

*Clifford -
Swackhamer
during Rev. War.*

Swackhamer Dufford Bulletin

Commemorating
the Bicentennial
of the
United States of America
1776 - 1976

SWACKHAMER-DUFFORD BULLETIN

Commemorating

The United States of America Bicentennial

1776 - 1976

For the descendants of Samuel Schwachhammer (Swackhamer) who, in 1731 settled in Long Valley, New Jersey and Philip DuFord (Dufford), who also settled there in 1738.

OFFICERS OF THE COMBINED SOCIETIES:

- President - Mr. Stanley Dufford, 99 Sherman Ave., Cedar Grove, N.J. 07009
- Vice-President - Mr. James V. Wert, R.D. #1, Neneveh, N.Y. 13813
- Chaplain - The Rev. T. Cecil Swackhamer, 2975 High Ridge Rd., Stamford, Ct. 06903
- Secretary - Mrs. Gene Swackhamer, 2042 Carrhill Rd., Vienna, Va. 22180
- Treasurer - Mrs. Robert O. Hart, 1614 Holly Blvd., Manasquan, N.J. 08736
- Bulletin Editor - Miss Eleanor Romaine, 18 Hedges Ave., Chatham, N.J. 07928

EDITOR'S NOTE

This Bicentennial Issue will not supplement the Summer Issue 1976 Bulletin which will be dedicated as a memoriam to our Honorary Historian, Mrs. Chester L. Harriman, who died peacefully in her sleep, in her home, on Friday, December 26, 1975. Eliza was dear to us all and will be sorely missed. Our sincere sympathy is extended to her family.

THE PRESIDENT

Mr. Stanley Dufford

Cordially invites you to attend the Swackhamer-Dufford reunion on Saturday, July 31, 1976 at the Zion Lutheran Church, Long Valley, New Jersey.

The gathering of family and friends will commence at 11:00 A.M. As in past years, you are asked to provide your own picnic lunch.

You are encouraged to bring the family heirlooms and memorabilia of the early reunions. A table will be provided for this display and you will be invited to talk about them.

Silver dollars will be awarded to the family who traveled the greatest distance to attend the reunion and to the oldest and youngest members present. Arrangements have been made for the taking of a family portrait.

Joseph Decker, President of Washington Township Historical Society will address the group and will bring about a dozen plates depicting, among other scenes, the ruins of the Old Union Church.

The main speaker will be Freeholder Douglas Romaine, who will speak on the history of the Revolutionary War period in the Washington Township-German Valley area. Unconfirmed at this time is the possibility that the Morris County Heritage Commission will select the date of our reunion to hold the official dedication of the historic marker placed by Morris County at the site of Old Union Church.

An "Information Package" is being assembled containing maps, overnight accommodations, Bicentennial material, etc. Those desiring this package are asked to fill out the form below. It will be mailed to you.

Mrs. L. R. Logan
Lamington Road
Whitehouse, N.J. 0888

Please send "Information Package" to the address below:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Street

City

State

Zip

OUR SWACKHAMER-DUFFORD FOREFATHERS IN 1776

By Fred Sisser III

Ever pause to wonder, especially now during the celebration of our Nation's 200th birthday, who among our Swackhamer-Dufford forefathers was living and where they were residing during those trying times of 1776? Are you curious to know which side they were on? It is to be hoped that the following will answer some of the questions.

Among those with Swackhamer blood in their veins, it will no doubt please descendants to know that some of the early Swackhamers were patriots; however, there was one who was not. However, most were not involved in the War of Independence at all, and were generally unaffected by the conflict, remaining in the comparative safety of their homes.

The patriarch of the Swackhamer family, old Samuel (1700-1782), was well into his 70's when the War was declared, and too old to be actively involved. He no doubt spent the duration of the War in the comfort of his "plantation" located among the 162 acres he owned in Lebanon Township, in northern Hunterdon County. He was taxed, in May, 1778, the fairly large sum of £ 4 on his "Land with Improvements." As this tax was collected by the newly established "State of New Jersey", of which Samuel was now a citizen, it would be safe, to assume that some of that assessment went toward the War effort, thus making Samuel an indirect contributor to the Conflict, and, as a result, a Patriot of the Revolutionary War.

Of Samuel's older sons, who were the proper age to be involved in War activities, we have more data. Conrad, presumed to be the eldest, may have been the one who devoted some efforts to the Revolution by rendering service to the Quartermaster General's Office. On February 17, 1780 "Coonrad Swackhamer" received from Sidney Berry, Quartermaster at Somerset County, New Jersey, certificate number 45, entitling him to be paid \$560.00. Whether this "Coonrad" is the son of Samuel, who was born in 1720 and died in 1813, or his son, also Conrad (1753-1831) is uncertain. Each of these Conrads resided near the Somerset County border in Hunterdon County. Conrad the elder had a 100 acre farm in Lebanon Township during the War, and the younger Conrad had married just before the War (1774), and resided near his father.

John, another son of old Samuel, was in possession of a 448 acre farm in Lebanon Township, owned by William Alexander, the Earl of Stirling, in 1779. Presumably he resided during the tenure of the War on his land. There is no indication that John Swackhamer was involved in the War.

At least one Swackhamer was known to be loyal to the Crown, at least in the beginning of the War. On July 16, 1777, the New Jersey Committee of Safety issued a warrant for one Samuel Swackhamer, an inhabitant of Morris County, New Jersey, ordering him to appear before the Governor and Council to take the Oath of Allegiance to the State of New Jersey. NO records show that this Samuel did so, and by November of the same year, a Samuel Swackhamer, no doubt the same man as above, was fined £ 15 for not going out in the Militia. Subsequently, one Samuel Swackhamer did serve in the Militia, which may account for the reduction of the £ 15 fine in the Hunterdon County Sessions Court in February, 1778. It is not certain as to which Samuel this may have been. Samuel's sons, John and Conrad, each named a son for their father. It is probable that the reluctant Samuel above was the son of Conrad, who would have been of the right age.

A far more patriotic and involved family were the Duffords! Though none of them, by the name, is among those who served in the Militia, several were vitally involved in the War's efforts. Jacob Dufford, no doubt the same by that name who resided on a 50 acre farm in Roxbury Township, Morris County, is recorded as having done "carting in camp", for which he received in August, 1780, a promise of payment from Joseph Lewis, Quartermaster General at Morristown.

Stephen Dufford, who was residing on a prosperous 150 acre farm in Roxbury Township during the Revolution, also received from Quartermaster Lewis, a promise of payment for services rendered in August and December, 1780.

Another Roxbury Township resident, Matthias Dufford, who owned a 150 acre farm during the War, is credited for services rendered during December 1780, and promised payment of \$640.00 by the Quartermaster at Morristown, Joseph Lewis.

On July 23, 1777, both Jacob and Stephen Dufford, "of the County of Morris" appeared before the New Jersey Council of Safety, and took the "Oath of Abjuration and Allegiance".

George Dufford, who owned a 30 acre farm in Roxbury Township during the Revolutionary War, is not mentioned in any of the early records as either serving in the Militia or having rendered service to the patriot's cause.

Did any of the Swackhamers or Duffords residing in New Jersey during the War ever see General Washington? In his capacity as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, George Washington passed through New Jersey on numerous occasions. In 1777, he was in both Morris and Hunterdon Counties. On July 27 of that year, the General entered Readington Township from Morris County, and spent the night in the area of White House. The next day he traveled on to Coryell's Ferry (now Lambertville), where he crossed the Delaware River into Pennsylvania. During the time he marched through what is now Tewksbury and Readington Townships, some of the Swackhamers could have seen the future first President of the United States, in as much as some of the family resided in that area, and were members of the Zion Lutheran Church at New Germantown, (now Oldwick), located in Tewksbury Township.

FOUNDING AND HISTORY OF THE COMBINED SWACKHAMER-DUFFORD FAMILY ASSOCIATION

On August 8, 1942, a simple dedication ceremony was held in Middle Valley Cemetery. A monument, which had been purchased from a fund raised by voluntary contributions, was unveiled. It read: "Samuel Swackhamer 1700-1782 First Settler of Middle Valley."

This culminated an idea which had long been in the mind of George Dufford of Plainfield and Middle Valley, N.J. Mr. Dufford had a double reason to be interested because his mother was descended from Samuel through his son, John, and Mr. Dufford's second wife, Hattie, was the daughter of Rulif Swackhamer of Whitehouse, N.J. who descended from Samuel through his son Conrad.

In the summer of 1941 George Dufford took his idea to William N. Swackhamer of Middle Valley and Morris S. Trimmer of Long Valley who were also descendants of Samuel. Together they formed a temporary committee with Mr. Dufford acting as secretary. Notices were sent to all the descendants of Samuel known to the committee, and on August 16, 1941 the little village of Middle Valley, which had always known the name "Swackhamer" was visited by some who had never before known "The Valley". One descendant, the Rev. T. Cecil Swackhamer, came all the way from Warrenburg, Missouri to attend this first meeting of the Swackhamer clan.

That afternoon the "Swackhamer Historical Association" was formed. Mr. F. Everett Swackhamer of Irvington, N.J. was elected president; DeWitt Swackhamer of Dunellen became vice-president; Robert Swackhamer of Dover, secretary; and Mrs. Marjorie Logan of Plainfield, treasurer. Mr. Milton Swackhamer of Trenton, N.J. was appointed historian.

The August 8, 1942 meeting was held in the Middle Valley Hall. The third annual meeting was held on Saturday, September 11, 1943 in and on the grounds of the Lutheran

Church at Long Valley, N.J., a short distance from Middle Valley. After eating box lunches, which they brought for the occasion, the group gathered outside the church on the spacious lawn between the church and the South Branch of the Raritan River. This set the traditional format of the reunions which followed.

For perhaps as early as twenty-five years before, the descendants of Philip Dufford had held annual family reunions and there had been gatherings of the descendants of Samuel Swackhamer.

By 1953 the two family associations had combined and, thereafter, was called, "The Combined Swackhamer-Dufford Genealogical Societies." The presidents who served from 1953 to the present were: Marjorie Dufford Logan, Norman Dufford, Leon Swackhamer, Sr., H. P. Dufford, Robert Swackhamer, Rev. T. Cecil Swackhamer, and Stanley C. Dufford.

The first issue of The Swackhamer-Dufford Bulletin was published January 1953 and marked Winter Issue. After that there were two issues each year with the exception of 1954 and 1955 when only one issue was published in each year. The three editors have been Mr. Milton Swackhamer, Mrs. Eliza D. Harriman and Miss Eleanor Romaine.

I REMEMBER

By Marjorie Dufford Logan

My father, George S. Dufford, and my mother spent their summers at my father's old home in Middle Valley. The house was built in 1747. It had been lived in continuously by his grandfather and father and held many memories for him.

He was greatly interested in the genealogy of both the Duffords and Swackhamers since his mother and his wife were both Swackhamers. He decided to get together as many Duffords as possible and in 1925 or 26 the first reunions were held in the apple orchard at the farm. Quite a few members came and they decided to continue holding them.

The relatives pitched horse shoes or played ball. The cider barrel was filled with ice and home made root beer. Wesley Moren's brother was in the coffee business and for years he furnished Yuban coffee and a coffee maker.

When it rained the reunion was held in the Middle Valley Chapel but around 1936 it was moved to the Lutheran Church in Long Valley.

At one time my father cut a door through one of the rooms at the farm and discovered a thirteen-star flag in the ceiling in good condition.

I remember this stories about having to keep fires going in the fireplaces and if the fire went out he would have to ride a horse to a neighbor's house to get hot coals because at that time there were no matches in the Valley. When he was older they drove to Perth Amboy to buy them and they also brought back fresh fish for the neighbors. It was a long journey with a horse and wagon but eventually matches were available in the Valley. He had vivid memories of trying to manage a bucket of hot coals on his horse.

He enjoyed his summers at the farm until he was 81 years old and looked forward each winter to May when he could plant his garden.

A TRIBUTE TO HAROLD L. GUNTHER

Each year a highlight of the reunion was the display of a Genealogy Chart of the Dufford Family by Harold L. Gunther. Folks eagerly awaited the chance to see the additions made and marveled, as it was unrolled, to see its growth to many feet in length.

Harold Gunther's interest in the Dufford family genealogy began when he married Dorothy D. Walker who descends from Philip Dufford.

On July 31, 1970 he presented "To Members of the Dufford Family" the Chart put in booklet form for the convenience of the family members interested.

Many hours of research and charting had gone into this project. The Swackhamer-Dufford Family Association acknowledges appreciation and affection.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that the Swackhamers and Duffords were joined together many times before they united in 1941 to form a Family Association? In the bonds of Matrimony there were at least five known instances of a Dufford marrying a Swackhamer. Among the first generations in America, certain members of the respective families were finding each other attractive. Elisabeth (1748-1823) daughter of Samuel, the first Swackhamer in America, was married to Jacob Dufford (1745-1822), son of Jacob. In the next century and succeeding generations Frederick Swackhamer's daughter, Catharine, married Jacob and Maria (Wise) Dufford's son, Lawrence; Matthias Dufford's son, John, married about 1807, Margaret Swackhamer, daughter of John, (son of Samuel). And then there was the wedding of the century, as described in the "State Gazette", out of Trenton, on February 4, 1854:

On Wednesday evening, February 1st (1854), by the Rev. G. Van Artsdalen, MR. ELIJAH DUFFORD to MISS SUSAN, eldest daughter of P. Welsh Swackhamer, Esq., all of German Valley, Morris County, New Jersey.

And let's not forget the marriage of our own century, that of our founder, George S. Dufford (1828-1908) who in 1898 took for his second wife, Hattie Swackhamer (1865-1963).

Alert genealogists will point out that others could be added to the above account. For instance, the two male children of Christopher and Catharine Swackhamer (dau. of Samuel 1st) Kern who married Duffords and also a grandson, Philip, married Ellen Dufford.

WHO WE ARE

Autobiographies of our present officers

PRESIDENT - Stanley Dufford, Cedar Grove, N.J.

I descend from Christopher C., a son of Philip Dufford.

My occupation is a Cable Splicer. With time out for military service, I have been employed by Public Service Electric and Gas Co. thirty-nine years.

"Public service" has also been my hobby. I have served nineteen years in First Aid and Community Ambulance units and five years as a volunteer orderly in a local hospital.

My wife, Doris, and children; Chris, Ellen, Davis, Lois and Laura compose my family. Other important members of the household are Gemini, the cat and Gretchen, our dog.

VICE-PRESIDENT - James V. Wert, Neneveh, N.Y.

I am the grandson of Martha Ann Dufford, daughter of George (and Elizabeth Neighbor) Dufford, son of George Stephen Dufford, son of Jacob Dufford, son of Philip Dufford.

I graduated from Hackettstown (N.J.) High School in 1926. After taking a post graduate course, I entered Lehigh University and graduated in 1932 with a degree of B.S. in Ch.E. Not being able to find a job, I started digging coal out of the Morris Canal and selling same around Hackettstown. In 1933 I obtained a job with Consolidated Edison of New York with whom I stayed for 31 years.

In 1937 I married Opal M. Peck, a registered nurse from Atlanta, Missouri. We have two children: a boy named W.G., an Engineer with G.E. who has three children and a girl Virginia (a R.N. like her mother) who also has three children.

Upon taking an early retirement we retired to a farm in Broome Co. New York (near Binghamton) where we raise beef animals.

Since living on the farm we have taken three memorable trips: One, a Caribbean Cruise (30 year wedding anniversary present from Virginia and husband); two, a freighter trip around the world and three; a combination freighter, train, plane and bus trip around the world.

My wife's hobbies include refinishing old furniture, quilting and flowers. Beside helping her with the above and tending stock, I am a Dixieland Jazz buff. Our combined efforts over the past twenty years have been the restoring of a 125 year old farm house.

CHAPLAIN - The Rev. Dr. Thomas Cecil Swackhamer, Stamford, Conn.

Thomas Cecil Swackhamer born June 5, 1908 Henry County, Missouri. Son of Thomas Arthur (1879-1963), Son of Jacob Jackson, (1849-1916), Son of George, (1824-1909) and the link that traces to the original Samuel is uncertain.

Educated at Central Methodist College, Fayette, Missouri and Duke University.

Ordained a Methodist clergyman in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South in 1934. Served churches in Kansas City, Mo., Warrensburg and Marshall and Webster Groves, a St. Louis suburb, and Stamford, Connecticut, from 1959 to 1973 at which time reached retirement age. Since then have been serving as part-time associate at Pound Ridge, N.Y.

Wife, Elizabeth died in 1971, survived by one daughter, Elizabeth Hall, of Maryland.

Interests have been church architecture and led in building two splendid church plants. Other interests have been collecting Wedgwood and candleholders. Chief interest now is how to wind up the last years, not in isolation and retreat, but usefulness and comfort. Bridge games a chief attraction now, also herb gardening.

Have been interested in the name Swackhamer, for in our part of the midwest it was the only name of a family in that area. The name should be spelled Schwackhammer and means small or weak hammer. I have seen a Schwackhammer in a metal working shop. It was used in making the rims of coach wheels. The present spelling means nothing, but suppose it was an accomodation to the English making it easier to spell and pronounce. I am interested in finding if there are families in Germany still by that name.

Until 1930 we thought we were the only family by that name in the country, but pleasantly learned different. In my family there are only three who will carry on the name into the next generation. I understand there are about 140 families in this country who now carry the name.

Editor's note. Dr. Swackhamer attended the first organizational meeting and later served as President of our Society.

SECRETARY - Mrs. Gene Swackhamer, Vienna, Va.

The Swackhamer family into which I married are descendants of

Elijah Swackhamer b. 8-27-1828 d. 2-4-1908 and
Caroline (Bates) Swackhamer b. 6-1-1832 d. 12-3-1914
and

Mores Rolen Swackhamer (Indiana Farmer) b. 10-12-1862 d. 2-17-1914
and Nancy (Kelleher) Swackhamer b. 10-27-1869 d. 8-14-1954
and

Paul Swackhamer (Indiana Farmer) b. 8-18-1902 and
Marie Fern (Tompkins) Swackhamer b. 9-1-1904 d. 6-2-1972
our family

Gene Leon Swackhamer b. 4-20-1938 M. 6-18-1961
Sharon Daille (Beutler) Swackhamer b. 8-3-1939

Children (3)

Scott Alan	b. 2-23-64	12 yrs. old
Sheryl Leigh	b. 9-18-65	10½ yrs.
Jill Marie	b. 7-10-69	Almost 7

Gene is a deputy governor for Farm Credit Administration in Washington, D. C. Sharon is a registered pharmacist presently working as a homemaker, Girl Scout leader, Vice President of the Delta Gamma Alumnae of Northern Virginia, a Circle Leader of the Women of Emmanuel Lutheran Church and chauffeur for soccer practices, choir and all the children's activities.

For hobbies, we are the owners of a new 18 foot boat which we will use for pleasure and fishing. We vacation at the Outer Banks of North Carolina and enjoy the beach there.

We live in Vienna, Virginia.

TREASURER - Mrs. Robert O. Hart, Manasquan, N.J.

Annette Dufford Wert Hart is the seventh generation from Philip Dufford (immigrant) his son Jacob, his son George Stephen, his son Jacob, his son George, his daughter Ann (Martha), her son George, his daughter Annette (Me).

Born and raised in Hackettstown, N.J., finished high school, received scholarship for Centenary College for Women and given highest awards in Music on graduation; took Extension Courses at Rutgers, received B.S. degree. Taught Music in Hackettstown High School for five years; Organist in both Episcopal and Presbyterian Churches for 20 years (concurrently), taught private lessons, was Mechanical draftsman (woman) for 10 years at American Saw Mill (in Engineering Dept.) present Bergen Machine Tool Co.

Married Herbert Dorfman May 1956, moved to California. Divorced February 1965 and returned to New Jersey. August 1965 married Robert O. Hart who died November 6, 1973.

Presently am Deacon in Presbyterian Church and teaching private music pupils, and on call as a supply organist in local churches.

REPLAY OF HISTORY

When elected as Freeholder, Douglas Romaine was the first Democrat in more than 60 years to break into the all-Republican freeholder ranks. This made him the minority of one on the seven-member Morris County (N.J.) governing board.

In the following election, Douglas lost his status as the youngest member of the Morris County Board of Freeholders, but remained secure in his position of minority of one. The Democrat was nudged out in the age category by a new Republican freeholder, Rodney Frelinghuysen.

The association of these two young men brings to mind that their ancestors were at times at sword's points and at other times compatible.

The progenitor of the Frelinghuysen family was the Rev. Theordus Jacobus Frelinghuysen whose call to the Churches of the Raritan River from East Friesland, Holland was signed by the Vroom family on June 5, 1718. Later the Vroom family were among those who petitioned for the removal of this same minister and is recorded in history as the "Rebellion" at Raritan in 1723. (ref. SHSQ. Vol. 3 pages 173-184) Douglas is a descendant of these Vrooms.

Freeholder Douglas Romaine will be the main speaker at our reunion. Eighth in descent from Samuel Swackhamer, he was born and raised in Morris County, N.J. He is in the construction business and the father of a son and a daughter.

When elected Douglas was young, dynamic and a Democrat, but now considered by some as just another member of the establishment.

TRAILS AND TALES

By whatever trail they took, folks from the "Empire of Germany" and others whose country of origin is obscure, made their way to and settled in the area now called Long Valley. Until World War I it had proudly claimed the name of "German Valley"! A fervor of patriotism brought about this change.

Perhaps as early as 1707 but certainly by 1731 the "Valley" was home to the Germans who emigrated to escape religious persecution and try their luck in the New World. For the most part they were farmers, and this fertile land, divided by the South Branch of the Raritan River and hemmed by mountain and hills, was a haven. German names such as Swackhammer, Trimmer and Hann and anglicized ones like Welsh and Neighbor were to be prominent for many generations.

One of the oldest landmarks is Union Church. Its crumbling stone walls and ancient graveyard are being preserved by members of the Washington Township Historical Society.

The church was constructed in 1774 and served both Lutheran and German Reformed (later Presbyterian) congregations. It was built well - large and sturdy with galleries on each side. The pulpit was suspended from the wall and had large sounding board above. In the center of the floor was an eight foot square space with a dirt bottom where great mass of charcoal was burned to provide heat. There was no chimney and the congregation had to suffer the noxious fumes, often causing some to become ill.

The Rev. Henry Muhlenberg regularly visited German Valley from Philadelphia. It was here during the Revolutionary War that he sermonized against the British: "There is a time for preaching and a time for War!" Then he donned a Continental uniform and marched off to the Army.

The tale is told that the members of the two congregations built the church, and they were spurred on by a contest. The first person to bring in a loan of stone was honored by having his horses decorated with ribbons and such. Judge David Welsh

secretly loaded his cart and hit it the night before the prize was to be given. He lived near the church site and thought he would easily win. But so many people were fiercely competing that he was almost beaten.

In 1832 the Presbyterian (formerly German Reformed) and Lutheran Churches decided to split and build churches of their own. The Old Union Church was abandoned and began to fall in disrepair. The graveyard became overgrown with underbrush and trees.

A TOUR TO JOG YOUR MEMORY

By Annette Wert Hart

A tour thru Long Valley, once called German Valley but changed at the time of the First World War due to world affairs, may appropriately start at the intersection of Routes 24, 513, 517 and the South Branch of the Raritan River, all of which come together in Long Valley.

On Route 24 one-fourth of a mile east of the intersection stands "The Fort", one of the three oldest homes in the Valley, built by Philip Weise in 1784. There was a grist mill on the river in front of "The Fort". Evidence of the dam is still there. At the crossroads still stands in full operation The Long Valley Inn, used as a tavern and hotel by the area's first settlers. Another very old home and general store is located there. Across the bridge, on Route 24 West, on the left is the Zion Lutheran Church, where our reunions have been held in recent years. This church was built after the Old Union Church, in 1832. It has been redecorated inside, but preserving the pews and formal layout of the pulpit. The outside yellow stone has been stuccoed and painted white, and the arc now red front doors. A large Sunday School addition was attached to the church by a breezeway on the River side of the Church in more recent years.

A large white parsonage was built in the 1830's next to the church. John Naughtright kept the young pastor and his wife over the winter until the parsonage was completed. Next to the parsonage lived the Swackhamers. Bill advertised a sale on the newest bicycles in 1899, in a local newspaper. His children, Marge and Bob were dealers in Ford cars across the street until Marge passed away in 1950's. She was our Society's treasurer before Wesley Moren.

One a side street that runs perpendicular to the Swackhamer home is a small, stone two-story house with a picket fence around it. Once used as a school house, it is now a library, and houses The Washington Township Historical Society. On display, therein, are relics, hand tools, a cradle and other items of interest.

The large lot next to the library is the site of ruins of the Old Union Church, built in 1774. In the burial grounds surrounding the ruins are the graves of the first settlers of German Valley. Samuel Swackhamer's daughter, Catharine Kern's headstone has a climbing rose bush near. Matthias Dufford who died May 27, 1816 ages 78 and his wife Judith (Trimmer) Dufford are among the Dufford/Tufford known to be buried here. Some stones are written in German and most have a Bible verse added.

Across the street, around the right bend is Welsh's Dairy and Creamery which is famous in the area for its rich quality of products.

From the crossroads . . . 24, 513 and 517, take 513 south toward Middle Valley. On the left is the West Regional School, as well as the Presbyterian Church which burnt down in recent years but was rebuilt by parishioners thru the suppers and other money-making events held.

About two miles down the road there's a steep downhill grade. Make a sharp left up a dirt road and on the right is The Middle Valley Cemetery surrounded by a stone wall with an entrance gate which is usually left open. Here is a monument to Samuel Swackhamer, the founding father of the family. Jacob Dufford and consort, Elizabeth (Swackhamer-dau. of Samuel 1st) are here, as well as Payson Dufford and wife. Aunt "Gussie" Philhower Dufford (101 years old) is buried in a high back area.

Coming back to 513, going down hill to Middle Valley, on the left is a white building which has served as a school house, church and Community Center. If it rained our reunions were at one time held here. Frank Dufford did much recently to refresh and restore this building - even had Scouts and other youth groups working on it.

Across the street was the General Store. Payson Dufford and George B. Wert were born in the rooms over the store. In a large white house behind the store resided Frank Dufford, Senior.

A few houses down the road was a small one story tenant house (gone now) where George Dufford, founder of the Family Society, spent his summers. Across the street was a large apple orchard where reunions were first held.

As we drive back to the crossroads on 513 to Long Valley, one is impressed by the large old Victorian homes that set back off the highway where tall shade trees stand. Every home is well preserved and cared for. There is an occasional small yellow stone house where perhaps first settlers started. Rev. T. Cecil Swackhamer tells us the stones were held together by straw and mud. Thus each generation must have prospered.

Take 517 to Oldwick (formerly New Germantown). Its distance is a day's walk for one man - 8 or 10 miles. The women carried shoes until in sight of the Church. One passes Fairmount's Church and the Cemetery on route to Oldwick. There are many Swackhamers buried in Cemetery behind the Oldwick Church.

There is a Moravian Cemetery off Route 24, east of Long Valley at the dead end of Naughtright Road. Later family plots are here.

Take 24 west, past stately homes in Long Valley; there's a small stone house on the left just past the railroad tracks. Here Ben Wert, 9 months old had the services of a wet nurse for a time while his parents, Martha Ann Dufford and John C. Wert went to the Centennial in Philadelphia, one hundred years ago in 1876.

The road starts to climb and curve. After a left curve and at the beginning of a right steep curve look to the left. There stands a foundation that was a school but later residence of Phillip Dufford, brother of George, founder of our Society. After right curve, stone houses on left are built in a steep mountain like a fortress; just before the summit on right is a stone house where Jane Heath lived who married George Dufford who fought in Civil War and went to Kansas as a Homesteader. Their granddaughter, Florence Armstrong saw all this in March 1973.

After passing the summit (1010'-0" above sea level) at the corner of Pleasant Grove Road once stood the Dorn Court - quite a resort - large hotel and local large homes that catered to famous (Gen. U. S. Grant) people, who drank and bathed in Spring Waters (perhaps rich in lime and iron). Schooleys Mountain Church on right held concerts to entertain guests. Two large homes next to church, Hunt House and Heath House, are now run by United Presbyterian Church and are a home for Ebenezer Missionarys, currently in New Zealand.

Follow Pleasant Grove Road, past Church in Pleasant Grove (John T. Hoffman is buried here) to Change Water site of "Old Swake" Church.

Today there are two Swackhamers and one Dufford listed in the telephone directory - so they've gone to find new frontiers.

BOOKENDS COLUMN

The Hunterdon County Historical Society in conjunction with the Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission reprinted the 800+ page HISTORY OF HUNTERDON AND SOMERSET COUNTIES, NEW JERSEY compiled by James P. Snell and originally published in 1881.

Withstanding the test of time, the book has become recognized as the standard reference on local history of the two counties. It contains chapters on Hunterdon and Somerset's roles in the Revolutionary War, the geography and geology of both counties, civil history, etc. Information on each of the townships and boroughs in both counties is covered in separate chapters. Biographical information on a number of citizens has been included.

Snell's HISTORY has become very scarce and is usually only available in public libraries and rare book collections. To make it available during the Bicentennial years, 500 copies were reprinted. This was done page by page with all the text, maps, illustrations, etc. and has a hard cover with gold stamped title and standard library binding.

The cost of reprints are \$37.00 each. Checks may be made payable to H.C.H.S. and mailed to 114 Main Street, Flemington, New Jersey 08822.

In Honor of our nation's Bicentennial, the Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders authorized the Morris County Heritage Commission to publish COLONIAL AND REVOLUTIONARY MORRIS COUNTY (New Jersey) by Dr. Theodore Thayer.

From the coming of the white man and his first purchase of land, the author has documented these exciting early times, through the difficult rapidly changing years of settlement and revolution to the final occupation of the land of free people.

This county history is presented for citizens of all ages interested in the celebrated heritage we have received from the dedicated men, women and children who courageously founded this country.

This publication will be of interest to the members of the Swackhamer-Dufford Association who descend from the very early settlers of Morris County.

The price is \$8.50 per copy postpaid, and check made payable to Morris County Heritage Commission should be sent to that Commission at Court House, Morristown, New Jersey 07960.

List Number A-10 Basic Reference Books on Genealogy, Heraldry and Local History 1952-1975 Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 521-523 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, Md. 21202.

#84 Chamber's, Theodore Frelinghuysen

THE EARLY GERMANS OF NEW JERSEY: Their History, Churches and Genealogies. With a new Foreward by Kenn Stryker-Rodda, Maps and ill. 667 pp (1895) reprint 1969 \$18.50*
*Suggest you write for present price quotation before ordering.

A limited number of GENEALOGY CHART OF THE DUFFORD FAMILY by Harold L. Gunther are available. Contact Mr. Harold L. Gunther, 4 Oak Parkway, Sparta, N.J. 07871 for current price quotation.

Descendants of Ruliff and Mary Schamp Swackhamer will want a copy of THE MONFOORT FAMILY OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY by Fred Sisser III, Somerville, N.J. 1969.

The author is a Swackhamer and dedicated this work to Eleanor Romaine.

ORDER DIRECTLY from the author, Mr. Fred Sisser III, 10 Codington Place, Somerville, N.J. 08876 Price \$6.00