

# Wertman *Lines*

Newsletter of the Wertman Family Association

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## *Save the Dates!*

- Annual Wertman Family Reunion
- 18-19 August 2017
- New Tripoli, Lehigh County, PA

## Dear Wertman Descendants,

By 1749, George Philip Wertman (aka GP I) had settled in Lynn Township, Northampton (now Lehigh) Co., PA. According to the *Anniversary History of Lehigh Co.*, Vol. 1, (1914) and *Gen. Biographical History of Families*, George Phillip Wertman was considered one of the Pioneer Settlers.

On 15 December 1749, George Philip Wertman took up a warrant for 100 acres in Lynn Township, Bucks (present day Lehigh) Co., PA, eventually surveyed at 197 acres. On 8 August 1750, George Philip Wertman took up a warrant for 50 acres in Lynn Township, Bucks County, eventually surveyed at 123 acres. So, his holdings totaled 320 acres.

He helped to found the Ebenezer Union Church. When members bought land on 18 February 1760 for a building in Lynn Township, the first name listed as Church Representative was Philip Wertman. Many Wertman family members are buried in both the old and new Ebenezer cemeteries.

This year, we return to the beginning place, to New Tripoli, Lynn Township, Lehigh Co., PA, for our Family Reunion. Please join me in thanking Minerva and Carl Arner for taking charge of this year's reunion arrangements.

We look forward to seeing you in New Tripoli, PA, Friday-Saturday, 18-19 August 2017.

Russell Dannecker, WFA President

6th Great Grandson of George Philip Wertman<sup>1</sup>

## A Different Reunion Format in 2017

*By Minerva Arner*

On Friday, 18 August, the 2017 Wertman Family Association reunion begins with a catered, picnic lunch and the Annual Business Meeting. Festivities begin at noon in the pavilion at Ontelaunee Park. In the afternoon, the Lynn-Heidelberg Historical Society in the old New Tripoli Bank will be open for us to explore. Then, drive around the area where our early Wertmans settled.

On Saturday, 19 August, researchers will meet to give and hear presentations at Ebenezer Church. During a lunch of soup and sandwiches prepared by the women of the church, local historian Willard Snyder will be the guest speaker.

The Reunion Committee has reserved a block of rooms at the Hawthorn Suites by Wyndham, 7720 Main St., Fogelsville, PA. Prices are \$129.99 (king bed) or \$139.99 (two queen beds), plus tax. A hot breakfast buffet is included.

To reserve your room, phone 610-366-9422 and use the group code CGWERTMAN. Registrations are needed by 15 July.

As it becomes available, further information will be posted on our web site at *Wertman.info*, or look for the June issue of *Wertman Lines*.

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## Mary's F.A.N. Club

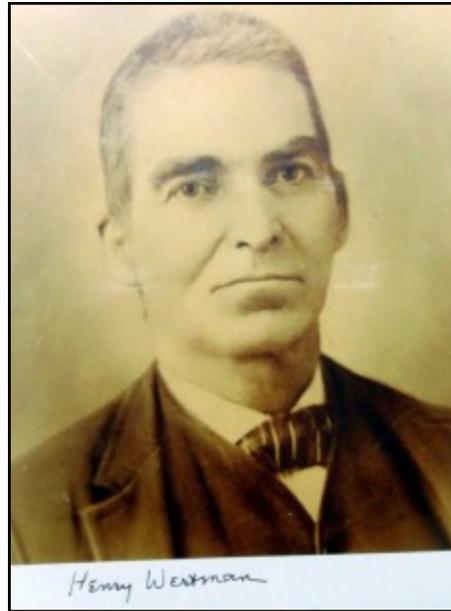
By Kathy Bucher

“Who cares about the relatives and the other children? I’m only interested in MY ancestors.” Too often people express that feeling and narrowly focus their genealogy research. However, an ancestor’s F.A.N. club (Family, Associates, and Neighbors) may provide the clues needed to break down genealogy brick walls.<sup>1</sup>

After Henry Leonard Wertman (Gideon, Heinrich, Johan Michael, GP I) died in 1910, his wife Mary L. Wertman, nee Gearhart, filed for a pension. The pension examiner wrote, “the claimant is one of the most notoriously depraved and low women I have ever had the occasion to meet...”<sup>2</sup> However, Mary L Gearhart who was born in 1858 was not Henry’s first wife. In fact, the mother of his children was another Mary.

This other Mary first appeared with Henry and two-year old Charles W. in the 1860 U. S. Census<sup>3</sup> and again in 1870<sup>4</sup> and 1880.<sup>5</sup> By 15 May 1905, Henry was marrying his third wife, Mary Gearhart.<sup>6</sup> The problem was to identify the first wife of Henry Leonard Wertman and discover her ancestors.

There does not appear to be any existing primary source documenting the marriage of Henry Leonard Wertman (HLW) and his first wife Mary. In addition, based on the date of Henry’s third marriage, Mary died before Pennsylvania issued death certificates in 1906. However, a number of secondary sources from her family help identify Mary’s maiden name. First, the death certificates of three of her children — Mary Elizabeth,<sup>7</sup> Nancy Jane,<sup>8</sup> and Ida May<sup>9</sup>— list the parents as HLW and Mary Balliet. The marriage application<sup>10</sup> of Ida May Wertman lists her parents as HLW and Mary Balliet, and Ida’s social security application<sup>11</sup> confirms that. The final piece of evidence is the marriage application<sup>6</sup> of HLW and his infamous third wife in which he lists his first wife as Mary Balliet whom he married “before the war” and who died in 1888.<sup>6</sup> Taken together, these facts gleaned from Mary’s family provide the maiden name for HLW’s first wife and the mother of his children — Mary Balliet.



Next is the problem of finding the father of Mary Balliet. This is where the neighbors become important. It can be reasoned that, in the 1850s, a man would not have traveled far to find a bride unless his job caused him to

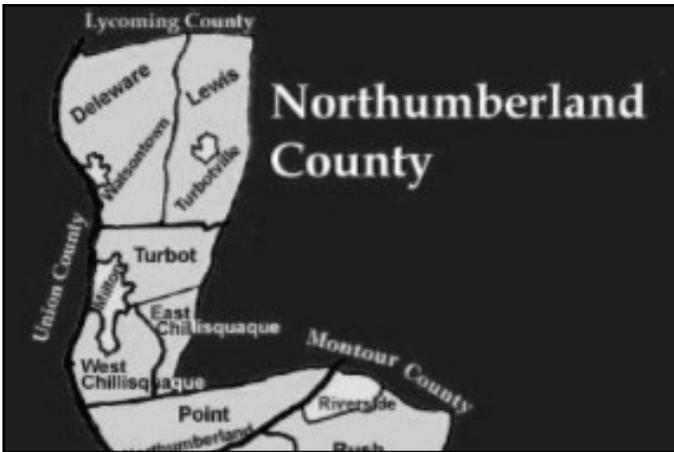
travel. It is probable that a blacksmith such as HLW would have looked nearby for a wife.

In 1850, HLW was still living with his father, Gideon Wertman.<sup>12</sup> There are several Balliet families living nearby both in Limestone Township, Montour Co., PA where Gideon and HLW lived and to the west in Delaware Township, Northumberland Co. A few of them have a Mary in the family.

In the 1850 U.S. Census, the John Balliet household in Delaware Township, Northumberland, Co., has a Mary, age 16, in the census.<sup>13</sup> However, in the



Parents' names—woman, <i>Charles Beaman &amp; Jane Calk</i>	Consent of parents or guardian, —
Guardians' name—man, —	Guardians' name—woman, —
Dates of former marriages of man, if any, and to whom, <i>Before the man to Mary Balliet - November - 22 - 1897 - Mary Shigblum</i>	
Dates of former marriages of woman, if any, and to whom, <i>About 1855 to Elizabeth Hurlinger - May - 4 - 1895 - Frederick Davis</i>	



1860 U.S. Census, Mary Balliet, age 26, is still living with John Balliet and family.<sup>14</sup> Thus, she could not be the Mary who married Henry Leonard Wertman and had her first child by 1858.

The Stephen Balliet household in Limestone Township, Montour Co. has a Mary, age 15, but on the actual 1850 Census form her name is Mary Morrison.<sup>15</sup> Listed last, she is probably a servant.

Wm. Balliet's household in Limestone Township, Montour Co. has a Mary, age 3<sup>16</sup> – probably too young to be married with a two-year old child in 1860, even with the errors often found in the census records.

There is one final nearby Balliet household with a Mary in 1850 – Isaac Balliet in Delaware Township, Northumberland Co.<sup>17</sup> In that family is a Mary, age 11. She is the right age to marry and start a family by 1860 (“before the war” as indicated on Henry Leonard's marriage application in 1905). This Mary is not listed with Isaac and wife Catharine in the 1860 Census.<sup>18</sup> However, Mary and HLW are living near Isaac in Delaware Township.<sup>3</sup> She is the best candidate for HLW's wife.

Another clue that Mary is linked to Isaac Balliet is the 1870 U.S. Census.<sup>19</sup> In that year, HLW and Mary are living in Bloomsburg, Columbia Co., PA, with next-door-neighbors Isaac Balliet and wife Catharine. Included in the Balliet

household is Isaac's son, Andrew J. Balliet, who later is named executor of Catharine's estate.

It would be nice to find additional information to tie Mary to Isaac Balliet. Both Isaac Balliet (d. ca 1888) and his wife Catharine Kinchline (d. 1885) wrote wills which were probated in Northumberland Co. However, Isaac's will,<sup>20</sup> probated 9 February 1888, mentions only two children by name and refers to other unnamed children. In her will,<sup>21</sup> Catharine names only one daughter and “all my children.” However, the PA wills and probate file<sup>22</sup> shows that Andrew J. Balliet provided an inventory, vendue list, and account of the probate of Catharine's estate. If this information can be located in the Northumberland Co. Courthouse, it may provide additional evidence linking Mary to her parents.

Mary's ancestors are the subject for additional study, but they can be traced back to Northampton Co., PA, in the 1700s. Isaac Balliett, Mary's probable father, was born in Hecktown, Northampton Co., PA,<sup>23</sup> the son of Jacob Balliet (1751-1831) and Elizabeth Barbara Ritter (1766-1857). The fraktur of Isaac's brother Jacob confirms the name of his parents. Jacob Balliet, Mary's grandfather, was a Captain in the Northampton County Militia (4th, 5th, and 7th Co., 2nd Battalion) during the American Revolution.<sup>24</sup> Joseph Balliet, Jacob's father and Mary's great-grandfather served in 5th Co., 3rd Battalion of the Northampton Co. Militia.<sup>25</sup> Serving as a private in the Northampton Co. Militia (1st Co., 3rd Battalion) was Henry Leonard Wertman's great-grandfather, Johan Michael Wertman.<sup>26</sup>



Proving relationships when primary sources are not available can be difficult. However, using Mary's family, associates, and neighbors, it is possible to identify her maiden name, her father, and her probable ancestors back to Northampton Co., PA, which was also the home of her husband's Wertman ancestors.

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  15. 1850 U.S. Census. Montour County, Pennsylvania, population schedule. Limestone Township. Roll: M432\_801; Page 373A; Image 168. *Ancestry.com*. Image 9 of 19. Stephen Balliet. Accessed 1/7/2017.
  16. 1850 U.S. Census. Montour County, Pennsylvania, population schedule. Limestone Township. Roll: M432\_801; Page 370A; Image 162. *Ancestry.com*. Image 3 of 19. Wm. Balliet. Accessed 1/7/2017.
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## 18th Century Pennsylvania German Naming Customs and Patterns

By Charles Kerchner <[cfkerchner@kerchner.com](mailto:cfkerchner@kerchner.com)>

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<http://www.kerchner.com/germname.htm>

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### Baptismal Names

At baptism, if two given names were given to the child, the first given name was a spiritual, saint's name. The second given name was the secular or call name, i.e., "rufnamen", which is the name the person was known by, both within the family and to the rest of the world. This custom was originally adopted in Germanic and other regions in Europe from Roman Catholic tradition and continued by the Protestants in their baptismal naming customs. The immigrants from these areas brought the custom with them to Pennsylvania.

The spiritual name, usually to honor a favorite saint, was used repeatedly and was usually given to all the children of that family of the same gender. Thus the boys would be Johan Adam Kerchner, Johan George Kerchner, etc., or Philip Peter Kerchner, Philip Jacob Kerchner, etc. Girls would be named Anna Barbara Kerchner, Anna Margaret Kerchner, etc., or Maria Elizabeth Kerchner, Maria Catherine Kerchner, etc. But after baptism, these people would not be known as John, Philip, Anna, or Maria, respectively. They would instead be known by what we would think of now as their middle name, which was their secular name. Thus these people would be known respectively as Adam, George, Peter, Jacob, Barbara, Margaret, Elizabeth, and Catherine in legal and secular records.

For males, the saint's name Johan or John for Saint John was particularly heavily used by many German families, but also Saint George was used by some families for male children. The child's secular name was really John, if and only if, at baptism he was named only John, usually spelled as Johannes, with no second given name. The name John spelled as Johannes is rarely seen spelled as Johannes as a spiritual name, i.e., you rarely will see the name at baptism recorded as Johannes Adam Kerchner, etc. It is generally always found spelled as Johan or Johann when used as a spiritual name. Thus, you find the spiritual name of John recorded as Johan Adam

Kerchner or Johan Adam Kerchner, not Johannes Adam Kerchner.

Many researchers, new to German names, who find a baptism of an individual with a name such as Johan Adam Kerchner, thus mistakenly spend a lot of time looking for a John Kerchner, in legal and census records, when he was known after baptism, to the secular world, as Adam Kerchner. Also when reading county histories, etc., especially those written by individuals in the 20th century, and the author is referring to someone as John Kerchner, and you are not looking for a John Kerchner, but the history sounds otherwise familiar, further research may turn up that this person was really not a John Kerchner, but instead was someone else such as a Johan George Kerchner. You would thus find all his 18th century records recorded under the name George Kerchner and not John Kerchner and therefore after checking the data and correlating the facts you may find this is really a story about your missing George Kerchner.

As I said, the use of Saint John was the most common example of this custom, but Saint George was often used too. And thus one would find children in a family named George Heinrich ....., George Jacob ....., George Frederick ....., and of course simply George ..... by itself. In these examples the secular or call names would respectively be Heinrich, Jacob, Frederick, and George.

This naming custom slowly died out in Pennsylvania during the later part of the 19th century, i.e., after the 1870's.

Classic examples of errors caused by not knowing of this naming custom are seen in a work titled "Genealogical and Biographical Annals of Northumberland County PA." It was published in 1911 by J.L. Floyd & Company of Chicago IL. One specific example of this misnaming error in that work is on page 659 in the paragraph in the upper left column which begins, "John Wetzel ...". This person is not a Johannes or John Wetzel but is instead a Johan "George" Wetzel and is known secularly in all legal records as George Wetzel. He was married to Eva Elizabeth Kerchner. There are many more examples in this work and other county histories written by people unfamiliar with 18th Century PA German Naming Customs.

Modern computer programs which generate

automatic reports and books from genealogical databases are compounding the confusion because these programs tend to generate paragraphs and sentences using the first given name only, which as I have explained was not the real call name of the person in the 18th century. Computer programs need to be modified to allow the user to select which given name of the full series of given names is the proper call name, i.e., the first or second given name. Or better yet, the program should have a setting whereby both given names are always used together in tandem in the computer generated text when referring to an individual. Oh well, one can only hope. :-)

### Seniors, Juniors and Cousins

The terms “Senior” and “Junior” following a name did not necessarily imply a father and son relationship, as it does now. It could have been an uncle and nephew who had the same name and lived near each other. It could be a grandfather and a grandchild living together, where the father has died. It could even be two unrelated individuals with the same name but of different ages who lived near each other. So to help friends and business associates keep track of who-was-who in their discussions and records, they added the “Sr.” or “Jr.,” which merely meant the older and the younger, respectively.

The term cousin was widely used to mean an extended family, not the specific legal definition we understand it to be today.

### Naming Patterns

It was a common practice in some German families to name the first born son after the child’s paternal grandfather and the second born son after the maternal grandfather. Here are several more detailed naming patterns practiced by some families.

#### *Pattern A*

- 1st son after the father’s father
- 2nd son after the mother’s father
- 3rd son after the father
- 4th son after the father’s father’s father
- 5th son after the mother’s father’s father
- 6th son after the father’s mother’s father
- 7th son after the mother’s mother’s father
- 1st daughter after the mother’s mother
- 2nd daughter after the father’s mother
- 3rd daughter after the mother
- 4th daughter after the father’s father’s mother
- 5th daughter after the mother’s father’s mother
- 6th daughter after the father’s mother’s mother

- 7th daughter after the mother’s mother’s mother

#### *Pattern B*

- Pattern B for the sons is the same as the above, but this pattern for daughters was different:
- 1st daughter after the father’s mother
- 2nd daughter after the mother’s mother
- 3rd daughter after the mother
- 4th daughter after the mother’s father’s mother
- 5th daughter after the father’s father’s mother

#### *Pattern C*

- 1st son after the father’s father
- 2nd son after the mother’s father
- 3rd son after the father’s oldest brother
- 4th son after the father
- 1st daughter after the father’s mother
- 2nd daughter after the mother’s mother
- 3rd daughter after the mother’s oldest sister
- 4th daughter after the mother

### Duplicate Names

Whenever a duplicate name occurred in these patterns, the next name in the series was used. If a child died in infancy, the name was often reused for the next child of the same gender. A rare twist occurred sometimes. A child’s name would be reused when a spouse died and the surviving spouse remarried and had more children with the next spouse. I found this happened when a spouse had children in Germany and then his spouse died. He left his children behind in Germany, possibly with the grandparents, and then emigrated to Pennsylvania. Sometime after arrival he remarried and named his eldest son born in Pennsylvania by his new spouse with the same name as the son still living in Germany. This results in two adult children with the same name.

If you are lucky enough to find a family with a lot of children, who strictly followed one of these naming patterns, then it may give you useful clues to determining the possible names of family members in earlier generations.

### Suffixes

An “in” added to the end of a name, such as Anna Maria Kerchnerin, is a Germanic language name ending suffix denoting that the person is female. Thus the correct spelling of the last name in the example would be Kerchner, not Kerchnerin.

An “er” or “ner” added to a surname based on the name of something, denoted that the person worked with that object or at that occupation, if the main portion of the name was an object or an occu-

pation, or that the person was from that geographic location or city, if the main portion of the name was a geographic location. Examples: Forst is German for a forest, thus Forster is one who worked in a forest or with woodlands or was from a forest. Berlin is a city in Germany, thus Berliner is one who is from Berlin. Since English is a Germanic rooted language, we do the same thing in English, i.e., Paint(er), Garden(er), New York(er).

The suffixes mentioned above are compounded in many cases. The nouns Kirche and Kerche are German words for church. Thus for the surname spelled in an early record as Kerchnerin, i.e., Kerch(ner)(in) we have a family name which means a person who worked in or near a church, and this particular person is female.

### Sponsors

Frequently the secular name given to the child was also the same as the secular given name of one of the baptismal sponsors for the child. Said baptismal sponsors frequently were close relatives but also could be close and trusted friends and neighbors.

### Later Middle Names

In the last half of the 19th century after the first and middle name naming convention switched to the way it is today, some families gave all the children the same middle name, which was often the maiden name of the mother of the children. This same middle name, which if it was a surname, could also be that of a famous patriot, such as Benjamin Franklin or George Washington. But, if all the children had the same middle name, this could be a clue to the maiden name of their mother.

I hope that the above information will be of assistance to individuals researching 18th Century Pennsylvania-German names and records.

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For information on specific names consult one of the following excellent books.

For additional information, consult the book "German-American Names" written by Professor George F. Jones, or the 1967 book written by Hans Bahlow. The English version titled "Dictionary of German Names" was translated by Edda Gentry. It was published in 1993 by the Max Kade Institute for German-American Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison WI.

## Another Daughter Found for Johan Michael Wertman

By Hal and Brenda Merz

Some of you may recall that the will of Johan Michael Wertman (ca 1739-1817) refers to (but does not name) six sons and six daughters. As of 2016, research by WFA members had only accounted for four of the six daughters. An accidental find will increase the number of known daughters to five!

While cruising the online probate records for Columbia County, PA, we came upon the January 1835 will for one Jacob Shickel, a resident of Hemlock Township, Columbia Co. (later Hemlock Township of Montour). This will named *Henry Wertman* of Hemlock Township as being the Executor and also Jacob Shickel's *brother in law*.

This identifies Eve Catherine, Shickel's wife, as being a sister of Henry Wertman (1783-1867). FindAGrave shows a tombstone for this Eve (with surname Schickel), indicating an age at death of 84 years. It is in the Columbia Hill Cemetery in Montour Co. The inscription, a bit faint, seems to read 1851. This would indicate a birth year of 1767. If so, this would make Eve the oldest of the known daughters of Johan Michael Wertman.

The will of Jacob Shickel also mentions sons Henry and Daniel. According to a Heimbach family history, a Henry Shickel was among the heads of families who in the 1830s moved from Columbia Co., PA, to Branch Co. in Southern Michigan.



## Did the Wertmans Use a Naming Pattern?

By Shirley Daniels

The parents and siblings of George Philip Wertman<sup>1</sup> are unknown. Second generation daughters are linked through baptismal sponsorships but have not been proven.

In the first three generations of males, we have multiples of George Philip (4), Michael (3), Jacob (5), Simon/Samuel (2), Daniel (3), and John (3). Martin, Henry, and Andrew were each used once. Possibly connected but of unknown ancestry are Michael of Trumbull Co., OH, and Johan Michael of Frederick, MD.

Given names are shown below with their possible namesakes. The names do not seem to be in any consistent pattern, but do follow the saint's name and given name custom.

**Generation 1:** George Philip Wertman, wife unknown, parents unknown

**Generation 2:** (five sons, five daughters not proven)

- Johan Michael, b ca 1739
- George Philip, b ca 1741 (father)
- Johan Jacob, b ca 1743
- Simon/Samuel, b 1747
- Johan Martin, b 1750
- ?Margaretha
- ?Catharina Magdalena
- ?Maria Catharina
- ?Maria Barbara
- ?Maria Elisabeth

**Generation 3:**

**Michael, wife Catherine Flack**

- Jacob, b 1761, d 1806 (father's brother?)
- George Philip, b 1763 (father's father)
- Michael, b ca 1765 (father)
- ? Maria Elizabeth, b ca 1765 (father's sister?) m Jacob Mantz Jr.
- ? Catherine, b ca 1773 (mother? father's sister?) m Conrad Ebner
- ? Margaretha, b ca 1776 (father's sister?) m Johan George Brobst
- Johannes, b ca 1780
- Heinrich, b 1783
- Daniel, b 1786

- Christina, m Conrad Fenstermacher
- Eve Catherine, m Jacob Shickel
- unknown daughter

**Philip, possible wife Margaretha Briteius**

- Margaret (mother? father's sister?)

**Jacob, wife Catharina Maria**

- Jacob, b 1764, d 1838 (father)
- Christianna, b ca 1764, m John Schuck
- Catherina, b 1765 (father's sister?) m Michael Heimbach
- Elisabeth Barbara (father's sister?) m Philip Heimbach
- Margaretha, b 1773 (father's sister?) m Michael Sander
- Daniel, b 1775
- ?Jacob, b 1776 d 1861, Hemlock Township (father)
- George Philip, b 1779 (father's father, father's brother)
- Andreas, b 1784
- Maria Elisabeth, b 1786 (father's sister?) m Henry Krum

**Simon/Samuel, wife Barbara Stebleton**

- Christina Barbara, b 1771 (mother, father's sister?) m Johan George Creutz
- Maria Magdalena, b ca 1773 (father's sister?) m Philip Zehner
- John, b 1782
- Johan Jacob, b 1785 (father's brother)

**Martin, wife Elisabeth**

- Maria Elisabeth, b 1771 (mother, father's sister?) m Johan Jacob Rubrecht
- Daniel, b 1773
- Samuel/Simon, b 1775 (father's brother)
- John, b 1782

**? Margaretha m Jurg Christoph Heringh**

- Jurg Christoph, b 1760 (father)

**? Catharina Magdalena**

no record of marriage or children

**? Maria Catharina m Carl Straub**

- Magdalena Catharina, b 1779 (mother's sister?)

**? Maria Barbara m Frederich Moser**

- Maria Barbara, b 1760 (mother?)

**? Maria Elisabeth m Peter Heymbach**

- Johan Micaell, b 1762 (mother's brother?)

Source: Wertman Family Association Ancestry Committee, approved database, Russ Dannecker, Hal Merz, Tom Young

## Deaths, 2015-2016

We extend our sympathy to these families.

**Kenneth D. Cool**, 70, of Auburn, IN, died 28 June in Fort Wayne. He was born in Auburn to the late Chalmer A. and Alice L. (Wertman) Cool. He is survived by his wife, Carol A. (Ellison) Cool; a son, Todd (Thao) of Leo; two daughters, Angela (Gus Pullen) of Missouri City, TX, and Kimberly (Dennis Keller) of Missouri City, TX; six grandchildren, Makenna and Maya Cool, Lainey and Broody Pullen, and Owen and Parker Keller; and a sister, Nila Funk of Auburn. Interment with military honors was in Woodlawn Cemetery. Ken researched genealogy for 50 years. He was a Wertman Family Association officer and a member with Carol since 2000.



**William F. Fritz**, 87, of West Penn Township, PA, died 6 June in Nesquehoning. Born in West Penn Township, he was a son of the late Oliver and Emma (Dreisbach) Fritz. [Lizzie Gerber, Lewis Gerber, Elizabeth Brobst, Margaretha Wertman, Michael Wertman] He was the husband of the late Shirley M. (Borger) Fritz. He was also preceded in death by two brothers, Oliver Jr. and Curtis; and four sisters, Arlene Wertman, Mary Kromer, Dorothy Staudt, and Madeline Buckner. Surviving are a son, Randy (Gail Forte) of Andreas; a daughter, Kim Hillegass of Breinigsville; two grandchildren, Jamie (Joe Bigley) of Orefield, and Eric (Patrick Bartscherer) of New York City; and a great-grandson, Thatcher Bigley. Interment was in St. Peter's Union Church cemetery, Tamaqua.

**Guy Gary Geiger**, age 83, died 7 July 2015 in Concordia, KS. Guy was born in New Milford, CT, to the late Mary (Smith) and John Joseph Geiger [Joseph Geiger and Rebecca Wertman]. The youngest of five children, he was predeceased by Jim, Harrison, Gertrude and Peggy. He is survived by his wife, Javene Marie (Plucar) Geiger and their two children, Guy Gregory Geiger of Orange, CT, and Pamela Marie Dupas of Nanticoke, MD, grandchildren, Justin Geiger and Darcey (Adam Wunker), and

a great-grandchild, Asha Wunker. Interment was in the National Bohemian Cemetery, Cuba, KS. Guy was a WFA member.

**Rodney Keliokalani Kamalu**, age 84, died 9 June in St. George, Utah. He was born 12 February 1932 in Honolulu, Hawaii, to Robert and Helen Kamalu. Rod is survived by his wife, Dora; eight children: Kyle Kamalu, Michelle Roberts, Darren Kamalu, Maile Roberts, Layne Kamalu, Kimberly Wilcox, Roxane Nauahi and Deanna Farley; 48 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren, and a brother, Russell Kamalu. Interment was in the Tonaquint Cemetery, St. George, UT. Rod and Dora were WFA members and attended the 2001 reunion.



**Robert D. Weller**, 76, of Liverpool, NY, died 23 February. He was born in Pottstown, PA to the late Robert and LaRue (Wertman) Weller. He is survived by his children, Lee Ann Weller of Colorado; Mahlon Weller of Liverpool; and Musette Weller, also of Liverpool. Interment was in Pine Plains Cemetery. Bob joined us at the New York Reunion in 2004.

**Ida S. E. Wertman**, 93, of New Tripoli, PA, died 14 September in Allentown, PA. She was born in Lynnville to the late William and Ida (Ebert) Hartman. She was the wife of the late Lester A. Wertman who was killed 25 December 1944 while serving in WWII. She is survived by a daughter, Darlene A. Wertman, New Tripoli. She was predeceased by sisters, Grace Berk and Roma Fey; a brother, Paul Hartman; and a step-brother, William Wertman. Interment was in Ebenezer Union Church cemetery, New Tripoli.

**Robert D. Wertman**, 75, of Ashland, OH, died 18 November. He was born in Ashland to the late Henry and Martha Wertman. He is survived by his wife, Jacqueline; a son, Brad (Robyn), of New York City; a daughter, Kimberly (Chad Swanstrom) of Ashland; five Grandchildren, Lauren, Bryce, Chandler, Owen and Gwendolyn; a sister, Inez Wertman, and two brothers, John and Chester, all of Ashland. One brother, Norman, predeceased Bob.



In 2016, Park Rangers led us around Civil War sites in the Richmond-Petersburg, VA, area where relatives fought.

## About The Wertman Family Association (WFA)

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

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

We invite you to join us!

## Officers, Wertman Family Association

### President:

Russell C. Dannecker *dannecker123@verizon.net*

### Vice President :

Hal Merz *halbren7@hotmail.com*

### Secretary:

Doug Wertman *wertman1@verizon.net*

### Archivist:

Kathy Bucher *WFAArchives@hotmail.com*

### Treasurer:

Maryann Cronk *mcronkak2@aol.com*

### Ancestry Committee Chair:

Tom Young *teyoung3@verizon.net*

### DNA Project Manager:

Tom Young *teyoung3@verizon.net*

### Webmaster:

Kathy Bucher *WFAArchives@hotmail.com*

Website: *wertman.info*

### Directors at Large:

vacancy '17; Shirley Daniels '19;

Earl Maurer '19; Mary Ellen Wagner '17

**Newsletter:** *The next newsletter is June 2017.* In the interim, look for news and information on *wertman.info* or in electronic or postal mailings.

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**Plan now for the Wertman Family Reunion 18-19 August 2017, Lehigh County, PA**

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