

Wertman *Lines*

Newsletter of the Wertman Family Association

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Reunion Registrations Due 23 July

- 2011 Wertman Family Reunion
- Friday-Sunday, 19-21 August
- Lehigh County, PA

Family Returns to Historic Roots

On 18 February 1760, Phillip Wertdman was one of the congregational delegates who signed a document to buy land in Lynn Twp., Lehigh Co., PA, to build Ebenezer Union Church. (*Ebenezer Union Church 1740-1990, Stones of Help.*) On 26 July 1924, the Wertmans held a reunion at Victory Park in Slatington, PA. From 19-21 August 2011, the Wertman Family Association (WFA) returns to Ebenezer Church in New Tripoli and Victory Park in Slatington during our annual reunion. You can retrace the steps of our pioneer predecessors this summer and discover what we know or don't know about them as we share research, motivations, and possibilities. There have been some exciting discoveries this year.

You may register for reunion events and meals and pay the coming year's dues using the form on page 7 of this newsletter, or download the form from the WFA website at <www.wertman.info>. Please register by 23 July. We look forward to seeing you this year in Lehigh Co., PA, Friday-Sunday, 19-21 August.

Please join me in thanking Larry and Shirley Wertman and Minerva Arner for taking charge of this year's reunion arrangements.

Russell C. Dannecker, President, WFA,
6th G-Grandson of George Philip Wertman

2011 WFA Reunion Plans

Minerva Arner, Larry & Shirley Wertman

The Wertman Family Association Reunion Committee is pleased to announce the arrangements and tentative schedule for the 2011 Reunion and Family Business Meeting. We hope that you will attend.

Make Your Reservations by 23 July

The Committee has obtained a group rate (\$85.00 plus tax) at the reunion hotel, the Hawthorn Suites by Wyndham Allentown-Fogelsville in Fogelsville, PA. You may make reservations now by calling 1-610-366-9422. When you make your reservation, please indicate that you are with the Wertman Family Reunion, group #329. Each studio suite has a king-size bed with a full-size sleep sofa, mini-kitchen with microwave and refrigerator, and wireless high-speed internet access. A hot breakfast is included each morning. The group rate is available until 23 July.

Directions to Hawthorn Suites: From Interstate 78, take exit 49 to Route 100 North. Get into the left lane at the first stoplight (Route 100 and Main St./Tilghman St.) and turn left. Turn left at the next stoplight and left into the shopping center. The Hawthorn Suites hotel, at 7720 Main St., is behind the Cracker Barrel restaurant.

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This old Wertman home still stands in Lynn Twp. at the corner of Gun Club and Lentz roads.

Tentative Reunion Schedule

Friday, 19 August

9:00 a.m.-Noon, 1:30-4:00 p.m. Researchers will meet at Ebenezer United Church of Christ, 7287 Decatur St., New Tripoli.

Noon-1:30 p.m. Ebenezer Church will provide lunch of sandwiches, salads, and fruit for \$12.00 (\$8.00 for children under 12 and free for children 6 and under).

6:00 p.m. Dinner, followed by a presentation, will be at Ebenezer Church. The buffet will include a relish dish, fruit cup, ham and turkey with gravy, potato filling, sweet potatoes, green beans, lettuce with bacon dressing, rolls and butter, desserts, coffee and tea. The cost is \$18.00 (\$14.00 for children under 12 and free for children 6 and under).

7:00 p.m. Native American Storyteller Darius Puff uses artifacts (real and reproductions), furs, and traditional storytelling to teach about the early lives of the Lenape people and the changes their society went through in the 18th C. A retired Berks Co. police officer, he served 32 years with the Boyertown Police Dept., the last 20 as Chief. He is a Penn State

graduate with a BS in criminal justice. A few years before retirement, he started giving talks about his Native American heritage to civic groups. He decided to add to his life-long love of history and his background by learning as much as possible about the Lenape people and their culture. He has presented programs to scout groups, at state and county parks, his-



Lenape historian Darius Puff

historical sites, colleges, universities, elementary and middle schools, and historical societies.

Directions to Ebenezer Church: from the hotel in Fogelsville, go North on Route 100 for 8.1 miles to a "T". At this stoplight, turn left onto Route 309



The Wertman Family Association dedicated a memorial in Ebenezer cemetery to George Philip Wertman at the 2007 reunion. His burial place is unknown, but likely was in this old graveyard. Many early stones are unreadable or missing.

North. Go 2.5 miles. Follow sign to New Tripoli and Route 143. Bear left onto Route 143 and go nine-tenths mile to the church, on the right.

Saturday, 20 August

The Family Picnic, Annual Business Meeting and Auction will be held at Victory Park on Grove St. in Slatington, with lunch served at Noon. The buffet will include pork barbecue sandwiches, coleslaw, macaroni salad, baked beans, veggie tray, fruit tray, roasted corn on the cob, chips, pretzels, pickles and olives, hot dogs and hamburgers. Water and sodas will be provided. The cost is \$18.00 (\$9.00 for children 12 and under and free for children 6 and under). The pavilion has picnic tables and benches, but you may prefer to bring your own lawn chair.

The Wertman Family Association Annual Business Meeting will follow lunch. Nominees for offices are: Russ Dannecker, Pres.; Frank Strickling, Vice Pres.; Minerva Arner, Sec.; Kathy Bucher, Gen./Hist. Sec.; Shirley Wertman, Treas.; Tom Young, Webmaster; Shirley Daniels and Hal Merz, Board. The WFA President will appoint the 2012 Reunion Committee.

The usual auction will conclude the day's scheduled activities. You are encouraged to bring hand-crafted or other items for the auction, and cash or your checkbook! Proceeds benefit the WFA treasury.

Directions to Victory Park: from the hotel in Fogelsville, go North on Route 100 for 8.1 miles to the "T" at the stoplight. Turn right onto Route 309. Go 4.7 miles to a "T" in Schnecksville at a stoplight. Turn left onto Route 873 North and go 5.6 miles. After a large cemetery on the left, turn right onto Grove St. There is a sign for Victory Park. The pavilion is a few hundred feet from Route 873.

Sunday, 21 August

Those who wish to carpool to family cemeteries and homesteads, meet at the hotel (time TBA).

For Further Information

If you have any reunion questions, please ask Larry and Shirley Wertman, 610-395-6707 or 610-972-6776, <nlwertman@verizon.net>, 6343 Memorial Rd., Allentown, PA 18106-9363; or Minerva Arner, 215-679-2669, <mmarner@ptd.net>, 156 Five Points Rd., Macungie, PA 18062.

Five Generations of Daniel Wertman Family Photographed circa 1915, Pennsylvania



L-R: Kitty Ann Wertman Leiby (gen 2), Daniel Wertman (gen 1), Catherine Clouse Gerber (gen 4), Lloyd Gerber (gen 5), and Jeanetta Leiby Clouse (gen 3). Identification of people in photographs is invaluable, but it is preferable to write notations on a photocopy of the original.

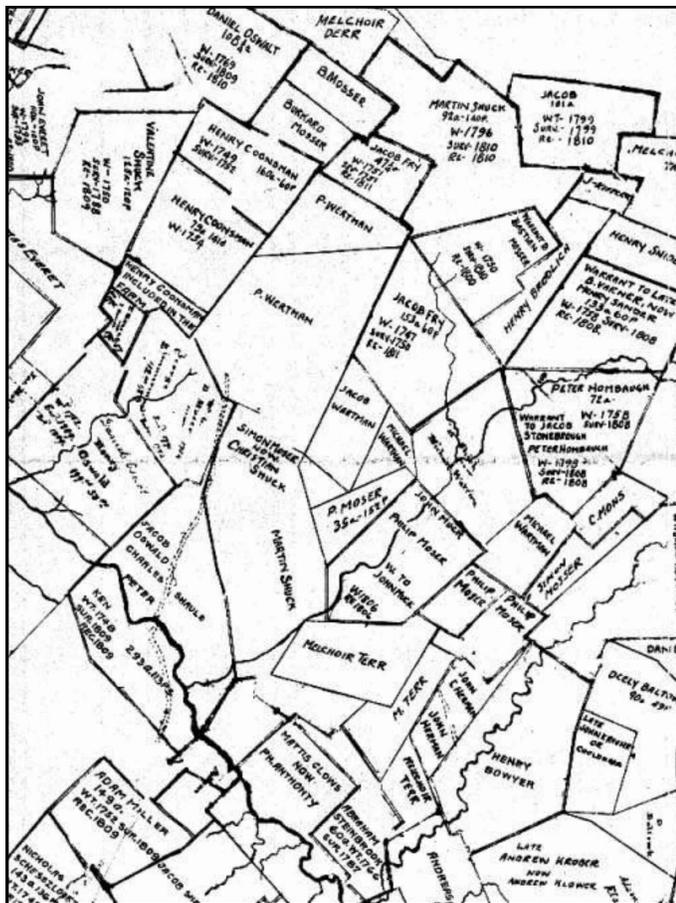
1. Daniel Wertman, b 1825 PA, d 1916 PA, m1 1847 to Sarah Zettlemoyer (ca 1825-1858), was a son of David Wertman and Maria Catherine Hoppes, a grandson of George Philip Wertman (GP III) & Christina, a g-grandson of Johan Michael Wertman & Catherine Flack, and a g-g-grandson of George Philip Wertman (GP I).
2. Catherine "Kitty" Ann Wertman (1848-1941) m Nathan S. Leiby
3. Jeanetta Leiby m James Clouse
4. Catherine "Kate" Clouse m Mahlon Gerber
5. Lloyd Gerber b ca 1913, PA
(David H. Wertman, pg 5, was Daniel's nephew)

Ohio Wertman-Reichelderfer Connection: Hattie Wertman of Ashland and Pickaway Counties

By Brenda Wertman Merz¹
 (Kenneth G.², George M.³, John⁴, George⁵, Jacob Wertman⁶, d 1806, Northumberland Co., PA)

In 1997, I began the search for our family tree. My father owned part of the farm that had been in the family for nearly 100 years. Sometimes I went with him to check on the sheep, visit with my aunt and those managing the farm, and take care of other business as needed. Sometimes we even got out the rifle and practiced our shooting skills. One year, the wolves destroyed almost a third of Dad's sheep. I rarely saw him cry, but this time was an exception. As a result, Dad decided to stop raising sheep.

Look at the Neighbors



The Lynn Township PA map of land warrants shows familiar surnames such as Everet, Moser, Oswald, Sander, & Shock. Which others connect?

On one of these trips, I asked Dad what he knew about the family history. To my surprise, he knew very little. Beyond the immediate family, his closest first cousin that he knew about was 15 years older than he. Dad said there was a Hattie Wertman in the area, but had no dates or what part of the family she was from. I made a mental note of the information until I was able to research the family later in life.

Fast forward to 1996. My desire to trace the family tree became a reality. First, I checked Pickaway and Fairfield Co., OH, history books. I found my g-g grandfather, George Wertman, came to Ohio as a lad of about 10 years old with his stepfather Andrew Hines and his family in 1814. George married Susanna Leist, a daughter of David Leist, in 1827. He was the only Wertman mentioned in the history books.

We found our subject, Hattie Wertman, in the 1850 U. S. Census in the household of Jesse Wertman in Ashland Co., OH. Harrietta is seven years old. Her father, Jesse, was a son of John Jacob Wertman (1785-1863) who moved to Ashland Co. ca 1830. He was married to Maria Magdalena Reichelderfer in Pennsylvania before they moved to Ohio. The 1850 census for Jesse shows seven children: Hattie (a nickname for Harriett), plus Charles, William, Daniel, Jacob, Sarah and Maria Catherine.

By 1870, we find Hattie Wertman living with her sister, Maria Catherine, in Pickaway Co., OH, in the household of James Reichelderfer; the relationship between Hattie, Maria and James is not noted. Hattie Wertman was also listed in the household of Eli Lutz in the Pickaway Co. 1870 census. The Lutz family were cousins of the Pickaway Reichelderfers. Perhaps Hattie was residing with her sister's family, but "working out" at the Lutz household.

In the 1880 census for Pickaway Co., Hattie Wertman is living with James Reichelderfer and his wife (Maria) Catherine Wertman, where she identifies herself as the sister-in-law of James Reichelderfer. In one of the twists that is not uncommon in family history, James Reichelderfer and his wife Maria were cousins. Maria's grandfather, Jacob Wertman (1785-1863), was married to a Reichelderfer. The branches of the Reichelderfers go back to

Albany Twp. in Berks Co., PA, where they were members of the Rosenthal New Bethel Church along with Simon Wertman and family. John Jacob's brother Johannes married Anna Maria Reichelderfer. Maria Magdalena and Anna Maria were first cousins. Also, one of Martin Wertman's wives was Margaret Reichelderfer Stapleton/Stebleton.

Hattie evidently maintained a relationship between the Ashland Co. and Pickaway Co. relatives. We found an 1889 notice from the Marion, OH, newspaper stating that Hattie Wertman of Circleville stopped in Marion to visit her sister and then went on to Ashland, Ohio, to visit other relatives. We presume Hattie shared news of the Pickaway Co. Wertmans, such as John and David Wertman, with their cousins in Ashland Co. Dad had heard of Hattie even though she had left Ohio before his birth.

Between 1880 and 1890, there were major changes in Hattie's life. Her sister, Maria Catherine, died in 1887 at the age of 46. Tragically, the couple had several children who all died before their mother. James Reichelderfer remarried a few years later. In 1889, Hattie married George Bossert. She was 45 years old and George was 59; apparently nei-

ther had been married before. George's family originated in Eastern Pennsylvania and had settled in the Pickaway Co. area. George's father moved to Fulton Co., IL, where George is found in the 1880 Census.

In the 1900 Census, we find George Bossert and Hattie in Fulton Co., IL, engaged in farming, with no other relatives in the household. By 1910 there is no mention of the couple in the census; we believe they both died between 1900 and 1910 in Illinois. The state's online death records are spotty before 1916, so we will need to communicate with the probate office in Fulton Co. for further information.

Other surnames familiar to the Wertman family were: Bousher, Delong, Hines, Hoffman, Shoemaker, Shoch, Spangler, Stapleton/Stebleton, Stous, and Stump(f), who came to Pickaway Co. from Berks and Northampton counties, PA, before 1810. They played important roles in the settlement of the heart of America.

Another surprising twist to the story is that James Reichelderfer's grandson, also named James, married Doris Moffitt. Doris is the first cousin of Hal Merz's father, John Richard Merz. As you may know, Hal is my husband!

The David Wertman Family of Ashland, Ohio



David¹ (Solomon,² bro. of Daniel, pg. 3; David³; GP III⁴; Johan Michael⁵; and GP I⁶) b 1831 d 1903, m Rachel Garver, b 1832 d 1900. The family included Anice (1864-1954 m Stillwagon); Oscar (1861-1943); Agnes (1855-1937 m Vantilburg); Frank (1857-1932); George (1873-1953); Rachel; Jenny (1869-1949 m Brindle); Leah (1866-1957 m Kagey); Nora (b 1875 m Riley). Son John d, age 4.

2011 Wertman Family Reunion Registration Form

Friday-Sunday, 19-21 August 2011 Lehigh County, PA

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>
Fri., 19 Aug. , Researchers' Meeting		\$ 0	\$ 0
Fri., 19 Aug. , Lunch at Ebenezer Church, 12-up		\$ 12.00	\$
Lunch, age 7-11		\$ 8.00	
Lunch, age 6-under		\$ 0	
Fri., 19 Aug. , Dinner at Ebenezer Church, 12-up		\$18.00	\$
Dinner, age 7-11		\$14.00	
Dinner, age 6-under		\$ 0	
Fri., 19 Aug. , After-Dinner Presentation		\$ 0	
Sat., 20 Aug. , Picnic at Victory Park, age 12-up		\$ 18.00	\$
Picnic, age 7-11		\$ 9.00	
Picnic, age 6-under		\$ 0	
Total for all 2011 Reunion Meals			\$

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

To continue receiving mailed copies of the newsletter, be sure your dues are paid!

Annual Dues 1 July 2011-30 June 2012	\$20 per family	\$ 20.00
2011 Reunion Meals, and Dues	Grand Total, Check Enclosed	\$

Please make your check payable to the **Wertman Family Association**.
 Mail your check and Registration Form **by 23 July** to 2011 WFA Reunion
 c/o Shirley Wertman, 6343 Memorial Rd., Allentown, PA 18106-9363
 If you have questions, call 610-395-6707 or e-mail <snlwertman@verizon.net>

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>, 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

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Directors at Large:

Katherine Bucher '11; Shirley Daniels '11;
Ken Cool '13; Mary Ellen Wagner '13

Historical Acceptance Committee:

Tom Young, Chair <teyoung3@verizon.net>

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>. The next issue will be published in January 2012.

Register by 23 July for the Wertman Family Reunion 19-21 Aug. 2011, Lehigh Co., PA

Wertman Family Association
32 Burgess Rd., Foster, RI 02825

