fri., 17 Aug.,</b> Tecumseh Outdoor Drama, adults<br>Outdoor Drama, ages 6-10                    |                         | \$22.00<br>\$15.50          |                   |
| <b>Sat., 18 Aug.,</b> Picnic at Starkey Pavilion, adults<br>Picnic, age 6-10<br>Picnic, age 5-under |                         | \$ 12.00<br>\$ 6.00<br>\$ 0 | \$                |
| <b><i>Total for all 2012 Reunion Meals</i></b>  |                         |                             | <b>\$</b>         |

**Wertman Family Association dues of \$20 per family are due.**

|   |                                    |           |
|---|------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Annual Dues</b> 1 July 2012-30 June 2013 | \$20 per family                    | \$ 20.00  |
| <b>2012 Reunion, Meals, and Dues</b>        | <b>Grand Total, Check Enclosed</b> | <b>\$</b> |

Please make your check payable to the **Wertman Family Association**.  
Mail your check and Registration Form **by 2 August** to 2012 WFA Reunion  
c/o Brenda and Hal Merz, 1822 W. First St., Columbus, OH, 43212-3216  
If you have questions, call 614-488-7347 or e-mail <halbren7@hotmail.com>



## About The Wertman Family Association (WFA)

Since 2000, the rejuvenated Wertman Family Association has held annual reunions in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, 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.

Using the WFA website, <[www.wertman.info](http://www.wertman.info)>, strangers can discover long-lost family connections. The *Wertman Lines* newsletter and the WFA 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](mailto:dannecker123@verizon.net)>  
32 Burgess Rd., Foster, RI 02825 (401-647-3991)

### Vice President :

Frank Strickling <[fjstrick@zoominternet.net](mailto:fjstrick@zoominternet.net)>

### Corresponding Secretary:

Minerva Arner <[mmarner@ptd.net](mailto:mmarner@ptd.net)>

### Genealogy/Historical Secretary:

Kathy Bucher <[WFAArchives@hotmail.com](mailto:WFAArchives@hotmail.com)>

### Treasurer:

Shirley Wertman <[snlwertman@verizon.net](mailto:snlwertman@verizon.net)>  
6343 Memorial Rd., Allentown, PA 18106

### Historical Acceptance Committee Chair:

Tom Young <[teyoung3@verizon.net](mailto:teyoung3@verizon.net)>

### Webmaster :

Tom Young <[teyoung3@verizon.net](mailto:teyoung3@verizon.net)>

**Website:** [www.wertman.info](http://www.wertman.info) shortcut to <<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~wertman>>

### Directors at Large:

Ken Cool '13; Shirley Daniels '15;  
Hal Merz '15; Mary Ellen Wagner '13

**Newsletter:** *Wertman Lines* is issued twice yearly. We welcome articles for publication;. Please submit your article by e-mail to the President or the Editor, <[shirleyminerDaniels@verizon.net](mailto:shirleyminerDaniels@verizon.net)>. The next issue is scheduled for January 2013.



The 2011 annual Family Reunion picnic drew a crowd of Wertmans to Victory Park in Slatington, PA.

**Register by 2 August for the Wertman Family Reunion 17-19 August, Circleville, Ohio**