

Wertman

Lines

Newsletter of the Wertman Family Association

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Save these Dates

- Annual Wertman Family Reunion
- 12-13 August 2016
- Richmond, VA
- Optional day 14 August

17th Wertman Family Association Reunion

When George Philip Wertman settled in Lynn Twp., Northampton (now Lehigh) Co., PA in 1749 he had no way of knowing what was ahead for his descendants. They would participate in many events which we now class as American History. Some of his sons, whose loyalties were on both sides, participated in the American Revolution. At least one of his grandsons fought in the War of 1812. But their service to this country did not end there.

From what we now know, one great grandson, 36 great-great grandsons, and four great-great-great grandsons participated in the Civil War. They fought in all theaters of that war, from the Mississippi River to the Atlantic Ocean. One of the main objectives of this war was Richmond, Virginia. The 2016 Reunion will focus on the struggle to capture the Confederate Capital at Richmond. More importantly, it will focus on our Wertman ancestors and their roles in the capture. Thus our theme: *On to Richmond!*

Like us in 2016, 19 of the 41 identified Wertman Soldiers had “*On To Richmond*” on their lips. We will concentrate of three major geographical areas: First, Richmond -- ten Wertman descendants served here; Second, Petersburg -- nine Wertman descendants served here; and third, Hampton Roads -- ten Wertman descendants served here. We look

forward to seeing you in Richmond, VA, Friday-Saturday, 12-13 August 2016.

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

“On to Richmond!”

The Wertman Family Association Reunion Committee is pleased to announce the tentative schedule for the 2016 Reunion and Family Business Meeting. The 2016 Reunion will focus on the struggle to capture the Confederate Capital at Richmond. More importantly, it will focus on our Wertman ancestors and their roles in the capture. We hope that you will make every effort to join us.

We have moved our regular reunion date to the previous weekend in hopes that children and grandchildren will be able to attend before school activities begin.

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Tentative 2016 Reunion Highlights

Friday-Saturday, 12-13 August

This is a condensed schedule. For complete details, check the Wertman Family Association website at <Wertman.info> and the June newsletter.

Thursday, 11 August

2:00-5:30pm -- Registration -- We will greet you at the Holiday Inn, Sandston, (Richmond Airport) and let you know about any last minute updates

6:00pm -- Dinner -- We will break bread together at a local restaurant. Each family is responsible for their own meals.

Friday, 12 August

8:45-10:15am -- Orientation -- Preview the sites we will be visiting and the soldiers whose footsteps we will be following

10:30am (Sharp) -- Travel together by bus. Cold water and soft drinks will be provided. Our potential itinerary includes:

11:15am-12:30pm -- Petersburg National Military Park, City Point -- U. S. Grant's Headquarters and the busiest port in the world. Hear of Elijah Wertman, who was sick but ordered to identify and bury his comrades, George E. Wertman, who was sick in hospital, and others.

12:45-1:15pm -- Lunch, Hardee's, Hopewell

2:00-3:15pm -- Eastern Front Auto-Caravan Tour begins with a walk to Battery V where the ranger will tell about the opening attacks on Petersburg. Visitors use their own vehicles to follow the park ranger. At Stop 3, hear about a soldier's life in the trenches. End at Stop 5 with a talk about the Battle of Fort Stedman. Hear the stories of nine Wertman descendants who served here.

4:00-5:00pm -- Battle of the Crater Walking Tour begins at Stop 8 parking lot. The program focuses on one of the most vicious battles of the war. Learn about David Koch, who tried to break through to Richmond.

6:30-9:00pm -- Dinner and Speaker, Roma Ristorante Italiano. The all-you-can-eat buffet includes salad, rolls, lasagna, chicken parmigiana, and baked ziti, plus coffee, tea and soft drinks. After dinner, our Vice President, Hal Merz, will speak about the Wertman family involvement in the Underground Railroad, a route to freedom for slaves.

Saturday, 13 August --

8:30am (Sharp) -- Travel together by bus. Cold water and soft drinks will be provided. Our potential itinerary includes:

10:00-11:15am -- Fortress Monroe National Monument -- Hear the stories of James Wertman, who was in hospital and deserted, Isaac Wertman, who started his Peninsular Campaign from here, and Philip and Levi Wertman, who ended the war here.

View Hampton Roads and Norfolk, VA. Emanuel B. Wertman sailed in Hampton Roads as a coal heaver in a "Monitor" class ship. Look across to Norfolk where William Houser, Elias D. Wertman, Levi Wertman, Philip L. Wertman, Samuel D. Wertman, and Willoughby Wertman served.

11:30am-12:45pm -- USS Monitor Center, The Mariners' Museum, Newport News, VA -- At the heart of the USS *Monitor* Center is the exhibition, *Ironclad Revolution*. The strategies, people, technology, and science behind this story will be displayed in a way the public has never before seen. E. B. Wertman was aboard the USS "Patapsco," a Monitor Class vessel, when it sailed from Wilmington, DE and arrived at Hampton Roads, VA on 8 January 1863 and became part of the North American Blockading Squadron.

1:10-2:30pm -- Newport News Park, Group Shelter # 20 (Arboretum Area) -- Lunch and Annual Business Meeting, with a box lunch provided by the hotel. Choose a turkey BLT, veggie wrap, grilled chicken sandwich, chicken Caesar salad, tuna or chicken salad, or southwest chicken wrap. Included are chips, fruit, a cookie, and drink. Please make your selection of meal and drink on the Pre-Order Lunch Menu and send it with your registration form. (Leave the room number blank.) Portable restrooms are in the area. Restrooms with hand washing are at the Ranger Station.

3:30-5:00pm -- Cold Harbor Battlefield, Part of the Richmond National Military Park -- Hear about Eli Cope, who was killed in action and William Walter Wertman, who was wounded and returned to his new bride permanently disabled. In addition, six other Wertman descendants served here. Tour Map: <http://www.nps.gov/rich/learn/historyculture/cold-harbor-tour.htm>.

Return to the Holiday Inn. Dinner is on your own.

Sunday, 14 August (optional day)

10:20-10:30am -- Aiken's Landing -- On 26 March 1865, Lincoln spent the day traveling up the James River, visiting troops at Aiken's Landing in Henrico County. (Aiken's Landing is near where P. Wertman was serving. It is possible that Private Philip Wertman's path crossed Lincoln's path here.)

11:15am -- Pamplin Historical Park and The National Museum of the Civil War Soldier. Journey back into the 19th Century! Listed on the National Register of Historic Places and a Virginia Historic Landmark, Pamplin Historical Park is one of America's premier historical attractions and the most innovative Civil War history park in the country.

Located on the site of the 2 April 1865 "Breakthrough," the battle that ended the Petersburg Campaign and led to the evacuation of the Confederate capital at Richmond, the Park's 424 acres include two award-winning museums, four antebellum homes, living history venues, and shopping facilities. The Park is located in Dinwiddie county, near Petersburg, Virginia.

The award-winning National Museum of the Civil War Soldier forms the Park's centerpiece. Here, the story of the 3 million common soldiers who fought in America's bloodiest conflict is told using the latest museum technology. An audio tour features the words and "voices" of participants in the war. Museums interpreting plantation life, slavery in America, and the Breakthrough battlefield are within a short walk of the National Museum.

Hotel Arrangements

We have reserved ten double rooms plus five king rooms for Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights at the **Holiday Inn, 445 International Center Drive, Sandston, VA 23150**. The group rate is \$129.00 plus tax. Handicapped rooms are available. Up to four can stay in a room. The price includes a hot breakfast of two eggs, two strips of bacon, skillet browned potatoes, and a choice of bread served in the hotel restaurant. Amenities include wireless internet service, a fitness center, a business center, and more.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS BY 11 JULY 2016. Call **(804) 236-1111** and identify yourself as being with the Wertman Family Reunion.

Directions to Hotel

GPS COORDINATES -- N 37.526750,
W 77.329159

From the North: I-95 South to I-295 South. Exit at 31B (RIC Airport/156 South). Turn right onto Audubon Drive. Turn right onto International Center Dr. The hotel is on the right.

From the South: I-95 North to I-295 North. Exit at 31B (RIC Airport/156 South). Turn right onto Audubon Drive. Turn right onto International Center Dr. The hotel is on the right.

From the East: I-64 West to exit 197-A (RIC Airport/156 South). Turn right onto Audubon Drive. Turn right onto International Center Drive. The hotel is on the right.

From the West: I-64 East to exit 197-A (RIC Airport/156 South). Turn right onto Audubon Drive. Turn right onto International Center Drive. The hotel is on the right.

What's Nearby

Fast food is available nearby at a WAWA convenience store; Arby's; Burger King; Chick-fil-A; Five Guys Burgers and Fries; Hardee's; McDonald's; Panera Bread; Qdoba Mexican Grill; Steak 'n' Shake; and Taco Bell.

Nearby attractions include Richmond International Raceway and Colonial Downs, King's Dominion Amusement Park, and events at the Richmond Convention Center, Coliseum, and Virginia Commonwealth University's Siegel Center. Dorey Park, five miles from the hotel, hosts many youth sporting events every year. You can explore history at Mankin Mansion, experience a tasting at the New Kent Winery, or check out the waterfront district of Rocketts Landing. You may also wish to take the family for a day of fun and education at any of Richmond's numerous museums!

For More Information

Contact the 2016 WFA Reunion Committee:
Russ and Louise Dannecker,
32 Burgess Road, Foster, RI, 02825.
401-647-3991 (h), 401-339-4912,
or e-mail <Dannecker123@verizon.net>

The reunion registration deadline is **26 July 2013**. There will be no refunds after this date.

The Wertman-Gilbert Family Quilt

by Minerva Arner

A feed-bag quilt signed by Fianna Wertman in 1873 is for sale at Olde Hope Antiques, Inc., in New Hope, PA <info@oldehope.com>. Names on the quilt are of 31 members of the Wertman-Gilbert family. Here are the family connections:

Jacob Wertman⁴ (George Philip³, Michael², George Philip¹), b 1799, d 1865, mar **Barbara** Andreas, b 1799, d 1873. They were buried at Ben Salem church cemetery, East Penn Twp., Carbon Co., PA.

Reuben Wertman⁵, b 1820 d 1902, mar Harriet (**Hannah**) Steigerwalt, b 1830, d 1896; buried at Ben Salem

Owen A. Wertman⁶, b 1854, d 1924, mar Rose Ann Peter, b 1854, d 1937; buried at Ben Salem

William Wertman⁵, b 1827, d 1914, mar **Caroline** Krum, b 1835, d 1901; buried at Ben Salem

Elias Wertman⁵ b 1829, d 1907, mar Mary **Polly** Steigerwalt, b 1833, d 1872; buried at Ben Salem

Eddeline E. (**Adline**) Wertman⁶, b 1857, d 1911, mar Charles Zellner; buried at St. John's cemetery, Carbon Co., PA

David Wertman⁵, b 1832, d 1911, mar **Susanna** Gilbert, b 1836, d 1917; buried at Ben Salem

Fianna Wertman⁶, who made the quilt at age 14, b 1859, d 1923, mar Owen Steigerwalt, b 1855, d 1914; buried at Ben Salem

George Gilbert, b 1808, d 1883, mar **Anna** Balliet, daughter of **Joseph**, b 1818, d 1906; buried at St. John

Susanna Gilbert, b 1836, d 1917, mar David Wertman⁵ (above)

Abby Gilbert, b 1840, d 1930, mar **Godfrey** Peter, b 1837, d 1914; buried at St. John

Milton Peter, b 1861, d 1903; buried at St. John

Matilda Gilbert, b 1842, d 1922, mar **William G. Freyman**, b 1838, d 1929, buried at Mauch Chunk cemetery, Carbon Co., PA

Sarah Gilbert, b 1847, d 1922, mar **David** Kuhns (Koons), b 1844, d 1915; buried at St. John

Mary Ann Gilbert, b 1849, d 1942, mar ***Wilson** Ebbert, b 1846, d 1907; buried at Ben Salem

Emmaline (Annie M.) Ebbert b 1880, mar John Laushner 1879, buried at Gnadon Huetten, Lehighon, Carbon Co., PA

Polly Gilbert, b 1854, d 1924, mar J. Frank Flexer, b 1852, d 1942; buried at St. John

George F. Gilbert, b 1856, d 1932, mar. Sarah Elizabeth Reedy, b 1860, d 1889; buried at St. John

*Wilson Ebbert's brother **Reuben** b 1845, mar **Harriet** Gilbert; buried at Ben Salem

*Wilson Ebbert's brother **Amos** b 1847, mar Sarah Amelia __; buried at Ben Salem



Fourteen-year-old Fianna Wertman made this quilt in 1873 with blocks containing the names of 31 Wertman and Gilbert family members.



Private Philip Levan Wertman and President Abraham Lincoln

by Russell C. Dannecker

According to family legend, after the Civil War, Philip Levan Wertman would come up to you and shake your hand. He would then say, now you have shaken the hand that shook the hand of President Lincoln. Where could the paths of these two men have crossed? Philip Wertman served twice, in two different units, as follows:

Unit: Co. D, 173 Pennsylvania Infantry
Enlisted: Camp Curtain, PA; 10-28-1862
Discharge: Harrisburg, PA; 8-18-1863

During this time he served at Norfolk, VA; participated in the pursuit of Lee after Gettysburg; and guarded the Orange & Alexandria Railroad.

Unit: Co. G, 104 Pennsylvania Infantry
Enlisted: Pottsville, PA; 2-27-1865
Discharge: Portsmouth, VA; 8-25-1865

During this time he was stationed on the Bermuda Hundred, VA and participated in the final assault at Petersburg, VA.

Walk in Lincoln's Footsteps *Lincoln Timeline*

President Abraham Lincoln visited the Petersburg area on three occasions: at the end of the Peninsula campaign (July 1862); immediately following the end of the opening assault on Petersburg (June 1864); and during the final push ending the war (24 March-8 April 1865).

Visit One: 1862

P. Wertman's first enlistment did not start until 28 October 1862, so they could not have met during this visit.

7 July — President Lincoln and military party leave Washington on the Ariel to visit General McClellan and the Army of the Potomac at Harrison's Landing at Berkeley Plantation.

8 July — Lincoln arrives at Harrison's Landing at 6:00pm He then reviews McClellan's Army by corps and divisions until 9:00pm.

9 July — Lincoln talks with officers of the Army about military problems and records the results in a memorandum. He then leaves on the Ariel for the return trip to Washington.

Visit Two: 1864

P. Wertman was not in service at this time.

20 June — Lincoln departs Washington on the USS Baltimore at 5:00pm.

21 June — Lincoln lands at City Point (today's Hopewell) and visits General Grant's headquarters. He then meets a division of U.S. Colored Troops.

22 June — Lincoln and Grant take a trip up the James River. The President visits Bermuda Hundred in Chesterfield County. He then travels up the Appomattox River to Point of Rocks in Chesterfield and tours the Bermuda Hundred defenses of General Benjamin Butler. Later, Lincoln boards the USS Baltimore to return to Washington.

23 June — Lincoln returns to Washington.

Visit 3: 1865

P. Wertman was a member of Company G, 104th Pennsylvania Infantry from 27 February 1865 until 25 August 1865. This time does overlap President Lincoln's visit.

23 March — Lincoln, son Tad, and wife Mary, board the River Queen and depart for City Point (today's Hopewell).

24 March — The River Queen arrives at City Point.

25 March — Lincoln sees the smoke and hears the sounds of the 6th Corps picket line attack from Fort Wadsworth with his son Tad.

26 March — Lincoln spends the day traveling up the James River visiting troops at Aiken's Landing in Henrico County. *If the family legend is true, this is the only known location where Private Philip Wertman and President Abraham Lincoln's paths might have crossed. So this is the possible location*



Aiken's Landing is near where P. Wertman was serving. It is located at the intersection of Varina Rd. and present-day Varnia on the James, Henrico, VA 23231, GPS 37.381644, -77.334370.

where Private Wertman and President Lincoln shook hands. The President rides by horse over muddy roads to visit a division of black troops. Mary Lincoln and Julia Grant follow in an ambulance wagon. Lincoln returns to the River Queen for dinner.

27 March — Lincoln travels up the Appomattox River to Point of Rocks in Chesterfield County, where he visits wounded soldiers. (P. Wertman's Company Muster Roll Co. G, 104th PA, dated Enrollment to 30 April 1865 states that Philip Wertman is present. Therefore, not in Hospital.)

28 March — Lincoln confers with General Grant and others aboard the River Queen at City Point.

29 March — Grant boards a train preparing to move his headquarters closer to anticipated hot spots at the western end of his siege lines. Lincoln sees Grant off, then returns to Point of Rocks.

30 March — Lincoln spends the day in the cabin of Lt. Colonel Theodore Bowers at City Point awaiting news of the war.

31 March — Lincoln receives word from Grant that Union troops are now in command of the White Oak Road area in Dinwiddie County.

1 April — Mary Lincoln goes back to Washington, while Lincoln hears about the victory at Five Forks in Dinwiddie County. Lincoln is awakened around 2:00am by a dream of his death.

2 April — Grant sends Lincoln a telegram informing him about the complete capture of Petersburg, with 12,000 prisoners and fifty guns taken.

3 April — Lincoln travels by train to the fallen city of Petersburg. The President leaves the train and rides by horse to Fort Mahone, where he weeps when he sees dead Union and Confederate troops from the 2 April battle. Lincoln then proceeds to the Wallace House where he meets with General Grant.

4 April — Lincoln visits Richmond. The Capital of the Confederacy has fallen to the Union Army. He then spends the night on board the Malvern.

5 April — Lincoln returns to City Point.

6 April — Mrs. Lincoln returns to City Point and visits Richmond.

7 April — Lincoln visits Petersburg again, arriving by train in the city's Old Towne area. He travels by carriage to Centre Hill Mansion where he meets with General George Hartsuff.

8 April — Lincoln visits the Depot Field Hospital at City Point and then departs for Washington.

Deaths

The Wertman Family is saddened by the loss of three association members. We extend our condolences to their families.

Henry R. Dannecker, Sr., 78, of Lancaster, PA, formerly of Long Pond, Pocono Mountains, passed away 18 September 2015 at home. Born in Allentown, PA, he was the son of the late Howard and Ruth (Wertman) Dannecker.

Henry retired from General Elevator Company with 35 years of service. He enjoyed working in the community as a township supervisor. He was an avid hunter, fisherman and outdoorsman. Henry volunteered with the Game Commission to track black bears, a passion. He was also known for his award winning gardening skills.

In addition to his wife, Dolores (DePeter) Dannecker, Henry is survived by three children: Karen Miller (Thom), Henry Dannecker, Jr. (Michele) and Cheryl Ann Lovato (Delfin); 11 grandchildren; six great grandchildren; and three brothers. Henry was preceded in death by three brothers and two sisters.

Published in *Morning Call* on Sept. 22, 2015

Edwin F. Wertman, 87, of Macungie, PA died 8 January 2016. He was the husband of Virginia (McMillin) Wertman. Born in Palmerton, he was the son of the late Paul S. and Mary C. (Fritzinger) Wertman. He was an Army Veteran serving during the Korean War.

Ed earned his Bachelor's Degree from Springfield College, his Master's Degree in Administration from the University of Pittsburgh and completed post-graduate work at Temple and Lehigh universities. He dedicated his career to public education, having taught at Susquehanna Twp., Sewickley and Allentown. He also served as an administrator in several school districts. He was a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Macungie.

Survivors include his widow; children, Dr. Elizabeth Mank, VMD, (Terrance); Paul Scott Wertman (Deborah); and Edwin G. Wertman; a sister, Mary Ann Davis; and five grandchildren.

Ed was formerly Vice President of the WFA.

Published in *Morning Call* on Jan. 13, 2016

Elva B. Young, age 94, of 18 Ivy Lane, Danville, died on 17 November 2015, at the Geisinger Bloomsburg Health Care Center. She was in failing health since December 2014. Born in Danville on 22

March 1921, she was a daughter of the late James W. and Emma M. (Prentiss) Wertman. A 1939 graduate of Danville High School, she received her RN from the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

Elva lived in Danville for the past 12 years and previously resided in Chesterfield, MO She owned and operated a bar/ restaurant in St. Louis, Mo., for over 20 years, retiring in 1991. She served with the U.S. Navy during World War II.

Elva was preceded in death by her husband, Thomas E. Young Jr.; and five siblings: Clyde Wertman; Violet Johns; Thelma Tobias; Lucille Kiffilo; and Charles "Rux" Wertman.

Surviving are a son, Tom Young, with whom she resided; a granddaughter, Heather Allcock (Tracy), Mendon, Mass.; great-grandchildren, Avery and Jackson Allcock; and a brother, James "Leapo" Wertman (Althea), Danville. Interment was in the Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis.

Other Deaths

Berdell L. Fritz⁸ (John G. Fritz Jr.⁷, John G. Fritz Sr.⁶, Ellen Haberman⁵, Joseph Haberman⁴, Susanna Abigail Wertman³, Michael Wertman², George Philip Wertman¹), 77, of Andreas, PA, died 20 May 2015 in the Lehigh Valley Hospital.

Surviving in addition to his widow, Lorraine L. (Berger), are a daughter, Deborah Mooney (William); and a sister, Jewel Zellner, both of Andreas; a granddaughter, Miranda Mooney of Lehigh-ton, and nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by an infant sister.

Interment St. Peter's Church Cemetery.

Published in Times News on May 22, 2015

Eleanor Rose Marks, 91, of Emmaus, passed away 12 December 2015 at Fellowship Manor, Whitehall. She was the wife of the late Kenneth O. Marks. Born in Lynnport, she was the daughter of the late James Wertman, M.D., and Florence I. (Wessner). Eleanor was a ticket seller at the Emmaus theatre for many years until retiring.

Survivors include a daughter, Patricia Marks, of Minneapolis, MN; a sister, Lucille Hoffman; nieces and nephews. Eleanor was predeceased by her daughter, Kathleen Eleanor Rose, who passed away in 1954.

Allentown Morning Call and the Emmaus Press

Golden Rules of Genealogy

published with permission of GotGenealogy.com, Oakland, CA

1. "Speling Dush't Cownt"

Back in the day, folks couldn't spell and many could barely write, so how a name sounds is more important than how it's spelled. Use wild card or Soundex searches to help find variant spellings of names.

2. Assume Nothing

Check all your facts, don't assume that any particular document is right or wrong, and always try to find other independent sources to corroborate your facts as much as possible. Verify, verify, verify. For instance, don't assume that:

- your ancestors were married
- census information is accurate
- vital (or other) records were correct
- your ancestor's life events were recorded
- ancestors had the same name as their enslaver

3. Use Discretion

Never lie in your genealogy reports, but use discretion when reporting family information, especially when it involves living relatives.

4. Always Document Your Sources, No Matter How Much They Contradict One Another

Over time, you will compile more data and those once seemingly contradictory pieces of evidence may prove to be just the pieces of the puzzle you need to prove or disprove your theory. Be consistent as you cite your sources. There are standard citation formats, but even if you just make up your own format for listing your sources, be consistent with it. You want your descendants to be able to retrace your steps, so you always cite your sources.

5. Most Dates Are Approximate

It's okay to state that someone was born "abt. 1845" or died "May 1915" if you don't have an exact date or where various documents have different dates. Which date is "correct?" They all are.

6. If Unsure, Say So

Future researchers will thank you for being honest if you simply say that you cannot prove a specific fact, yet you "suspect" such and such is true. Don't fudge the facts. Ever.

7. You Cannot Do It All Online

Yes, we love doing research online and there's nothing better than using the computer to find new sources, view digital images of original documents and even connect with relatives. For genealogists, the internet will never replace the wonderful work of libraries, county courthouses, archives, and historical societies. Do as much as you can online, then turn off your computer and hit the bricks.

8. Just Because It's Online Doesn't Mean It's True

The internet is a wonderful thing but it's filled with oodles of bad information. Don't make the mistake of believing anything you find online at face value. Verify against other sources, even if you paid for the information you found online. Consult the original source whenever possible.

9. Pass Along Your Research

No matter how many decades you spend researching your family, your research will never be done. Plan on passing along your research to the next generation's researchers. Leave excellent notes, cite all your sources, explain your shorthand ... in essence, leave your research the way you'd have liked to find it.

10. Don't Die With Your Stories Still In You

Giving credit to Dr. Wayne Dyer for his "Don't die with your music still in you," we want to remind you to tell the stories as completely and as accurately as possible. Genealogy isn't about just doing research. Genealogy is about telling the stories and ensuring that your ancestor's legacies live on for generations to come. Without the stories, the research won't do anyone much good. The legacy of your ancestors rests in your capable hands. Doing the research is fine, but always remember that you have been chosen to *tell their stories*.

11. DNA Is Not A Trump Card

DNA is just one of many possible sources of information you can use to verify or deny a relationship. Human error occurs when the results are transcribed, thereby providing false information. DNA results should always be used in concert with other sources.

12. Anything You Post Online Will Be "Borrowed"

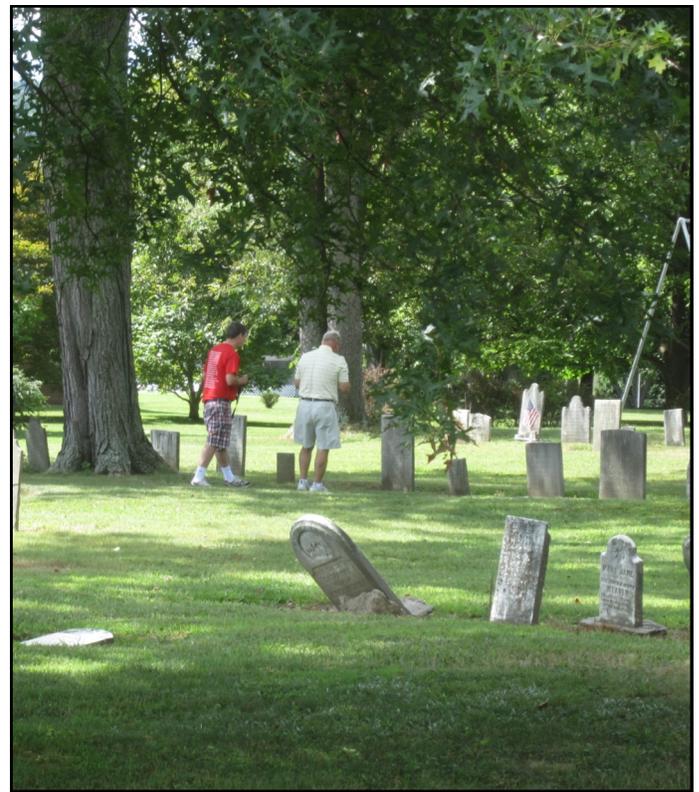
You need to accept the fact that any family information you post online will be "borrowed" or outright stolen, and you will probably not get credit for all your hard work. This is the nature of the beast ... the internet. Get over it.

Discovering Eva Catherine Wertman

by Hal Merz

After viewing the St. James Ridgeville Cemetery at the 2015 Wertman Family Association reunion, I was looking for information on George and Mary Shane who are buried there and mentioned in Johan Michael Wertman's will. I did not find much in George Shane's will, which was made in 1840 and proved 1842. But in the Columbia County, PA probate index information on Family Search, I saw an item that Henry Wertman was Executor of another will, made in 1835 and proved in 1839 in Columbia County.

I pulled up that will, which was for one Jacob Shickel, and saw that Henry Wertman of Hemlock Twp. was not only named Executor, but was referred to as Jacob Shickel's brother in law! As Henry was married to a lady from the Krumm family, we are pretty sure that this means that Jacob's wife Eva Catherine was Eva Catherine Wertman, and that she is a daughter of Johan Michael Wertman and older sister of Henry Wertman born 1783. A search on



Wertman family members wander among the tombstones at St. James Ridgeville, August 2015.

FindAGrave pulled up a tombstone from 1851 in Columbia Hill Cemetery for Eve Catherine, wife of Jacob Schickel. The age looks like 84 years old, but maybe someone can go to check this.

The only other early Eve Wertman we have seen was Eve (1790-1870) who was probably the daughter of Jacob Wertman (d 1806) of Northumberland, Penns, and who married Frederick App (1786-1842). Could that Jacob have named a daughter after his younger sister?

The Shickel family also is listed among the group of formerly Pennsylvania families who were early settlers in Southern Michigan and I believe traveled with Heimbachs. The will of Jacob Shickel lists sons Henry and Daniel; it might be worth locating them in Michigan.:

(The following information was taken from the first printed record of the Himebaugh family, compiled by Emanuel Himebaugh, in 1883. He had the "Brief History of the Family" printed in 1884.)

"In the Southwest corner of Branch County is a little community which for more than a hundred years has been called the Dutch Settlement because at the "Pennsylvania Dutch" families who established themselves there. Six families traveled by wagon train from Columbia County, PA, and made their home in what are now Bronson and Noble townships, Branch County, MI, in late 1836. The heads of these families were Jacob Faust, Daniel Himebaugh and his cousin Daniel II, Henry Kroushere, Thomas Shane, and Henry Shickel."

Apologies

This newsletter is late because I had open-heart surgery in December and was in the hospital for four weeks and then rehabilitation in a health-care facility for four weeks. I am now taking things slowly at home. Thank you for your prayers and inquiries.

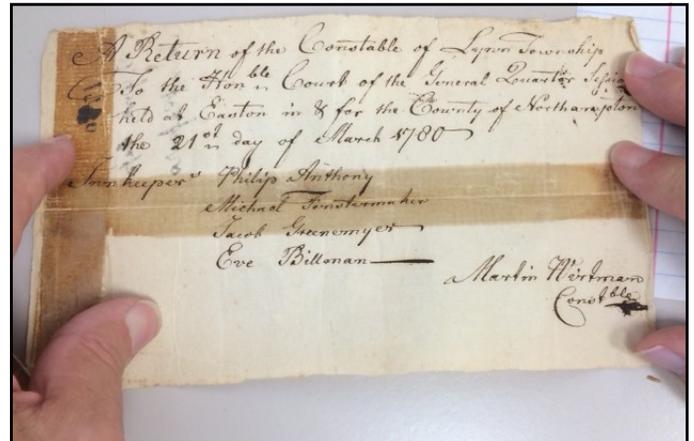
Shirley Daniels, Editor

A Little Humor

Top 10 Indicators that you've become a gene-aholic, submitted by Ken Cool

10. You introduce your daughter as your descendent.
9. You've never met any of the people you send e-mail to, even though you're related.
8. You can recite your lineage back eight generations, but can't remember your nephew's name.
7. You have more photographs of dead people than living ones.
6. You've taken a tape recorder and/or notebook to a family reunion.
5. You've not only read the latest GEDCOM standard, but you also understand it.
4. The local genealogy society borrows books from you.
3. The only film you've seen in the last year was the 1880 census index.
2. More than 1/2 of your book collection is made up of marriage records or pedigrees.
1. Your elusive ancestor has been spotted in more different places than Elvis!

Martin Wertman, Constable



Hal and Brenda Merz found "A Return of the Constable of Lynn Township Pa to the Honorable Court of the General Quarter Session held at Easton in & for the County of Northampton the 21st Day of March 1780; Innkeepers Philip Anthony, Michael Fenstermaker, Jacob Greenemyer and Eve Billman. Martin Wertman, Constable.

More research is needed!



Wertman Family Association Annual Reunion, August 2015, Danville, PA, after the picnic.

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

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Hal Merz <halbren7@hotmail.com>

Secretary:

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Webmaster:

Kathy Bucher <WFAArchives@hotmail.com>

Website: <wertman.info>

Directors at Large:

Ken Cool '17; Shirley Daniels '19;

Earl Maurer '19; Mary Ellen Wagner '17

Newsletter: *The next newsletter is June 2016.* In the interim, look for news and information on <wertman.info> or in electronic or postal mailings.

Plan now for the Wertman Family Reunion 12-13 August 2016, Richmond, VA
