SUMMER ISSUE

1977

SWACKHAMER - DUFFORD

BULLETIN



DRY GOODS, GROCERIES, PROVISIONS, BOOTS, SHOES, RUBBERS, DRUGS, PATENT MEDICINES, PAINTS, OILS, &C. Hardware of all Kinds.

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Published by The Combined Swackhamer and Dufford Genealogical Societies of Long Valley, Morris County, N.J. Cover Set and Printed by John Callanan

SUMMER ISSUE 1977

For the descendants of Samuel Schwachhamer (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 - 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., Manasquan, N.J. 08736

Bulletin Editor
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 for the Winter 1977 issue should be received by The Rev. J. Lawrence Brasher Box 115, Stillwater, N. J. 07875, by November 15, 1977.

ANNUAL REUNION

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

PRESIDENTS'S MESSAGE

Early in March a friend gave us a bird house constructed especially for bluebirds. We placed it on a fencerow out back, and by the end of April, a pair of bluebirds had accepted it as their home. They now are raising their young. Although they used to be common in our region, bluebirds are now so scarce that most people under thirty have never seen one. Their favorite nesting sites in rural fenceposts have in most areas been displaced by steel posts and suburban lawns. We delight in watching these traditional harbringers of happiness. They returned because a house was built for them. We provided them a place.

We are looking forward to the family reunion this summer. We find it important to meet regularly with others in the community of our forebears. We are strengthened and enriched by the shared memories and traditions, by the common values, and the warm socialbility. A place has been provided for us. Let us return to it in July. Birds of a feather (should) flock together!

Larry Brasher

We are greatly saddened by the death of our friend and editor, Eleanor Romaine, which occurred on June 7. The following is an excerpt from her funeral service, preached by The Rev. J. Lawrence Brasher.

ELEANOR L. ROMAINE 1915 - 1977

I happened to visit Eleanor Romaine while she was editing the last issue of the genealogical Bulletin. She was working on the obituary section which usually has a biblical verse at the beginning. She had chosen the verse, "I am the bright morning star". Sensing that perhaps I might be more knowledgeable about biblical matters, she asked, "Is that all right, Larry?" I said, "Yes, that's excellent, Eleanor!" Since she has left us, that verse had repeatedly come to my mind. In the book of

Revelation, it follows a description of eternal life which says, "They need no light of lamps or sun, for the Lord God shall be their light, and they shall reign forever and ever." It is a beautiful thought that now Eleanor knows the full meaning of that verse which she chose a few months ago.

I first met Eleanor Romaine at a family reunion in Long Valley. I think it was her laugh which captured me! She had a compelling, almost outrageous, laugh which seemed to lift your spirit and put all of life into perspective. She had a quick sense of humor and was always ready for a good story. She had a keen interest in people and was extremely sensitive to their feelings and their ways - always being careful to make herself clearly understood and to never offend. She was a good neighbor, civic minded and concerned for the rights of everyone. Although she never had a family of her own, she was for years a source of strength for her larger family of relatives, always there to listen and to provide a place. She was a faithful person.

She had a probing, questing mind - brilliant in genealogical work, embodying all of the best traits found in The Daughters of the American Revolution. She was capable - working long hours on her editorial duties, which she in later years considered her most important work. She cherished her independence and prided herself on being self-reliant at all times.

Her going from us, although too soon, is the way she would have wanted it, having been a burden on no one, busy and involved to the end. I would like to share a poem with you by Hall Young, which fits Eleanor.

Let me die working, Still tackling plans unfinished, tasks undone. Clean to its end, swiftly, may my race be run. No lagging steps, no faltering, no shirking. Let me die working. Let me die thinking, Let me fare forth, still with an open mind, Fresh secrets to unfold, new truths to find. My soul undimmed, alert, no questions blinking, Let me die thinking. Let me die laughing! No sighing over past sins; they are forgiven. Spilled on this earth are all the joys of heaven. The wine of life, the cup of mirth still quaffing. Let me die laughing!

This was Eleanor. And now I believe she has heard the voice of our Lord (that "bright morning star") saying, "well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Master!"

SWACKHAMER - DUFFORD REUNION - JULY 30

Come to the family reunion, Saturday, July 30, at the Zion Lutheran Church, Long Valley, New Jersey. We will begin at noon. Bring a picnic lunch for your own family. Following lunch, our guest speaker will be The Rev. Russell Sauerwein, pastor of Zion Lutheran Church. He will share with us his knowledge of the history of the church and community to which our ancestors belonged. Following this, we hope to be entertained by a folksong and instrumental group known as "The Kinfolk".

A chief item of business will be to find a new editor for The Bulletin. Please give this some careful thought. See you at the Reunion!

THANK YOU TO MRS. HALLECK

As pastor of a church, I am aware that many people who provide indispensable services in the organization too often are taken for granted - the organist, the sexton, the head usher, the flower chairperson. In order that this might not happen in our Society, I would like to thank Mrs. Halleck for the faithful and meticulous work she performs in publishing The Bulletin. Few of us realize the expertise and amount of time required to bring forth a publication of this kind. We are truly grateful for her ability and willingness to provide us with this service.

Larry Brasher

BICENTENNIEL REUNION PHOTO

The excellent color photograph taken on the church lawn during the 1976 reunion is no longer available to those wishing a copy. In February, 1977, the photograper, George W. Longacre, passed away, thus preventing orders received after that time from being processed. Some twenty-five copies were made previous to his death. These are now cherished momentos of our Bicentenniel Reunion.

The neat, well typed identification sheet, naming those in the photograph, was done by John Lawrence Ely, of West Orange, N.J., a friend of the Association. We wish to take this opportunity to thank him for his kind help.

Likewise, appreciation is also extended to Annette Hart, who helped to identify virtually everyone depicted in the photograph.

This issue of The Bulletin is necessarily brief as much of the material sent to Eleanor Romaine for inclusion in this issue could not be located in time for publication.

IN MEMORIAM

"I am the bright morning star".

Word of the death of Miss Florence Armstrong (D) on September 12, 1976 at Larned, Kansas, was received from Smith and Burnette, Attorneys at Law.

The legal notice was appreciated, but hardly adequate to revere the memory of a gracious and remarkable woman. Florence was descended from pioneer settlers of Kansas who had left New Jersey and gone west.

Florence was gifted in music and also continued to manage the farm on land acquired by her pioneer ancestors. Her heritage and career are covered in back issues of the "Bulletin".

CRADLE ROLL

Receiving the Sacrament of Christian Baptism at the Covenant United Methodist Church, Springfield, Pennsylvania, Sunday, April 17, 1977, Erin Michelle Myers (S), born December 26, 1976, infant daughter of Thomas and Harriet (Levin) Myers.

Following the Baptism, a buffet luncheon was served at the home of the grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Myers.

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Levin, Philadelphia, maternal grandparents, and Mr. and Mrs. Francis May, Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania, great-grandparents attended the service and luncheon with other relatives and friends.

* * * * * * *

Born February 18, 1977, Marcia Ann Schoenherr (S) daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Phillip Schoenherr, 7758 LaSalle Blvd., Miramar, Fla. 33023. Mrs. Schoenherr is the former Gail Tunison, daughter of Wallace L. and Wilma (Bowie) Tunison of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

WEDDINGS

MARTYNIUK-McCAFFREY

Madison Eagle * Chatham Courier, February 24, 1977

Miss Carol Ann McCaffrey of Hamburg, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert F. McCaffrey of 86 Woodland Road, became the bride of Peter J. Martyniuk, son of Mr. and Mrs. Zygmunt Martyniuk of Clifton, on Saturday, February 19, 1977 in St. Vincent Martyr Church.

Rev. Raymond Mullen officiated at the ceremony. The bride was given in marriage by her parents. A reception was held at the Summit Suburban Hotel in Summit.

Eileen McCaffrey, sister of the bride, was maid of honor and bridesmaids were Karen Tinch, Ginger Corcoran and Claudia Carbone. Laura Selest was flower girl.

Raymond Martyniuk served as best man and ushers were Bill Bindas, Frank Goldyn and Keith McCaffrey. Jamie Cestare was ringbearer.

The bride attended York College in Pennsylvania, and graduated from Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas. She is a reading teacher in Vernon. The groom graduated from Montclair State College and is a science teacher in Vernon.

After a wedding trip to Antiqua, the couple will reside in Carlton Village, Hamburg.

This couple attended the Swackhamer-Dufford reunion in Long Valley on July 31,1976.

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SWACKHAMER-CRITES

Tom Swackhamer, son of Robert and Mildred Swackhamer of Springfield, Missouri, was married to Debby Crites at Independence, Missouri on April 23, 1977. He and his brother, Robert, have been assigned for a period to the military services in Germany.

ANOTHER FREEHOLDER??

Mrs. Virginia Swackhamer, widow of the late James Swackhamer, of Whitehouse Station, Sommerset County, N.J., has successfully captured the Democratic nomination for Freeholder in Sommerset County and will face off with insurgent Republican George Merick in November.

Good luck to a fellow Democrat and distant relative.

Doug Romaine, Former Democratic Freeholder, Morris County, N.J.

QUERRIES

I am fairly sure I am a descendant of Samuel Swackhamer through one of the family that came to Ontario either at the time of American Independence or at the time of the War of 1812. My great-great-grandfather was Jacob Swackhamer who settled above Acton, Ontario, on lot 32 of Esquesing Township of Halton County between 1810 and 1820, land granted to him for services in the 1812 War for the British. He apparently had come to Grimsby, Ontario, previously from Pennsylvania. I am still searching for the proper connection back to Samuel.

Fred Day, 119 Terrance Park Drive, Ancaster, Ontario

Is there a listing of family history of Long Valley settlers anywhere? Army lists? Census? Church? or emmigration or land holdings from 1738 to 1800. This is the remaining mystery to my story. We know of three Tuffords to come to Canada - Conrad, Philip, and John, to the St. Catherine's area.

It seems to me that one or two of these came into Canada with the Mennonite settlers.

Edna M. Tufford, 5018 Lewdney Ave., Regina, Canada

We are descendants of Henry, Conrad and Philip Tufford, who came to Canada about 1800 or earlier. We can go no further back. We would like to go back another 75 years to Philip Tufford, Sr.

Could anyone advise us where to look? Perhaps someone has a family tree of that period of time.

Mrs. William Edward Tufford, Regina Gen. Society Member