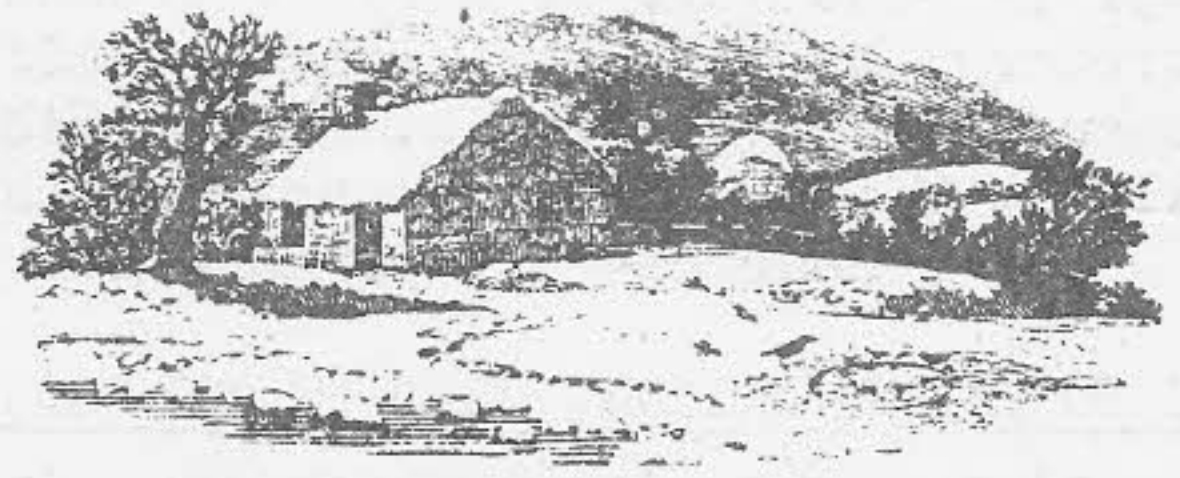


WINTER ISSUE

1977
1880
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1976



SWACKHAMER



DUFFORD



BULLETIN

Published by The Combined Swackhamer
and Dufford Genealogical Societies
of Long Valley, Morris County, New Jersey
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WINTER ISSUE 1976

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

OFFICERS OF THE COMBINED SOCIETIES

President -The Rev. John Lawrence Brasher, Box 115, Stillwater, N.J. 07875
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., Mansquan, N.J. 08736
Bulletin Editor -Miss Eleanor Romaine, 18 Hedges Ave., Chatham, N.J. 07928
Honorary Historian - Mrs. L. R. Logan

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS USED TO DESIGNATE FAMILY CONNECTION

(D) Dufford (S) Swackhamer (B) Dufford and Swackhamer (F) Friend

These symbols will not be used where the connection is obvious or if there is uncertainty of connection. - Ed.

DEADLINE

Items for the Summer 1977 issue should be received by the editor before May 15, 1977

ANNUAL REUNION

Last Saturday of July at the Zion Lutheran Church, Long Valley, N.J.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Many of us this year live in officially labeled "Bicentennial Communities." As I drive by these red, white, and blue signs at the entrance of towns, I wonder just how and where we find a sense of community today. For our forebears in German Valley and for most of the first settlers, community was a condition of life. The early Swackhamer's and Dufford's were drawn together in a necessary web of relationships: barn-raisings, bartering, marriages, elections, worship. All who lived in the Valley knew each other.

Now this has changed. I have a friend who recently moved from New York City to a small town in Vermont, because he "no longer wanted to be a statistic!" Most of us, however, do not have that option, so we might ponder where it is that we find ourselves in community with others. Perhaps we share common beliefs in a worshipping community. Perhaps we find community in the school we attend. Our work may provide community (the community of commuters?). We may belong to the senior citizen community. Actually, each of us belongs to many communities.

It seems to me, however, the most important one is the family community. Today there are so many forces at loose which work toward the destruction of the family. Yet if our society is to remain strong and humane, we must return to the basic goodness and strength of our family ties. Roots are important. I sensed this shared feeling among you at the Reunion in July. Most of us are what country folks would call "woodpile relations," but through our Society we have been gifted with a sense of community and an appreciation for our rich heritage. Let us keep these values before us. Winter greetings to all you cousins!.

Larry Brasher
The Rev. John Lawrence Brasher, President

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 29TH ANNUAL SWACKHAMER--DUFFORD
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY BUSINESS MEETING

The 29th annual meeting of the Swackhamer-Dufford Genealogical Society reunion was called to order on July 31, 1976 by the president, Stanley Dufford, at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Long Valley, N.J.

Rev. T. C. Swackhamer led the group of 72 adults and children in prayer and silent prayer for members no longer with us.

The secretary's report was read and accepted.

The treasurer's report was accepted as read.

The Bicentennial issue received in July was a very special one said Rev. T. C. Swackhamer. The bulletin editor, Eleanor Romaine, checked on returned bulletins or change of addresses.

Marjorie Logan was appointed as Honorary Historian.

A thank you was extended to the Bicentennial Committee, Fred Sisser III, Mrs. Marjorie Logan and Mr. Douglas Romaine as chairman, for their work in planning the program for the reunion.

There was a discussion to increase the donation by \$5.00 each to the Zion Lutheran Church, Middle Valley Cemetery, and to the Washington Township Historical Society. Also a discussion followed whether to change the date or time of our reunion.

NEW BUSINESS

It was moved to keep the same slate of officers as last year if the people wish to remain in office. Stanley Dufford, president, asked to have a new president appointed. The Rev. John Lawrence Brasher from Stillwater, New Jersey was named as president with a vote for all other officers to remain the same.

The awards of silver dollars were given to Mabel Apgar, age 91; the youngest present Erin Christie Hughes, 15 months; and the longest distance traveled, Dorothy A. Glover, from Utah moving to Cape Girardeau, Missouri. A bicentennial medal was given to Stanley Dufford in appreciation for his job as president.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55P.M.

PROGRAM

A talk was given by Douglas Romaine, Morris County Freeholder. A freeholder is a free land holder as explained by Mr. Romaine. Morris County produced the best iron ore, forges and foundry as found in minutes of 1767. By 1800 most of the trees were cut for the foundry. Today Morris County is rich in resources, especially human resources, education and natural beauty.

Mrs. Norbert J. Socolowski, a member and representative of the Morris County Heritage Commission spoke about the Heritage Commission's role to preserve and promote the history of the country. It is their job to mark the historical sites of Morris County resulting in about 20 markers per year. She spoke of a book for \$7.50 Colonial and Revolutionary Morris County by Theodore Thayer which is very informative.

Mr. Joseph Decker, President of the Washington Township Historical Society said a few words about the preservation of the Old Union Church. There will be a sale of a historic plate of the Old Union Church with the profits going to preserve the church. He passed out a pamphlet about Washington township.

We then dismissed to walk across the street to the site of the County historic marker at Old Union Church and ruins for the presentation and dedication of the marker. Douglas Romaine and Mrs. Norbert Socolowski presented the historic marker and Mr. Joseph Decker accepted and gave a short response. The marker was inscribed "OLD STONE UNION CHURCH 1774 THE SITE OF THE PASTORATE OF HENRY M. MUHLENBERG DD. KNOWN AS THE FATHER OF LUTHERANISM IN AMERICA."

A family picture was taken back at Zion Lutheran Church and the family heirloom that were displayed were explained to others. The reunion was a very memorable occasion and a very special one due to the program arranged by the bicentennial committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon D. Swackhamer (Mrs. Gene)
Secretary

CLASS CLASSIC

Are you among those who attended the 1976 Family Reunion and were present when the group photo was taken on the Church lawn? Would you like a copy of this Family Portrait? If you were unable to attend, would you like to see a photo of those who were present at the Bicentennial Year Reunion? In vivid color, with the Church in the background, see our new President standing behind our seated out-going President; notice the young twins seated before some of our oldest members; observe our guest speaker and the Family Officers.

Color photos, measuring 8" by 10" may be purchased, complete with identification of all those depicted, for \$5.00, postage and handling included. Smaller color photos, measuring 4" by 5" may be bought for \$2.50 postage and handling included.

Please make checks payable to and order from:
Mr. Fred Sisser III, 10 Codington Place, Somerville,
New Jersey 08876

1976 PENNSYLVANIA SWACKHAMER REUNION

The annual reunion of the descendants of Daniel and Rebecca Swackhamer was held August 8, 1976 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Fleming, Camptown, Penna.

A very enjoyable time was enjoyed by 50 people. It was a rainy day which meant that the bountiful dinner was served inside the home. Everyone was talking about the Bicentennial Bulletin they received declaring it was a fantastic job and an issue to be cherished by many.

The next reunion will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Shultz, Cadonia, Penna.

EXECUTIVE ON THE MOVE

Gene Swackhamer begins his new job as the President of the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank and the Federal Land Bank of Baltimore on January 1, 1977. They are banks that loan money for agriculture in short and long term loans.

The family will move from Vienna, Virginia to the Baltimore, Maryland area. Quote from Sharon's letter "This, of course won't affect my secretary's position; we'll really be a little closer for the reunion in Long Valley."

IN TRAVEL CIRCLES

Grace S. Jennings (Mrs. Gould) (S) of New York City has been kind enough to share her travel experiences with us. From her letter dated October 30, 1976, which her sister insisted she write, we quote:

"I was most fortunate to be with my sister, Mrs. May, in Tunkhannock, Pa. June 26th to see the arrival of our Bicentennial Wagon Train. It was beautiful and included a well organized evening celebration. Everyone there was terribly proud of our great country, doing so much in so little time.

Since then, I have enjoyed going to Bavaria, Austria and Germany-proper. I was completely fascinated by the country and the charm of the people. The Alps are like an old fashioned iced cake with all the peaks. All the villages, towns and cities are rather squashed together, nothing in-between. I inquired about this and found they just love 'togetherness.' Everything is so clean. Every house has balconies and window boxes filled with flowers. They get up at 5 A.M. to remove the dead ones. Also the streets are flowers everywhere plus a continuous sidewalk Cafe', and people eat outside all day and well past midnight--even in a slight rain under umbrellas! The streets were small rounded cobble stones laid in ornate designs - not bad to walk on with sneakers. Berchtesgaden was most interesting with a terrific view of all the mountains. Their archives, Royal Castles, Museums, Galleries, Cathedrals plus things like Cable traveling made me feel a bit like 'Alice in Wonderland.' They depend on tourist for revenue, living in the past completely. Fortunately I saw 'The Merry Widow' in Vienna - also I just loved Munich.

Now I am getting off on an 'African Safari' by way of Brussels, about 18,000 miles. I should see something-'Kwaheri.' 'Grace S. Jennings"

NEWS UPDATE FROM WILLIAMS FAMILY

A letter dated August 8, 1976 from Mrs. W. Ralph Williams (Mary) of Utica, New York will be of interest to many and is quoted in-part hereafter:

"Ralph (S) and I enjoyed receiving the Swackhamer-Dufford Bulletin. We were also pleased to receive the Bicentennial issue.

Our daughter, Mrs. Marilyn Mawdsley and her husband, Evan, were divorced last year. Marilyn Mawdsley (S) is now working as Deputy Director of Cataloging at the main library, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, Scotland.

Our son, George H. Williams (S) has recently been made an Associate Professor of Engineering (Computer Science) at Union College, Schenectade, N.Y. He was previously an Assistant Professor. His wife, Karen, is a graduate student at Union College, working for her Ph.D. in Bio-chemistry. They have one son, Christopher, who will be 7 years old in Jan. '77.

My husband Ralph (S) is retired from G.E. and doing volunteer work for RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Programs). He has been driving Senior Citizens to doctor appointments and therapy at the local hospitals.

We were sorry not to make the reunion this year, but it was a rainy, foggy week in these parts. Hope to see you all next year."

RETIRED

In September, Anna Drake and Cora Swackhamer hung up their 150 telephones and retired. They operated the Madison Answering Bureau since 1949.

A victim of polio at age six, Miss Drake has been confined to a wheelchair since 1916. She started the business 27 years ago because there weren't too many

opportunities for her to make a living. Performing a service has been meaningful to both Miss Drake and her foster sister, Miss Swackhamer, who joined the firm a partner in the late 1950s.

About 12 years ago, the partners bought a summer retreat in Long Valley, "to get away from the jangling bells."

LONE DEM FREEHOLDER LOSES

In the November election Republicans in Morris County, N.J. had a clean sweep Douglas Romaine (S), who in 1973 became the first Democrat elected to the Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders since 1911, lost his reelection bid.

NICE TO HEAR NICE THINGS

In August, Miss Alice Bradley (D), of Princeton, Illinois, wrote: "I especially enjoyed the Bicentennial Bulletin. It was so very interesting. And, I always look forward to receiving each issue of the Bulletin.

I am sure you had a very interesting time at the last Reunion, as the events sounded most interesting."

IDEAL AND HAPPY EXPERIENCE

The Rev. Dr. T. Cecil Swackhamer declared Saturday, July 31, 1976 in Long Valley, N.J. a success and joy. He said he enjoyed everything very much. All did so well. In many ways it was an ideal and happy experience.

OF ALL PLACES!

Get out your copy of the World Atlas and locate Cameroon, Africa. Jeanette Swackhamer is there with the Wycliff Bible translators - reducing to a written language a tribal dialect to be translated into the New Testament. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Swackhamer.

The Rev. Dr. T. Cecil Swackhamer believes the family gets around today more than any generation except the first settlers in the United States.

CRADLE ROLL

Christine Ann Coats (S), born January 2, 1976 to Martin and Patricia Coats, R.D. Wysox, Pa.

Bryan Russell Coats (S), born March 5, 1976 to Jack and Karen Coats, R.D. 5 Towanda, Pa.

Both are grandchildren of the late Reid and Ella Swackhamer Park.

Kevin James Swackhamer, born September 26, 1976 to William Lee and Elizabeth Swackhamer, San Diego, California. It is the couple's second child.

Robert James Harding was born October 8, 1976 to Mery Jane Swackhamer and Gary Harding of 4222 Alma Avenue, Knoxville, Tenn. This is the couple's second son. The first son born May 23, 1974 was named Timothy.

This makes Francis T. Swackhamer a grandfather for the fourth time.

Jason Cletus Swackhamer, son of O.C. Swackhamer, Jr., son of O. C. Swackhamer of Fairfax, Missouri, was born February 3, 1976 at Ottumwa, Iowa.

Amamao Lynn Updegraff, daughter of Penny Swackhamer and Dr. James Updegraff, was born May 20, 1976 at LaJolla, California. Penny Swackhamer Updegraff is the daughter of O. C. Swackhamer.

I N M E M O R I A N

"I am the...bright morning star." Revelations 22:16 (RSV)

Please correct line three on page 10 of the Summer Issue 1976 "Swackhamer Dufford Bulletin" -obituary of Ronald D. Crater. The location of Pleasant Hill Cemetary is Chester, N.J. It was incorrectly given as Dover.

SWACKHAMER, MRS. MYRTLE ADELIA (nee Isaacson) of Miami, Florida, died March 13, 1976 at the age of 61. She was the beloved wife of Francis T. Swackhamer; a devoted mother and Grandmother.

SWACKHAMER, DR. WILLIAM DODGE, Physician and surgeon of 608 Fairway Road, Henderson, Nevada, died February 23, 1976.

Dr. Swackhamer was born May 15, 1925 in Superior, Arizona, son of Chester Ray and Daisy Nichols Swackhamer. He completed his undergraduate degree at Arizona State University and Northwestern University. In 1948, he received his medical degree from Tulane University School of Medicine.

He practiced general medicine in Jena, Louisiana for five years before being called into the United States Navy. There, he served aboard the Carrier USS Wasp from 1956-1958. After his service, he went into an OBGYN residency at the Ochsner Clinic in New Orleans.

In 1961, he came to Henderson, Nevada and became a partner in the Henderson Clinic.

In 1968, Dr. Swackhamer served on Project SS HOPE in Ceylon and again 1969 on the land based program in Ganada, Arizona. He also served on the Admissions Board of the University of Nevada Medical School.

He was chairman of the Commission on Interprofessional Relations, Clark County Medical Society and deputy chairman of Committee for Liability Advisory Review, Clark County Medical Society.

He was a staff member of St. Rose de Lima Hospital in Henderson, Sunrise and Desert Springs Hospitals in Las Vegas and Boulder City Hospital. He was a member of Henderson Rotary Club, Henderson Chamber of Commerce and Raye Masonic Lodge, Superior Arizona.

He also held memberships in the American Medical Association, Nevada State Medical Association, Clark County Medical Society, American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, American College of Surgeons, Clark County Gynecological Society and Southern Medical Society.

He was posthumously awarded Nevada's Distinguished Physician Award in April 1976.

Survivors include his wife, Dorothy D.; two daughters, Mrs. Dorothy S. Stratton of Ruston, Louisiana and Barbara Ann of Henderson, two sons, William Dodge Jr. of Tempe, Arizona, and Robert D. of Henderson and one brother, Robert L. of Globe, Arizona. Services were held at Palm Memorial Chapel, Henderson, Nevada.

EXPERTS DESCEND ON SHAKY WOOD VALLEY IN WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

In December, experts from the state geological office, bureau of mines and Columbia University began investigating the recent "rumblings" in the Wooded Valley area of Washington, Township, N.J.

Yash Aggarwal from Columbia University, who works out of the Lamont Dougherty Center in Palisades, N.Y. (the center that monitors earth movements on the east coast places seismographs on Schooleys Mountain to take readings. He said that "earth tremors are not uncommon to the state and pose no significant threat to the community the last tremors in this area were felt about 1957.

Township administrator Jeffrey Shapiro said the rumblings may be due to a collapsed mine chamber. Long Valley Fire Chief David Bird said officials from the state office have located six abandoned iron mines, which were last worked about 50 years ago, within a mile radius of where the rumblings took place. Officials from the bureau of mines were expected to bring maps of the mines in the area that date back to the Revolutionary War.

Mr. Bird said the earth movements may also be caused by a "minor earth shift below the ground level." He said Mr. Aggarwal reported there is a known geological fault running through Schooleys Mountain.

G E N E A L O G Y

Re: Jacob Swackhamer (1794-1874), son of Christopher, son of John, son of Samuel I

Credit for this documentation goes to Mr. Barry Swackhamer of Mt. View, Calif. and Mr. and Mrs. Harold C. Swackhamer of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

From A HISTORY OF THE CHURCHILL UNITED CHURCH FORMERLY OF THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
B.N.A. for Dr. K. H. Cousland, M.C., M.A., D.D.
CHURCH HISTORY 111 by Charles P. Beatron, B.A. Emmanuel College
March 1962 - Page 3 and footnote reference "The Canadian Independent,"
February 1874, page 255.

"The Canadian Independent of February 1874, a congregationalist monthly paper, included an obituary of Mr. Jacob Swackhamer, written by the Rev. Joseph Unsworth, which I should like to quote, since it outlines the importance of his life and contribution to Churchill.

'On the 10th of this month, Jacob Swackhammer, the oldest deacon of the Churchill Congregational Church, Esquesing, died in Christ, in the hope of eternal life - aged 80 years.

He was born in Pennsylvania, and removed to Canada with his parents when he was about twelve years old.

He served in the war of 1812, for himself and afterwards his father who was drafted soon after his return. (While in the army he was General Brock's Orderly, and his farm on lot 32, third line, Esquesing was a veteran's grant for his military services.)

In 1821 he removed with his wife and three children to the place where he died which was at the time dense forest. He was one of the first settlers. Hardships which cannot now be understood in our newest settlements were endured by those early pioneers.

In 1837, Rev. H. Denny, then of Guelph, visited the neighbourhood of our deceased brother, and for a while preached in his house. The Lord blessed the word, and Mr. Swackhammer and others were converted to God. In 1838 a church was formed and our brother was chosen deacon, which office he held until his death. Rev. H. Denny was chosen pastor and remained in charge 17 years.

As a deacon he filled the office until his health failed him as a good servant of the church for Christ. As a Christian he was upright in all his business transactions, his word being regarded by all as perfectly reliable. He was humble as a child, devout in spirit, and had great reverence for sacred things. He was punctual and regular in his attendance upon the sanctuary; his soul delighting in the privileges thereof.

He was very generous to both friends and strangers- a very friend indeed. Nine years before his death he was laid aside by affliction of a paralytic and dropsical character. His sufferings during that period were beyond description. Often has he said to the writer 'No one knows what I suffer.' Yet he never uttered a word of complaint or reflected on the wisdom of God's providence in so dealing with him. His soul was ever found resting on Christ, and his sun set in a clear sky.

His family of 16 children have all professed faith in Jesus. Three have died in the Lord, and the remaining 13 all now married were with him during his last hours upon earth. His devoted widow with them sorrows, yet rejoices in hope of meeting again beyond the river. His death was improved by his pastor from Psalm 46. (C XVI : 13)

Thus one more of the fathers have passed away. May the mantle and double portion of the Spirit fall upon the sons.

J. U.
Georgetown, January 23, 1874"