

# Wertman *Lines*

Newsletter of the Wertman Family Association

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## *Reserve Your Space by 26 July*

- **2013 Wertman Family Reunion**
- **Friday-Sunday, 16-18 August**
- **Early Bird Research 15 August**
- **Berks Co., PA**

## **Dear Wertman Descendants,**

By 1749, George Philip Wertman<sup>1</sup> had settled in Lynn Twp., Northampton (now Lehigh) Co., PA. His son Simon<sup>2</sup> (aka Samuel), born ca 1747, was confirmed at the Weissenberg church in 1763, the same time as his youngest brother, Martin<sup>2</sup>.

By 1775, he had moved a short distance away to Albany Twp., Berks Co., as reflected on the tax lists there. From 1777 to 1779, he was on the Berks Co. Militia lists. He and his wife, Barbara (Stabelton), had four known children: Christina Barbara, Maria Magdalena, Johannes, and Johann Jacob. Simon and Barbara frequently were baptismal sponsors at New Bethel Church in Albany Twp., including Creutz, Schnitt, Schrer, Stabelton, Strasser, Reichelderfer, and Zehner. The 1800 U. S. Census lists him as a blacksmith, still living in Albany Twp. In 1807, his family moved to Bloom Twp., Northumberland Co.

This year we also move to Albany Twp. for our Family Reunion. We will also visit the Oley Valley, where a Philip Wurtzman (our George Philip<sup>1</sup>?) owned land in 1741.

We look forward to seeing you in Berks Co., PA, Friday-Sunday, 16-18 August 2013.

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

## **Are You a Cousin?**

Please come to our annual reunion to discover more about your roots!

Perhaps you can help us expand our knowledge of the female lines. Some 18th and 19th C Wertman women married: Aikins, Alspach, Bailer, Balthaser, Barnum, Benefield, Bennett, Betz, Biebelheimer, Billman, Bogart, Borkey, Brown, Chester, Cooper, Cotner, Cromley, Crosley, DeFrehn, DeWalt, Dunkelberger, Dysart, Ebner, Ely, Emerich, Endy, Faust, Fenstermacher, Finney, Fry, Funk, Geiger, Gobel, Greim, Griswold, Grotz, Haag, Habermann, Hartman, Heimbach, Henninger, Heroy, Hill, Hinkel, Holbrook, Houser, Kalbach, Kauffman, Kendig, Kleckner, Koch, Kramer, Kressley, Kreutz, Krum, Laidacker, Laubach, Lazarus, Leach, Leib, Leiby, Loeb, Long, Love, Mauser, Mensch, Miller, Mimm, Mohr, Moser, Moyer, Nunemacher, Orwig, Philips, Preisch, Rhone, Rishel, Robins, Rosencrantz, Roth, Rubrecht, Sander, Schick, Schroeder, Sechler, Seeman, Shuck, Sidler, Snook, Snyder, Soper, Spence, Stahler, Steigerwalt, Strause, Stine-man, Strome, Trautman, Wageman, Ward, Weaver, Weber, Wilson, Winterstein, Wynkoop, Yeager, Zerbe, Zechman, Zehner, Zellner, and Zettlemoyer,

Descendants have spread throughout the country.

## ***What's inside:***

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## Wertman Family Reunion Plans

*Richard and Shirley Daniels*

The Wertman Family Association 2013 Reunion Committee invites you to join us in Berks County, PA, 16-18 August for the annual reunion. This year, we will focus on Simon Wertman<sup>2</sup> (George Philip<sup>1</sup>) who lived in Albany Township ca 1775 until 1807. We will also visit the Oley Valley where a Philip Wartman/Wurtzman owned land in 1741.

### Housing

We have reserved a block of rooms at the Microtel Inn and Suites, 50 Industrial Drive, Hamburg, north of I-78 at exit 29B. (GPS N 40° 33.8; W 76° 60.0) The group rate for standard rooms is \$80.40, plus tax. Suites are \$94 and have a microwave, refrigerator and coffeemaker. The hotel has free internet access, and offers a complimentary continental breakfast. Phone (610) 562-4234. Please mention that you are attending the Wertman family reunion.

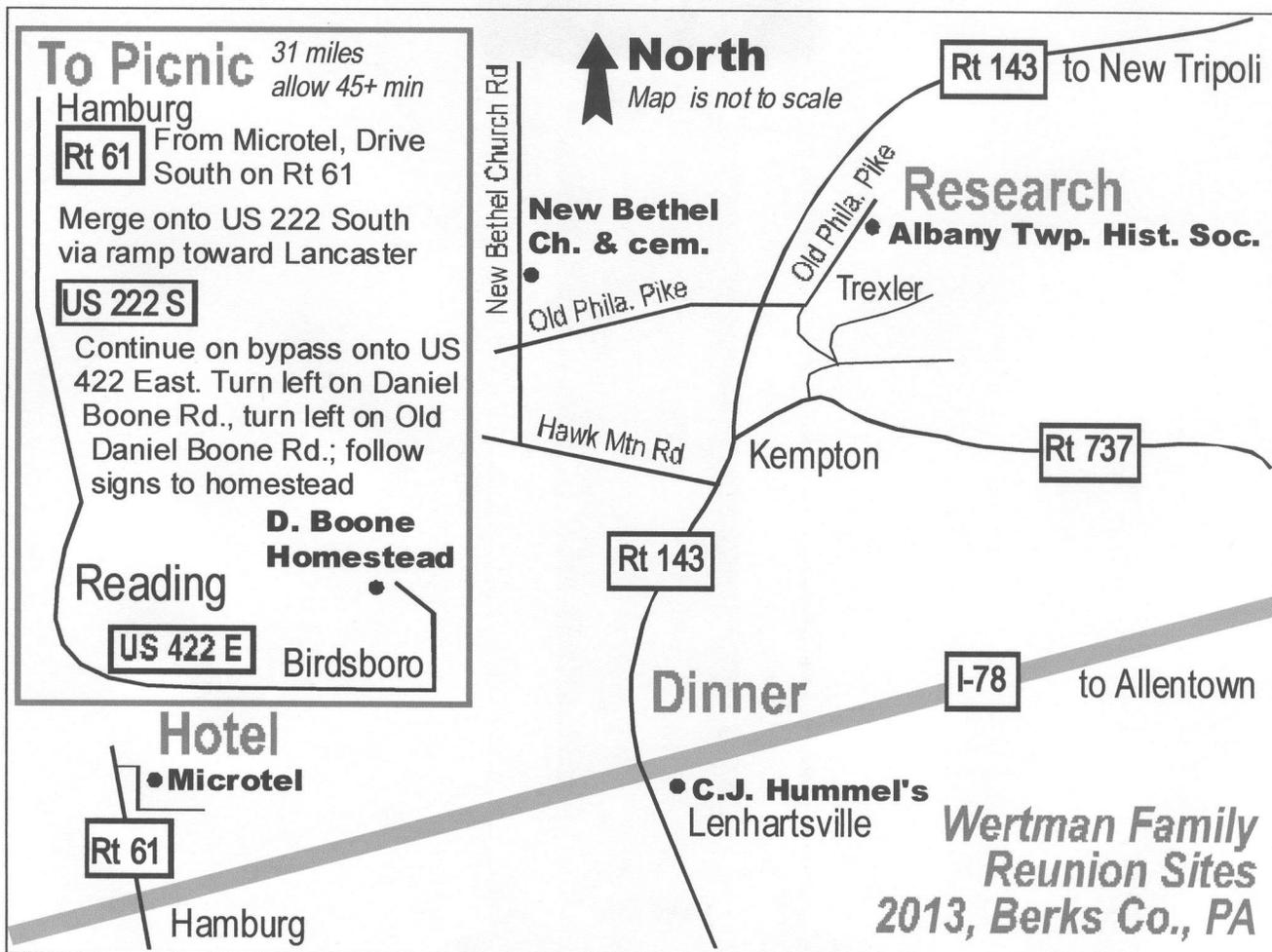
### Early-Bird Research Opportunity

The Albany Township Historical Society, Kempton, will be open Thursday afternoon, 15 August, from 2-5 p.m. if at least six Wertman Family Association members are interested. The outside stairway on the left side of the building is the shortest way to the library. See <genealogy@albanyths.org>.

### Friday Meeting

Researchers will meet on Friday at 9 a.m. in the museum at the Albany Township Historical Society. This restored grain and feed warehouse in Trexler (Kempton Post Office) is east of Rte. 143 via Old Philadelphia Pike. (GPS N 40° 38.13; W 75° 51.19) Please use the lower level entrance to the meeting room, on the right side of the building.

The cost is \$13 for the meeting, snacks, and a bag lunch with sandwich, drink, chips, and fruit provided by Wanamakers General Store. Select an Italian, turkey, or vegetarian sandwich on the Registration Form.



## Help the Archives

Kathy Bucher, Genealogy/Historical Secretary, reminds us that the Wertman Family Association Archives contain copies of information about the Wertman family. From letters and deeds to wills and obituaries, the Archives are a treasure trove of information about the Wertmans through history. But the Archives cannot grow without your help.

If you are coming to the reunion and have resources that you would be willing to share, please bring copies to the meeting so that she can add them to the WFA Archives. If the item is too large to make a copy, take a digital photo and e-mail it to Kathy at: <wfaarchives@hotmail.com>. She'll add all information to the Archives and will include it in the Wertman Primary Source Document Project. The January 2012 issue of *Wertman Lines*, (pg. 2) has complete information on this project.

The Archives are of benefit to members in several ways. First, the Archives can store back-ups of your documents in case your copies become damaged or lost. Second, you can consult the Archives for copies of documents needed in your research.

## Friday Dinner and Speaker

After the research meeting, join us in the original room at C. J. Hummel's Restaurant, Rte. 143 just south of Lenhartsville. (GPS N 40° 34.53; W 75° 53.26) Socializing begins at 6 p.m. with a cash bar. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. includes a hot buffet with baked ham and roast turkey, potato filling, corn, and green beans, tossed salad, a fruit tray, rolls, soft drinks, coffee and tea. Select vanilla ice cream or rice pudding on the registration form. The cost is \$22. See <www.cjhummels.com>

Our after-dinner speaker is Jon Bond, president of the Albany Township Historical Society.

## Saturday Picnic

Step back into history at the north picnic area of the Daniel Boone Homestead, Birdsboro, PA. This is about a one-hour drive from the Microtel via Rte. 61 S, U.S. 222S, U.S. 422E and Daniel Boone Road. (GPS N 40° 17.46; W 75° 47.65) From 10:00 a.m. to Noon on Saturday, there will be time before the picnic to explore the Visitor Center and take a guided tour of restored period buildings such as the Boone House, which evolved from a one-story, English



*The Bertolet cabin at the Daniel Boone homestead is a typical log home built by early German settlers.*

style log house to a two-story stone structure, and the 1737 Bertolet house, an example of 18<sup>th</sup> C Pennsylvania German log architecture with central fireplace, *kuche* (kitchen), *stube* (parlor), and *kammer* (bedroom). The tour cost is \$6. See <www.danielboonehomestead.org>

C. J. Hummel's will cater the cold lunch buffet featuring a cheese tray, meat tray, vegetables and dip tray, heavenly hash, tossed salad, rye and wheat breads, pickles, olives, chips and pretzels, soft drinks and water. The cost is \$14. Each family is invited to bring a dessert to share with the group.

## Saturday Business Meeting and Auction

The annual business meeting will follow the picnic. Nominating Committee Chair Nancy Johnson reports that all officers with expiring terms of office have consented to be placed on the ballot for re-election. Any WFA member in good standing may submit up to one additional nomination for each position to Nancy (419-658-2939) at least 30 days before the business meeting.

After the business meeting, the annual auction will take place. Family members are invited to bring items for the auction, and/or their checkbooks. Auction proceeds go into the WFA treasury to offset reunion costs and other expenses.



Step back in time at Wanamaker's General Store

### Sunday Tours

Visit Simon and Barbara Stapleton Wertman's territory including the New Bethel (aka Rosenthal, Corner) Church and cemetery. (GPS N 40° 21.6; W 75° 53.5)

### Nearby Attractions

- Cabella's, Hamburg <[www.cabelas.com](http://www.cabelas.com)> outdoor merchandise, animal displays, aquarium
- Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, Kempton <[www.hawkmountain.org](http://www.hawkmountain.org)>
- WK&S Railroad, Kempton <[www.kemptontrain.com](http://www.kemptontrain.com)>
- Wanamaker's General Store, Kempton <[www.wanamakersgeneralstore.com](http://www.wanamakersgeneralstore.com)>

### Registration

The registration deadline is 26 July 2013. There will be no refunds after this date. Please use the registration form on page 13 or download a form from <[www.wertman.info](http://www.wertman.info)> Please mail your form, with your check payable to Wertman Family Association, to Shirley and Richard Daniels, 1233 Weller Way, Westminster, MD 21158.

### For More Information...

Call Shirley and Richard Daniels, 410-871-3008, or e-mail <[rdaniels22@verizon.net](mailto:rdaniels22@verizon.net)>

## Albany Township, Berks County

*Kathy Bucher, Genealogy/Historical Secretary*

Albany Township is part of the Ontelaunee section of Berks County. Named for the stream which it drains into, the Ontelaunee section was settled in 1732 by Quakers. Germans later migrated from the Oley Hills north to the Blue Mountain. Albany Township was settled in 1740 and organized as a township in 1752 with the name taken from a place in England. By 1800, there were 858 residents counted in the census. The 1880 census showed an increase to 1,603. (Source: Montgomery, Morton L. *School History of Berks County in Pennsylvania*. Philadelphia, Rodgers Printing, 1998)

### Violence in Albany Township

In 2013, The Wertman Family Association will hold its reunion in Albany Township, Berks County, PA. What we find will be vastly different from the 1700s. According to a paper read by H. M. Muhlenberg Richards before the Berks County Historical Society in 1908 (*Transactions of the Historical Society of Berks County*, Volume II. Reading, Owen & Co., 1910), "one of the dark and bloody grounds of the [French and Indian] war was Albany Township of Berks County" (pp. 287-288).

"On March 24, 1756, ten wagons went up to Albany Township to bring down the effects of George Zeisloff. As they were returning, a number of Indians fired upon them from both sides of the road. Frightened by the terrible yelling of the savages, the horses ran off with the wagons. George Zeisloff, his wife, a young man of twenty, a boy of twelve, and a girl of fourteen were killed, four of them being scalped. Another girl was shot in the neck and through the mouth, then scalped, and still managed to get away. A boy was stabbed in three places but the wounds did not prove mortal. Two horses were killed and five were missing with which it was supposed most of the valuable goods in the wagons were carried off."

### 18th Century Churches in Albany Township

According to *A Pictorial History of Churches in Berks County* which was published in issues of the Journal of the Berks County Genealogical Society, 1986-1990, there were three early churches in Albany Township.

First was the Jerusalem “Red” Church or Alle-mangel. Organized in 1746 by Rev. H. M Muhlenberg, the church was established on land purchased by Conrad Weiser, the father-in-law of Muhlenberg. Muhlenberg noted in his diary (*Journals of Henry Melchior Muhlenberg*. Vol. 1. Camden, Maine; Pic-ton Press, 1942) that there was a conflict with the “Brethren from Bethlehem” (pg. 141) (Moravians) who started to build a church but later abandoned it under pressure from Muhlenberg. The Moravians moved into Lynn Township, Lehigh County, leaving the Kistlers, Brobsts, Kunkels, Billigs, Rei-chelderfers, and others to worship at the Lutheran church west of Stony Run. The church obtained the nickname of the “red” church because the woodwork and roof were painted red.

Located east of Eckville, New Bethel (Eck or Rosenthal) “Corner” Church was another early Lu-theran or Reformed church in Albany Township. Early names on the register include Strasser, Gerhard, Braucher, Reichelderfer, and Levan.

In 1770, a split at the Alle-mangel church led Rev. Daniel Schumacher and his followers to orga-nize the Friedens “White” Union Church or New Al-lemangel in Stony Run (Wessnersville). Names at this church included Wessner, Reinhart, Kluck and Zimmerman.



*New Bethel Union Church, where Simon and Barbara Wertman were active in the Lutheran congregation.*

## Losses

It is with great sadness that I announce the passing of one of the oldest members of the Wertman Family Association. **Mary Alice McLaughlin** nee Wertman passed away in Media, PA, on 6 March 2013. She was 101.



Many of you will probably remember Mary Alice from some of the early reunions. She would travel by herself from Philadelphia to many of our gatherings, even Lockport, NY, where she was stuck on a train because of a massive power failure.

She may be gone, but not forgotten, and we have a DVD of her interview discussing the Wertman Family.

Russell C. Dannecker, President  
Wertman Family Association

**Curt O. Wertman**, husband, father and grandfa-ther, 89, of East Penn Township, Lehigh-ton, died Saturday, May 4, in Lehigh-ton. He was the husband of Mable E. (Smith) Wertman. They were married for 66 years.

He had worked for Glenn Miller Plumbing & Heating, Lehigh-ton, for over 35 years.

Born in East Penn Township, he was a son of the late Oliver and Cora (Nothstein) Wertman.

He was a member of Ben Salem U.C.C., Lehigh-ton, and an Army Air Corps veteran of World War II. He belonged to the Mahoning Valley, Andreas and Ashfield fire companies.

He enjoyed woodworking and gardening.

Surviving in addition to his widow are a daugh-ter, Nancy M., wife of Darvin Schoenberger of Le-high-ton; two grandchildren, Amy, wife of Robert Flores, and Marcy, wife of Scott Kline; and four great-grandchildren.

He was also preceded in death by three sisters, Muriel Benninger-Pariser, Evelyn Longacre and Beatrice Remaley; and a brother Wilmer.

Obituary published in *Times News* 6 May 2013

## 2012 WFA Reunion Minutes

*Please read these minutes ahead of the 2013 Business Meeting, and bring a copy with you showing any corrections, so the Secretary doesn't need to read the minutes aloud at the meeting.*

### Research Meeting

Friday 17 August 2012, St. Paul's Methodist Church, 22976 Ringgold Southern Road, Stoutsville, Ohio

President Russell Dannecker called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Russell asked everyone to introduce themselves and tell where they came from. He introduced our special guest, Warren Gentzel, who talked about Pickaway Pioneers.

Mr. Gentzel, a graduate of Ohio State University, is a historian and public speaker and a collector of pioneer memorabilia. He explained how he got into genealogy, listening to his great-grandfather, grandfather, and others.

People moved by wagon train with horses, tools, food, seeds, clothing, buckets, knives, and scissors. Because Indians were present, early settlers needed rifles, powder, slugs and powder horns. They had to clear the land, build houses, then barns, and worship

in barns before building Zion church. They could receive land from the government for their Revolutionary War service, from a private, to surgeons who received the largest plots.

Mr. Gentzel showed many antiques, lighters, a bullet maker, hand guns, rifles, and hatchets. (Indians loved these.) Mr. Gentzel's family's land and George Wertman's farm were side by side. Land was very cheap in Ohio and many moved from Pennsylvania. They had formed a militia in Ohio by 1812. Some families planted their crops in Germany, left for America and returned several times to harvest before settling in America.

Hal and Brenda Merz distributed three handouts: Jacob and George Wertman; persons named Jacob Wertman in early lists of Albany, Berks Co., and Lynn, Northampton Co.; and generations 1 through 4 descending from George Wertman. Using Power Point, Hal reported on the Jacob and George Wertman family. This information is on file. Many questions need to be researched and cleared up.

At 10:20 a.m., the group car pooled to see the former Wertman house built by George's son, John, ca 1860s. The owners received us graciously and invited us to tour their home, which they have taste-

fully restored and added onto. They were able to maintain the atmosphere of a country farmhouse while updating as necessary.

Returning to the meeting site, Russell reminded everyone to label all photographs on the back or else names of those pictured will be lost in two or three generations.

Tom Young reported a year in review.



*Wertmans gather to tour the former John Wertman home on Friday, 17 August 2012.*

- John - 1850 Hamburg, Berks Co., Pa.
- Samuel - 1850 Greenwich Twp., Berks Co.
- Nathan - found by Russ in Civil War in Vicksburg; he lost three fingers resulting in not being able to continue his stone mason occupation. We know a lot about this family but are not yet able to connect all unknowns and collaterals.
- There is another John in Maxatawny. We need a male from this line willing to give a DNA sample.
- The Wertman family DNA Project tests on the Y chromosome that passes from father to son, mostly unchanged, with rare mutations. Of tested Wertmans, five were tested by SMGF/Gene tree, four by Family Tree DNA, two by both. One descendant of Martin was invited to be tested but no response was received. Hal & Brenda donated \$100.00. Tom follows the paper trail online. For 459 marker values, the total testing price was \$1,344.90.

St. Paul's church members served lunch at noon.

The meeting resumed with a Power Point report by Richard Daniels on Moses Wertman<sup>5</sup> in Arizona Territory. (Emanuel<sup>4</sup>, Daniel<sup>3</sup>, J. Michael<sup>2</sup>, George Philip<sup>1</sup>) Moses, born 14 June 1831 in N.Y., married Sarah Ann Prithro and had a daughter Lucy Ann in 1884, who married Charles Jefferson Grover. Moses was arrested for the murder of Michael Whalen when Lucy Ann was four years old. He was acquitted 27 October 1888. Michael Whalen traveled from San Francisco with the Mormons to Provo, UT, married and had children. Before 1884, he left his family to go to Arizona. His wife filed for divorce in 1886. There are numerous other suspects in the shooting. [The Moses Wertman family tragedies were covered in-depth in the January 2013 *Wertman Lines*.]

Russell reported that the late Anita M. Reid (nee Robinson) had documented thousands of records and cemetery stones in five years of research in Niagara Co. close to Lockport, NY. Beginning with 4,000 names, in five years she had 99,659 names. Russ picked up her computer in 2011 and needs help to add the information to the Wertman data base. Of these individuals, 95.3% are related, through Daniel Wertman Sr. and Anna Mary Barbara Oswald. The Niagara County Historical Society has records.

Minerva Arner gave a presentation on Philip Zehner who married Maria Magdalena Wertman about 1791. They lived in Albany Twp., Berks Co.,



*There are four generations of Wertmans buried in the Christ Lutheran Church cemetery, now within the locked gates of the Allenwood Federal penitentiary.*

PA, and were members of Rosenthal New Bethel Church. They had eight children. In Simon Wertman's will, he did not like his son-in-law and refused to allow anyone but Magdalena to receive the inheritance. Philip was the eighth of 15 children of Johann Adam Zehner and Anna Marie Mertz. Adam immigrated from Germany to Philadelphia on the ship "John & Elizabeth" in 1754. Minerva descends from the 13th child and her husband descends from the second child. Of course the female line most times gets lost because of name changes.

At 2 p.m., we heard that Tom and Russ went to prison. In researching cemeteries and tombstones, Tom and Russ had to go to Allenwood Federal Correctional Institution. Christ Lutheran Church, now closed, and the adjoining cemetery are fenced in at Allenwood. It became an adventure to call the Warden's office to gain entrance to the cemetery. While there, they were almost run off by a large black snake that had taken up residence under a stone. Ask Tom what he thinks of snakes! According to the Montgomery Area Historical Society, in 1907 J.A. Richter was pastor of the Lutheran congregation. Tombstones there were: Daniel S. Wertman, Barbara A. (Eckroot or Eckroth), their children John L., Oliver P., George A., and Anna E. and their grandchildren. There are four generations of Wertmans and small stones with initials that we have not been able to identify. Research is needed to find the



*Pictured (L-R): Louise Dannecker, Richard Daniels, Russ Dannecker, Brenda Merz, Hal Merz, and Ken Cool were among the cemetery trekkers hunting and photographing Wertman tombstones on Sunday, 19 August 2012, in Pickaway County, OH.*

church records and identify all of the Wertman stones. Records may be at the Adams County Historical Society. During WWII, the area was a munitions depot, and after the war it became a Federal Prison.

There was a discussion about there not being War Markers for some of the graves. Shirley Daniels moved that we obtain the markers to be placed on appropriate graves. Tom Young seconded, and the motion carried.

To round out the afternoon, Tom discussed the DNA project in depth. We have tested short tandem repeats. Another concept is SNP - single nucleotide polymorphism. Of interest to us is defining the haplogroup (large group that shares a common heritage) of George Philip<sup>1</sup>. Mutations occurred. Tom discussed many slides and types of testing.

Be very careful of family trees posted on Ancestry.com; they are not always reliable.

The group held an extended discussion on Wertmans and DeLongs. Tom will check into this further.

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Minerva Arner  
Corresponding Secretary

## **Business Meeting**

Saturday, 18 August 2012  
Mary Virginia Crites Hannan  
Park, Starkey Pavilion  
Shelter House

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. by President Russell Dannecker. He asked everyone to introduce themselves and tell where they were from.

**Attendance awards:** For the longest distance, 800 miles, RI - Russell Dannecker received a book, "Best Scenic Drives in America"; the most senior lady - Lois Wheeler (1927) received a ceramic flower pot with butterfly decorations; the most senior man - Darrol Wertman (1929) re-

ceived a brass clock; and the youngest attendee - Dan Merz (1983) received a book, "Amazing and Unusual USA."

**Secretary:** Minutes were presented from the June newsletter (compiled by Shirley Daniels) by Minerva Arner, Corresponding Secretary. Tom Young moved that the minutes not be read aloud. Judy Strickling's motion to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Shirley Daniels, was carried.

**Genealogical/Historical Secretary:** no report due to Kathy Bucher's absence.

**Treasurer:** Shirley Wertman, Treasurer, reported a balance of \$3591.72 in the year ending 20 Aug. 2011; and \$4234.22 as of 18 Aug. 2012. The complete report was placed on record. A motion by Tom Young to accept the report was seconded by Maryann Cronk and was carried.

**Historical Committee:** Tom Young reported there are two lines unknown with DNA matches but no paper trail. He is looking for more males to be tested from John and Michael; George Philip VII is

the suspected subject. He is also looking for male direct line Wertman males for testing, particularly from Jacob and John in Northumberland Co. Lois Wheeler's motion to accept the report, seconded by Richard Daniels, was carried.

**Reunions:** Hal and Brenda Merz, 2012 Reunion Chairmen, received applause for the great weather and their work on this year's reunion. Hal suggested the reunion committee get a written agreement for the lodging; he experienced problems this year but was able to get them straightened out before our arrival. A motion by Tom Young for a written agreement for accommodations in the future, seconded by Richard Daniels, was carried.

2013, Berks Co., PA: Shirley and Richard Daniels and Russell Dannecker will be in charge of this reunion to be held in Albany Twp., with an emphasis on Simon/Samuel<sup>2</sup>.

2014, Michigan - Richard Daniels is researching sites near Flint or Kalamazoo.

2015, PA: Open to suggestions

2016, Richmond, VA

**Newsletter:** Editor Shirley Daniels reported twice-yearly mailings to 51 organizations and 18 individuals; others are sent electronically and posted online. The Post Office does not like staples, so mailing in envelopes resulted in higher costs. Thank you to Kathy Bucher for indexing the newsletters. Nancy Johnson's motion to accept the report was seconded by Larry Wertman and was carried.

**Committee Appointments:**

Historical committee: Tom Young

Reunion committee: 2013, Shirley and Richard Daniels, Russell Dannecker

Nominating committee:

(report at 2013 reunion) Nancy Johnson

Tom Young made a motion to close the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned, and the annual auction commenced. The sale of 40 donated items raised \$145 for the Association.

Respectfully submitted,

Minerva Arner,

Corresponding Secretary

## Another Civil War Soldier

*Shirley Daniels, Russell Dannecker*

David Koch<sup>5</sup> served from 9 Feb. 1864 to 30 July 1865 in Company E, 50th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, as a Private. He was the youngest son of George Koch and Catharine Wertman<sup>4</sup> (John<sup>3</sup>, Martin<sup>2</sup>, George Philip<sup>1</sup>). The 1860 U.S. Census lists him as a farm hand in his parent's household in Bern Twp., Berks Co., along with his brother John, 23, and sister Sarah, 24. He married Sarah Anna Kiehner 19 Oct 1861, but she died 22 March 1863, age 18 years, 9 months and 2 days, and was buried at Salem Belleman's graveyard in Penn Twp., Berks Co., PA.

Following is a summary of the 50th regiment's history.

The men mustered in at Harrisburg and were furloughed before they began drilling at Annapolis, MD, 20 March 1864. They were assigned to the 2nd Brigade of the 1st Division of the 9th Corps. President Lincoln reviewed them when they passed through Washington, D.C. They marched over Bull Run, arriving at the Rapidan River 5 May. The next day, they fought in the Wilderness all day from early morning, losing 17 killed, 53 wounded and missing.

On 9 May, they arrived at the Ny River near Spotsylvania Court House, and were immediately involved. They charged up a steep ascent, and, greatly outnumbered, routed the enemy at a fearful cost, 120 men killed, wounded, and missing. On 12 May, in a desperate, hand-to-hand struggle, four officers and 25 privates were taken pris-



*David Koch died 1 Dec 1902 and is buried in Sect. 1, grave 6, at Alsace Lutheran Cemetery in Reading, PA. Photo from Neil D. Scheidt, findagrave.com.*

oner. From the Ny River to the North Anna, and then to Cold Harbor, they were engaged almost daily, with a few men killed and wounded. On the front line at Cold Harbor on 2 June, eight of their men were killed.

They crossed the Chickahominy River on 12 June, moved rapidly to the James River, and were soon in line facing Petersburg. On 18 June, Co. E's Capt. Lantz and several men were killed. From 21 June to 25 July, the regiment performed picket duty in front of Petersburg. When Colored troops relieved them, they moved to picket duty at the extreme left of the Union lines. On 29 July, they moved to the rear of the mine, and after its explosion the next morning, they were ordered to support troops in the charge. They reached the crater but were forced back, losing three killed and a number wounded.

After remaining in the works in front of the ruined fort until 19 August, they marched to the Weldon Railroad and were attacked, but repulsed the Confederates. Marching, fortifying, and fighting

continued with little interruption until the end of the month. On 30 July, Col. Christ, Lt. Col. Overton, and about 30 men were honorably discharged at the end of their term of service.

Those remaining at the front were actively engaged until 12 Oct., when 147 recruits arrived, and the unit worked in camp two weeks on drills and discipline. On 27 Oct., they again moved to the front, and stayed until 29 Nov., when they proceeded to Fort McGilvery, on the banks of the Appomattox, in the immediate front of Petersburg. They remained there during the winter.

On 1 April 1865, Union lines began to close in upon the rebel works, and the 50th was among the first regiments to reach the city upon its fall. On 15 April, the men moved to City Point, and traveled by boat to Washington. They represented the Army Infantry in ceremonies on 4 July at Gettysburg, then camped near Georgetown (D.C.), and mustered out of service on 31 July.

## 1932 Wertman Family Reunion

*Can you identify anyone in this photograph taken at Ontelaunee Park, Lehigh County, PA, 13 Aug 1932?*



## 2013 Wertman Family Reunion Registration Form

**Friday-Sunday, 16-18 August 2013      Berks 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> |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Thu., 15 Aug., Early-Bird BONUS at Library</b>   |                         | \$ 5.00                | \$                |
| <b>Fri., 16 Aug., Research Meeting, Lunch, Snacks</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Italian <input type="checkbox"/> Turkey <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian |                         | \$ 13.00               | \$                |
| <b>Fri., 16 Aug., Dinner &amp; Speaker, Hummel's</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Vanilla ice cream <input type="checkbox"/> Rice pudding                      |                         | \$ 22.00               | \$                |
| <b>Sat., 17 Aug., Tour, Daniel Boone Homestead<br/>Lunch, North Picnic Area</b>   |                         | \$ 6.00<br>\$ 14.00    |                   |
| <b>Sun., 18 Aug., Carpool Tour</b>  |                         | \$ 0                   | \$ 0              |
| <b><i>Total for all 2013 Reunion Events</i></b>   |                         |                        | \$                |

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

|   |                                    |           |
|---|------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Annual Dues</b> 1 July 2013-30 June 2014 | \$20 per family                    | \$ 20.00  |
| <b>2013 Reunion, Meals, and Dues</b>        | <b>Grand Total, Check Enclosed</b> | <b>\$</b> |

Please make your check payable to the **Wertman Family Association**.  
Mail your check and Registration Form **by 26 July** to 2013 WFA Reunion  
c/o Richard & Shirley Daniels, 1233 Weller Way, Westminster, MD 21158  
If you have questions, call 410-871-3008 or e-mail <rdaniels22@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](http://www.wertman.info)>, strangers can discover long-lost family connections. The *Wertman Lines* newsletter and the WFA web pages disseminate accurate information about the family's heritage. In August 2007, the association dedicated a monument in the old graveyard at Ebenezer Union Church in New Tripoli, Lehigh County, PA. The black granite stone is in memory of the Wertman family that came to Lynn Township by 1749, including the "founding father," George Philip Wertman (a deacon at Ebenezer Church), and his five known sons, George Philip, Jacob, Johan Martin, Johan Michael, and Simon.

We invite you to join us!

## Officers, Wertman Family Association

### President:

Russell C. Dannecker <[dannecker123@verizon.net](mailto:dannecker123@verizon.net)>  
32 Burgess Rd., Foster, RI 02825 (401-647-3991)

### Vice President :

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### Corresponding Secretary:

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### Genealogy/Historical Secretary:

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### Treasurer:

Shirley Wertman <[snlwertman@verizon.net](mailto:snlwertman@verizon.net)>  
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### Historical Committee Chair:

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

### Webmaster:

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

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

### Directors at Large:

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

**Newsletter:** *Wertman Lines* is issued twice yearly. We welcome articles for publication;. Please submit your article by e-mail to the President or the Editor, <[shirleyminerDaniels@verizon.net](mailto:shirleyminerDaniels@verizon.net)>. The next issue is scheduled for January 2014.



*The 2012 annual Family Reunion picnic drew a crowd of Wertmans from IN, OH, MD, NY, VA, PA and RI.*

**Register by 26 June for the Wertman Family Reunion 16-18 August, Berks County, PA**