

# Wertman *Lines*

Newsletter of the Wertman Family Association

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## **Reserve now!**

- Annual Wertman Family Reunion
- 17-19 August 2018
- Tuscarawas County, Ohio

## **Dear Wertman Descendants,**

By 1749, George Philip Wertman<sup>1</sup> (aka GP I) had settled in Lynn Twp., 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. His five known sons were George Philip, Jacob, Johann Martin, Johann Michael, and Simon.

This year we follow tracks of some early Wertmans to Tuscarawas County, Ohio, for our annual Family Reunion. Please join me in thanking Brenda and Hal Merz for taking charge of this year's reunion arrangements.

We look forward to seeing you in Sugarcreek, OH, Friday-Saturday, 17-19 August 2018.

Russell Dannecker, WFA President  
6th Great Grandson of George Philip Wertman I

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## **Some Tuscarawas Wertmans**

by Richard Daniels

Without a "paper trail" we cannot prove the origins of Jacob Wertman, who moved with his family to Tuscarawas County *ca* 1855. However, we do have a descendant whose DNA test closely matches the results of other men in proven GP I lines.

**Jacob Wertman** was born in 1806 in Union Co., PA; then moved to Mifflin and Bedford counties before settling in Tuscarawas Co., OH, with his wife Sarah Harris. Their children who migrated with them were:

**Elias** (b. 1827, m. Mary M. Mickey, d. 1907 OH)

Rebecca, Esther, Samuel, Daniel, all b. OH

**John** (b. 1829, m. Eleanor Wright, d. 1909, OH)

George Washington, Sarah Jane, Lusetta,  
Lucinda, Amanda, Elias, Clara Ella, all b. OH

**Rebecca** (b. 1835, m. Israel Miller, d. 1929 OK)

Joel, Juliann, Anna, Sarah, Flora, Ida

**Sarah** (b. 1837, m. Ervin Fulton, d. 1911 OH);

William, George, b. OH

Research is continuing; come to the reunion for more information on:

**Barbara** (b. *ca* 1840, m. Jacob Kauffman)

Edward

**Ann** (b. 1841, m. James Gordon, d. 1922 OH)

Elias, Jerome, Ulysses, Sara Jane, Costella,  
Stella Maybelle, Lawrence Marion,  
Ethelinda Agnes)

**Rachel** (m. Jerome Kilbore);

**Elizabeth**

**Christina**

Children staying in PA were: (Jacob, no data)  
Samuel Harris b. 1830, m. Susan Smith, d. 1907 PA;  
Mary b. 1833, m. William Blackburn, d. 1922 PA.

## 2018 Annual Reunion Follows 19th C. Wertman Migrants to Ohio

by Brenda & Hal Merz

The Wertman Family Association Reunion Committee is pleased to announce the tentative schedule for the 2018 Family Reunion and Annual Business Meeting. We hope that you will make every effort to attend. Sugarcreek is a beautiful resort area in Northeast Ohio's Amish country that has many attractions.

Sugarcreek merged with Shanesville, founded in 1814 by Abraham Shane. The location was at the intersection of two Indian trails, now Ohio routes 39 and 93. German and Swiss settlers came to the heavily forested area that reminded them of the countryside and climate of their homeland. Sugarcreek became known as the center of Swiss-Cheese making in Ohio. Industry included coal mining and brick making. The Railroad arrived in 1882, increasing the population of the "Little Switzerland of Ohio."

### Schedule

(Times are subject to adjustment)

#### Thursday, 16 August

All arriving early are welcome to join the group at 5:30 p.m. at the Carlisle Inn restaurant to eat, chat and get acquainted!

#### Friday, 17 August

##### 9:00 a.m. -- Researcher's Meeting

Meeting Room 2 at the Carlisle Inn Sugarcreek

##### Noon — Lunch

Select your own lunch option at the Dutch Valley restaurant next to the hotel. There are a la carte options as well as a lunch buffet.

##### 1:30 p.m. — Researcher's Meeting

Presentations continue until 3:30 p.m.

##### 5:00 p.m. — Dinner

We will eat together as a group having the buffet dinner at the Dutch Valley restaurant. Cost is \$15 (not incl. tax, etc.). *If you intend to also attend the theatre play, see combined ticket option below.*

##### 7:00 p.m. — Theater

The Ohio Star Theatre, which operates in a building adjacent to the hotel, offers the Mennonite/Amish themed musical, "Half- Stitched." *Signup and payment with your registration form are required if you wish to be assured of a seat at this highly-*

*recommended show. Cost is \$38 per ticket, or \$54 for a combined meal ticket that includes the buffet, desserts, tax, and gratuities.*

#### Saturday, 18 August

##### Family Picnic, Business Meeting and Auction

Tuscora Park, New Philadelphia, Ohio. This park is about 7 miles from the hotel. For those with families, it is a wonderful park with seven low-cost amusement rides and other unique features.

##### Noon — Lunch

A catered picnic lunch featuring grilled chicken, hamburgers and picnic sides will be served at a cost of \$14 for adults and \$7 for children 6-12 years old.

##### 1:30 p.m. — Annual Business Meeting

##### 2:30 p.m. — Family Auction

(Please bring an item for us to auction)

#### Saturday afternoon, 18 August and Sunday, 19 August -- Gravesite "tour"

The grave of Jacob Wertman (1806-89) is less than a mile from the hotel. The church that this family attended is nearby. There are other Wertman gravesites in Northeast Ohio that are a further drive; we will discuss these options.

#### Hotel Arrangements

The reunion committee has reserved a block of rooms at the Carlisle Inn in Sugarcreek, OH, for Thursday, 16 August, through Sunday, 19 August, at \$147 plus tax each night per room with either one king or two queen beds. Please call 330-852-2586 to reserve your room **before 16 July**. Specify two or three nights, and ask for the WFA room block RB292 and RB 292A. Any remaining rooms will be released on 16 July, so be sure to register before that date.

A deluxe continental breakfast is complimentary. Amenities include free wi-fi, a pool and fitness room, business center, spa services and free parking. Standard rooms include a porch or balcony, hand-crafted beds, a small refrigerator and coffee maker, TV, iron and hair dryer.

#### Directions to Site

From I-77, take exit 83 west on OH 39. Travel about 6 miles; turn left at traffic light at Dutch Village/Ragersville Rd., then left on CR Rd 39.

## Another Slice of Life Discovered

By Russell C. Dannecker

As a regular browser through online auction sites, I sometimes find family ephemera being offered. These pieces are not of genealogical significance, but add interest to the lists of names and dates. Questions arise, such as who, why, and what? One such item is a letter written by Lewis Franklin Wertman<sup>5</sup> (1848-1909), [George Philip<sup>4</sup>, George Philip<sup>3</sup>, Jacob<sup>2</sup>, George Philip<sup>1</sup>].

Addressed to "Jakob Bachman, Stony Run, Berks Co., Pa.," the letter is dated 06 Feb 1896 and was posted in Mosserville, PA. It reads: "Dear Sir.

"I have a horse that is about 6 years old.

"A nice brown horse.

"A good horse.

"I have no use for him.

"I have to [sic] much.

"I will trade with you for a hay rake and a Ohio Empire machine.

"That is about the end try and answer soon or try and come up.

"Yours truly,

Lewis F Wertman"

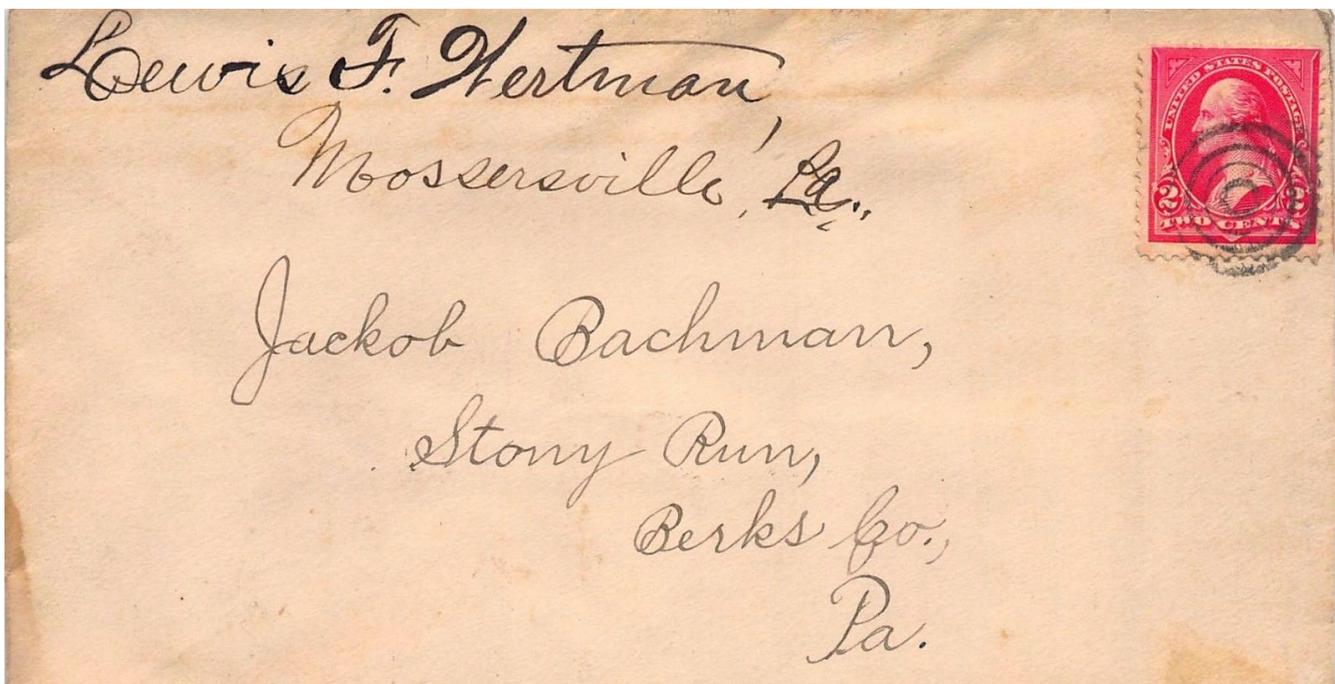
Mosserville, Pa., Feb 6, 1896

Dear sir.

I have a horse  
that is about 6 years old.  
A nice brown horse.  
A good horse.  
I have no use for him.  
I have to much.  
I will trade with you for  
a hayrake and a Ohio  
Empire machine.

That is about the  
end try and answer soon  
or try and come up

Yours truly,  
Lewis F Wertman



## 2017 Business Meeting Minutes

Wertman Family Association Reunion, Ontelaunee Park, New Tripoli, Lehigh County, PA, 18 August 2017

The 18<sup>th</sup> annual business meeting was called to order by President Russ Dannecker at 1:01 p.m. Thirty-three members were present for the meeting.

### **Attendance Awards/Recognition**

Came the longest distance – Earl Maurer  
Most senior lady – Virginia Wertman  
Most senior gentleman – Richard Daniels  
Youngest in attendance – Hannah Arner

### **Vice President's Report**

Hal Merz was not in attendance.

### **Secretary's Report**

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

### **Archivist's Report**

Kathy Bucher reported that more information on Michael's line will be in the archives by next year. She also urged WFA members to scan photos of past and present generations, to label them, and to send them to her.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Maryann Cronk reported that the WFA's balance as of 16 August 2017 was \$6,341.62, with expenses for the 2017 reunion not yet paid. A motion to accept the report was seconded and approved unanimously.

### **Report on Ancestry Committee and DNA Project**

Tom Young reported that the Columbus, Ohio, branch is working on their line, though documentation is extraordinarily difficult to find. There will be more news in the future.

On the DNA project, Tom said that all 14 of the DNA tests done thus far are properly identified. A control group of nine are documented descendants of George Philip I. The other five match the control group, but their connection to GPI is unknown. For more details, see: [www.bit.ly/wfadna](http://www.bit.ly/wfadna).

Scholarships are still available for further DNA tests for descendants of Martin and Simon and, at the discretion of the project administrators (Tom and Russ Dannecker), for those of unknown ancestry. Tom requested approval to spend \$395 for an in-depth test on the DNA of one of the 14 people al-

ready tested. A motion to approve his request was seconded and approved unanimously.

### **Newsletter Editor's Report**

Shirley Daniels reported that she had done two issues of the Newsletter in 2017: January and June. In addition to members, the WFA newsletter was distributed to 78 organizations. Shirley expressed her appreciation to all those who submitted articles and urged all WFA members to continue to do so, with sources.

### **Webmaster's Report**

Kathy Bucher said she is open to all recommendations and suggestions for the website.

### **Nominating Committee Report**

The committee (Chair Richard Daniels, Shirley Daniels, and Russ Dannecker) proposed the following nominees for WFA officer positions:

- President – Russ Dannecker
- Vice President – Hal Merz
- Secretary – Doug Wertman
- Treasurer – Maryann Cronk
- Webmaster – Kathy Bucher
- Archivist – Kathy Bucher
- Board Members (4 Year Terms) –  
Frank Strickling and Mary Ellen Wagner

No other nominations were made from the floor. A motion to approve all nominees was seconded and approved unanimously.

### **Reunion Committee Report**

Russ Dannecker expressed the WFA's thanks to Minerva and Carl Arner for organizing the meeting arrangements and to Minerva for catering the picnic.

The following meeting venues were agreed upon:

2018 – Sugarcreek, OH, 16-19 August, with Hal and Brenda Merz as the Reunion Committee

2019 – Gettysburg, PA – a traditional meeting plus battlefield tour (There was a proposal made to have this meeting in September or October, possibly Columbus Day weekend, and Russ agreed to do a survey among members on this.)

2020 – Lockport, New York

The business meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Wertman, Secretary

## 2017 Research Meeting Minutes New Tripoli, PA, 19 August 2017

### *Morning Session*

#### *The First Families of Pennsylvania Project – Kathy Bucher*

The Lineage Society is sponsored by the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania (GSP). There are three groups:

- Colony and Commonwealth (ancestors first arrived in PA between 1683 and 1790);
- Keystone and Cornerstone (ancestors first arrived in PA between 1791 and 1865); and
- Pennsylvania Proud (ancestors first arrived in PA between 1866 and 1900).

You can join with proof:

- identify ancestors;
- complete application form, which is for one person only;
- assemble documentation (this same documentation can be used by others); and
- pay fee.

Preferred documents are: official records of birth; marriage certificates; and death certificates. Other documents which can be used include: tax records; deeds; wills; land grants; military service records; census records; and church records.

Kathy concluded by explaining why she is talking about this and why she wants to involve the Wertman Family Association in this:

- to put George Philip Wertman I on the list of First Families of PA; and
- once one person joins, others can do so with the same documentation.

#### *Ruprecht Family Update – Richard Daniels*

The Heimbachs are direct descendants of GPWI. The Ruprechts are in Martin's line; a Ruprecht married one of the daughters of Martin.

Richard distributed to all interested a copy of a disc with Microsoft Word files on GPWI (largest file) and files on others of unknown origins.

#### *eBay and Your Family – Russ Dannecker*

Russ said that you can do research on eBay. He has found 16 Wertman pictures on eBay and has done research on the individuals; in some cases he

couldn't find many records. He has bought several things on eBay. He concluded that you should "keep on looking." Look occasionally on eBay for anything Wertman-related.

#### *Who Are You? – Richard Daniels*

Richard talked about the importance of writing your autobiography and how you write one and then discussed his own autobiography which he had written several years ago.

#### *A Year in Review – Tom Young*

Tom briefly discussed the status of the DNA project, pointing to the DNA section of the Wertman Family Association website for those interested in a more detailed discussion: <http://wertman.weebly.com/dna.html>. This website has a link to Tom's paper on what we've learned from the DNA project and a link to the 14 people analyzed (not by name).

### *Afternoon Session*

#### *Coming to America – Shirley Daniels*

This presentation was a dialogue with Richard Daniels asking questions of Shirley, who answered them by portraying a young girl who came to America from Germany in the early 1700s. The dialogue included life in Germany, why she would want to come to America, the voyage, getting settled in Pennsylvania, getting land in Lynn Township (10 year mortgage), going to the farm, preparing the land (clearing woods), and building the cabin.

#### *Women's Work in 18<sup>th</sup> Century Pennsylvania – Shirley Daniels*

In the 1700's, husbands were advised to pick a wife who was young, sturdy, and preferably good-looking. Shirley discussed women's never-ending duties, which included:

- Helping her husband;
- Caring for her family;
- Managing the household;
- Feeding the family;
- Caring for clothing;
- Treating illnesses; and
- Networking.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Wertman, Secretary

## Deaths

**W. Franklin Strickling**, 84 of Ashland, OH, passed away 10 February 2018 at Ohio Health MedCentral Hospital.

Frank<sup>9</sup> was born 15 December 1933 in Ashland to the late Roy and Rosa Wertman<sup>8</sup> Strickling. (John Frank<sup>7</sup>, Eli<sup>6</sup>, Solomon<sup>5</sup>, David<sup>4</sup>, George Philip<sup>3</sup>, Michael<sup>2</sup>, George Philip<sup>1</sup>)

He was an architect for more than 40 years.

Frank was a member of Peace Lutheran Church. In his earlier years, he was a Scout Master and played church fast pitch softball. He enjoyed traveling and was an avid Ohio State University fan.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Judith Ann Studer Strickling of Ashland; a daughter, Jenny (Rick) Ewing of Ashland; a son, Marc (Lisa) Strickling of Ashland; ten grandchildren; and two sisters, Shirley Null of Ashland and Nancy (Gerald) Johnson of Ney, Ohio.

Interment was in the Ashland County Memorial Park.

We extend our sympathy to the family of our Wertman Family Association Board Member and former WFA Vice President.

**Sarah Jane Wertman**, 95, passed away 20 April 2018 at Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village, Lewisburg, PA.

She was born 09 March 1923 in Milton to the late Otis and Susan Satteson Caldwell. She was the wife of William E. Wertman<sup>7</sup> (William Edwin<sup>6</sup>, William Henry<sup>5</sup>, Jacob B.<sup>4</sup>, Daniel<sup>3</sup>, Jacob<sup>2</sup>, George Philip<sup>1</sup>), who died in 2006.

She was a lifelong member of St. Andrew's United Methodist Church, Milton, where she taught Sunday school and was the organist for 60 years, a member of the United Methodist ladies auxiliary, and had volunteered in the gift shop at River Woods, Lewisburg.

She is survived by three daughters and sons-in-law, Barbara and John Hoffmaster of Hughesville, Karen and Keith English and Sharen and Randall Coup, all of Milton, six grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a brother, Clifford Caldwell.

Burial was in Harmony Cemetery, Milton.

## News Excerpts

**Mansfield News**, *Mansfield, OH*, 26 Sep 1907

**Edward B. Wertman**<sup>8</sup> (Josiah Franklin<sup>7</sup>, David<sup>6</sup>, Solomon D.<sup>5</sup>, David<sup>4</sup>, George Philip<sup>3</sup>, Michael<sup>2</sup>, George Philip<sup>1</sup>), of Ashland, was run down and trampled upon by a runaway horse and badly injured. His left shoulder bone was fractured, a gash was cut in his head and he was otherwise bruised. [Edward died 28 Aug 1950.]

**Star-Independent**, *Harrisburg, PA*, 10 Apr 1915

Another forest fire broke out yesterday on the mountain leading from New Tripoli to Tamaqua and spread rapidly. The flames leaped across what is known as the **Wertman** road, and made it impossible for vehicles to pass that way.

**The Daily Gate City**, *Keokuk, IA*, 14 Feb 1916

Mrs. Anna C. Linn, a resident of the Benevolent Union home, lived in Lewiston, IL, with her aunt, **Mrs. Sarah Wertman** (Sarah Emmons), wife of John<sup>5</sup> Wertman, (Simon<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, Simon<sup>2</sup>, George Philip<sup>1</sup>), in 1859, when Abraham Lincoln was a candidate for president. He came to Lewiston and stayed two days at the Wertman home. Mrs. Linn's remembrance of the man, his kindness and his simplicity of manner is very distinct.

She says Lincoln spoke in Lewiston from the court house steps, making a speech of perhaps two hours in length. The people who heard him, for the greater part, had to stand, but their interest in the speech and their love and admiration for the speaker made them forget the length of time and their weariness. She spoke particularly of remembering the swing of his long arms as he made gestures to emphasize his speech.

**The Independent Record**, *Helena, MT*, 1 Nov 1946

The prospective recruit was no rookie, but Maj. Harold E. Dalness hesitated. With fingers crossed, Dalness signed him – subject to physical exams. A telegram from Fort Lewis, WA, credited the Billings army recruiting station with another recruit. **Oscar L. Wertman**<sup>7</sup> (Perry Sylvester<sup>6</sup>, Daniel<sup>5</sup>, Simon<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, Simon<sup>2</sup>, George Philip<sup>1</sup>) of Roundup, veteran of two world wars, was wearing khaki again – at 63.

**2018 Wertman Family Reunion Registration Form**  
**Friday-Sunday, 17-19 August 2018**  
**Sugarcreek, Tuscarawas County, Ohio**

*Please print*

Name/s	
Address	
City/State/Zip	
Telephone	Cell phone
E-mail	
<input type="checkbox"/> Please e-mail WFA newsletters <input type="checkbox"/> Please send newsletters by US Mail (only mailed if dues are paid)	

Reunion Event	<i>Number Attending</i>	<i>Cost Per Person</i>	<i>Total Cost</i>
<b>Friday, 17 August</b> Researcher's Meeting (Lunch is on your own)		0	\$0
<b>Friday, 17 August</b> Dinner and Show Combination		\$ 54	\$
Dinner only		\$15	
Show only		\$38	
<b>Saturday, 18 August</b> Picnic, adult (aged 13-up)		\$14	\$
Picnic, child (aged 6-12 years)		\$7	

<b>Annual Dues, Wertman Family Association</b> <b>July 2018-June 2019</b>	\$20 family	\$
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<b>Reunion &amp; Dues</b> (Make check payable to Wertman Family Assoc.)	<b>TOTAL</b>	\$
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Will you be joining the Thursday evening, 16 August, get-together?	Yes	No
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Please make your check payable to the **Wertman Family Association**.  
 Mail your check and Registration Form **by 16 July** to  
 Maryanne Cronk, WFA Treasurer,  
 201 Neiger Hollow Rd., Barton, NY 13734  
 If you have Reunion questions,  
 phone Hal and Brenda Merz, Reunion Chairs, at 614-560-5715  
 or e-mail [Halbren7@hotmail.com](mailto:Halbren7@hotmail.com)



A good time was had by all at the 2017 Wertman Family Reunion picnic at Ontelaunee Park, New Tripoli, PA.

## About The Wertman Family Association (WFA)

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

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

We invite you to join us!

## 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:

Shirley Daniels '19; Earl Maurer '19;

To be appointed '21, Mary Ellen Wagner '21

**Newsletter:** *The next newsletter is January 2019.*

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

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**Plan now to attend the Annual Wertman Reunion 17-19 Aug. 2018 in Sugarcreek, OH**

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