

SWACKHAMER -  
DUFFORD

BULLETIN

Summer Issue

1979

Published by the Combined Swackhamer  
and Dufford Genealogical Societies of  
Long Valley, Morris County, New Jersey

For the descendants of Samuel Schwachhammer (Swackhamer) who in 1731 settled in Long Island, 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.  
Vice-President - Mr. James V. Wert, R. D. #1, Neneveh, N. Y. 13813  
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Honorary Historian - Vacant

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 1979 ISSUE: Items should be received by Audrey McCaffrey or Annette Hart by November 15, 1979.

REUNION

Saturday, July 28, 1979  
12 Noon - picnic lunch followed by  
business meeting and program  
Zion Lutheran Church, Long Valley, New Jersey

Please make a special effort to attend and bring a friend or relative. Our own Wes Moren has engaged singers for the Reunion, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Hebron plus three others and they are known as the "New American Band" and do Blue Grass Music. There will also be a slide presentation by the Historical Society of Washington Township. So come on along----- Have just learned our Chaplain, Rev. T. Cecil Swackhamer, will be visiting from Missouri and is planning to be at the Reunion.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Early in the nineteenth century, when the first American Christian missionaries were going to Africa, someone wrote this verse which became a popular folk hymn:

Yes, my native land, I love thee,  
All thy scenes, I love them well.  
Friends, connections, happy country,  
Can I bid you all farewell?  
Can I leave you, can I leave you,  
Far in distant lands to dwell?

The hymn expresses feelings we all have when we move to a new home. We are described today as a nation of transients. Ties to place and family, for many, are not as strong as in previous generations. Louise and I are in the process of moving from our native hills of northern New Jersey to the Piedmont of North Carolina, where I will be studying American Church history at Duke University. Pulling up roots, even temporarily, is not easy - leaving friends, packing possessions, facing some unknowns. How much more difficult it must have been for those first immigrant Swackhamer's and Dufford's - crossing an ocean to a strange land holding no personal welcome or guarantee of success.

In all this, we remember once again that possessions and place are not primary in our lives, but relationships. This truth is affirmed every year at our reunion. We hope to see you in July!

APOLOGY Your Editor sincerely regrets that the Winter Issue of the Bulletin carried no explanation of the beautiful cover which was supplied by Fred Sisser, and the following information is offered as explanation.

The baptism of Philip Dufford is a matter of record, a copy of which appeared on the Winter Bulletin cover. Philip was the son of Walloons, who had their son baptized in a church of that denomination at Maestricht, Belgium, (now the Netherlands) written in French, translated reads:

"On the 17th of May, Mr. DuFort, Major in the service of the King of Prussia, and a native of Cevennes, of the one part, and Susanne Elizabeth Boomhauer, a native of Maestricht, presented a son to Holy Baptism named Philippe. The Godfather.....The Godmother..... By Mr. Croiset."

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I found the following "Epilogue" from New Jersey Hills by A. M. Sullivan, reprinted from Songs of the Musconetcong and Other Poems of New Jersey and thought it particularly appropriate as so many of our ancestors are from New Jersey.

There is more than music in the names of Jersey towns  
That grip the sides of a hill  
Or huddle by creeks that spill  
Through valleys, or take their stance on a windy crown.  
The first to come  
Seeking a mountain home  
Ran from the bitter quarrels of Puritan and Dissenter  
And they fashioned a name  
With peace as its mentor:  
Hope, Tranquillity,  
Mt. Freedom and Harmony.  
Then a thousand other wanderers came  
And froze the liquid Indian sounds within the alphabet:  
Pluckemin, Netcong, Parsippany,  
Wanaque, Macopin and Whippany;  
Or names that recall the perilous days of state:  
Franklin, Washington, Madison, Lafayette;  
Or names that might have fallen from a Tudor gate:  
Chatham, Bloomsburg and Annandale  
And the ghostly village of Waterloo  
Like an abandoned movie set  
Of a Victorian tale.  
What do these mean to you?  
Hibernia, Stockholm, Hamburg and Englishtown,  
Vienna, Scotch Plains, Sparta and Lebanon -  
Refuge of saint and sinner,  
Of drone and of spinner,  
Of indentured servants on the run.  
Here's what they mean to me:  
Outposts of liberty;  
Little towns where sons and daughters were conceived  
With a tempest in their blood,  
Where men of candor stood  
And spoke the angry word their hearts believed.  
These are my people, and I make this lowly gift  
Of rhyme for little towns that lift  
A steeple toward the western sky,  
And search the bins of memory to tell how I  
In long enchantment gaze  
On Jersey uplands and sing their praise.

## BIRTHS

From Cy Harriman, Westport, Connecticut, we learn that he is the proud grandfather of Chelsea Rhiannon Pelletier. (D) Chelsea's the daughter of Wendy and William Pelletier of Martha's Vineyard, Mass. and was born on April 7, 1979. Chelsea is the granddaughter of Bee and Cy Harriman and the great-granddaughter of Eliza Dufford Harriman.

From Richard D. Swackhamer, Cranford, New Jersey, announcement is made of the birth of a daughter, Tracy Joan Swackhamer, born February 8, 1979. Tracy joins two brothers, Rickie 5, and Michael 3. Proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Byron F. Swackhamer of Haddon Heights, New Jersey. Best wishes to the proud parents, Richard and Karen.

## DEATHS

Mabel Apgar, 93, of Califon, New Jersey. We learned of Mabel's passing from her son, Clifford, and her daughter Ruth Alpaugh. Mabel's maiden name was Trimmer and she was the daughter of Mary Elizabeth Dufford Trimmer. She was raised in Middle Valley, N. J. All who attended the reunions will remember Mabel as she was the oldest living woman in attendance for the past several years, but her vitality and participation belied her years. We will all miss her. Mabel is also survived by two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

From her son, Clifford O. Apgar we received the following: "Mother died December 29, 1978 of a surprise heart attack. She was sewing when the attack occurred and was taken at once to the hospital where she suffered a second attack which was fatal. Mother was very active and last summer she had a large garden and continued to be active in the Church. The day before her death, she visited my mother-in-law in a Somerville Nursing Home and Aunt Nellie Trimmer in Chester. Mother had a full and rewarding life. God granted her the privilege of dying in grace and peace."

Clayton Magee died on April 9, 1979 at Harrisburg General Hospital. Born in Brooklyn, Pa. on June 21, 1908 he was the son of Clark C. and Nellie G. Swackhamer Magee. Survived by his wife, the former Cicely Margaret Evers and one son, Clayton F. Jr., Wilkes-Barre, a brother, Carlton, and one grandchild. Mr. Magee was the grandson of Fred Swackhamer who was a brother of David Swackhamer.

(The above was sent by Leonard W. Brotzman of Binghamton, New York.)

## CONGRATULATIONS

To Dr. Roy Dufford Ribble and his wife, Ruth Stokes Ribble, who will celebrate their 62nd Wedding Anniversary on June 2, 1979. All of us join their immediate family in wishing them much happiness on this most special occasion and sincere praise on their long-wedded life together. Dr. Ribble was attending college up until last year, perhaps he still does. He writes to say that the 2nd and 3rd generation call him "Uncle Duck".

## BITS AND PIECES

We've missed Melvin Suydam (D) for two years. He always attended our Reunions. He's been living in Brooksville, Florida and is sorry he can't come to the Reunions. He is 85 years young and enjoys his mobile home.

Welcome to a new member, Margaret Johnson, nee Strandberg. Her father, William Strandberg and her Aunt Jane Saums are already members. Margaret (S) is doing research on her family genealogy and wishes to receive the Bulletin.

In the research department, a letter from Russell Dufford, Lynchburg, Va. indicates that he is doing a lot of investigating on the Dufford name and will continue to do so. Russell has been corresponding with two sources in West Germany around Mannheim who specialize in Protestants who came to the Palatinate. Good luck in all future searches.

From Fred Day (S), Ancaster, Ontario, we receive some new Swackhamer entries. Mr. Day says there are about 400 in his files now and he is still searching. Fred is descended through Leola Wansbrough, Augusta Swackhamer, Christopher Swackhamer, Johannes Swackhamer from Samuel Swackhamer. Fred's daughter, Mary Margaret Day, was married on July 14, 1978 to Kelly Hague of Regina, Ontario. His son, Christopher Day, was married on September 16, 1978, to Patricia Hohn of Mississauga. Congratulations to the happy couples.

Martha Sammond (D) and her husband are planning a trip to Alaska in early June via Vancouver. They will fly to Vancouver and cruise up to Alaska.

George Wert (D) and his wife Marie are retiring to Ocean Pines, Maryland. (George is your Editor's big brother.) Marie has run a nursery school in New Milford, N.J. for many years, and we now wish them Godspeed and happy, healthy years of relaxation. We also wish them a most happy 40th Wedding Anniversary on June 10th.

From Annette Hart, our Treasurer, we hear that she spent Easter at her brother James Wert's farm (Vice President of our Society) in Neneveh, N. Y. They feasted on ham that James and Peg had smoked and cured themselves. Annette held half a steer while James cut it into steaks. With the price of beef these days, James can count his blessings.

Our young Elsie Ford Cochran (D) of Orlando, Florida, celebrated her 87th birthday last August at jet altitude somewhere between the United States and the Republic of China. Traveling is what she likes and does best. We have a letter from this most fascinating lady, whose mother was Henrietta Dufford from Washington, New Jersey. Elsie spent a month in Red China where she saw and walked on the Great Wall. Her son, Richard, was with her. She has been around the world twice, India included. What is she going to do for her 88th birthday? She promptly answers she would like to go to Siberia! And we bet she will. Elsie is the mother of four children, 14 grandchildren (two M.D.'s) and two great grandchildren. She is in good health and enjoys life. (Your editor's ideal is to be just like Elsie at that age.) Marvelous.

Had a nice letter from Mrs. Ruth Jacobus, a native of New Jersey, but recently relocated to Dublin, California. She believes she is related to both Dufford and Swackhamers. Her cousin was Robert Brown, and she says that as a child she remembers attending many reunions. Bob Brown's grandmother, Louise Karn Kleindinst and Ruth Jacobus' grandmother Myrtle Karn Pearce were sisters. Mrs. Jacobus is the daughter of William Pearce, second child of Myrtle. Myrtle Karn Pearce had two other children, Ethel May (Pearce) born Oct. 21, 1890, died Nov. 10, 1957; and Ralph Waldo Pearce, born Sept. 3, 1894, and died Dec. 21, 1923. Ruth Jacobus was born Sept. 7, 1918 and married Herbert Jacobus, Jr. on Jan. 30, 1943. They have two children, Karen, Karen Lee Madaras and Richard Alan. Karen has two daughters, Jennifer Lynn and Susan Ruth. Richard had three children, Rebecca Ann, David Alan and Heather Ann. Karen lives in California and Richard in Pennsylvania. Mrs. Jacobus would appreciate it if anyone could give her more family background.

From Sarah Hastings' (S) letter she informs us she became a grandmother of a girl born to Mr. and Mrs. John C. Mann, Jr. of Oldwick, N. J. Stacey Ann, born Jan. 16, 1979. She also has a grandson born July 1, 1975. Sarah (Sally) lives in a mobile home in Whitehouse, N. J. Sarah's sister, Helen Leland, is in a nursing home, Greenbrook Manor Nursing Home, Greenbrook, N. J. Helen's daughter, Patricia A. Rudolf, lives in Hicksville, N. Y. They have three children: Mark 21, is in his senior year at Julliard Music School. Debbie, 20, is in her first year at Harvard; and Raisa, 15, is a junior in high school. Music runs in the family as Patricia (the mother of the above 3) is a concert violinist, and her husband, Paul, is also a graduate of Julliard.

On the home front, your editor's son, Keith McCaffrey, has arrived in Friedberg, Germany, as his first 3-year assignment after graduating from West Point. His

brother, Ken is graduating from Madison High School on June 13, and will be attending Rutgers University majoring in physics. My husband Herb and I will then be off to Hawaii for two weeks, Herb on a business trip and me for a little R. & R. on June 17. We are looking forward to seeing as many as can make it on July 28th in Long Valley.

#### GENEALOGY

Elmer Swackhamer told Annette Hart the correct origin of the name Swackhamer, tho he says several have been mentioned. At one time the Swackhamers were in Belgium waiting for a boat to come to America. There were Belgium Blocks used to pave their streets. When boats came in from India with tea, spices, etc. their load was light and they needed ballast in the hold to go around the Cape (Good Horn) so men were hired to break up these Belgium bricks and store in ship's hold - Schwackhammer was the name given one family; the name has been shortened.

Mabel Apgar (recently deceased) told Annette Hart that as a girl in her teens, her mother used to take a horse and carriage and bring her from the Valley to Hacketts-town for a weekend to visit Aunt Annie and Uncle John Wert (your editor's grand-parents. They would sleep over at the Clarendon Hotel and eat at Wert's Bakery and Restaurant in Hackettstown and visit with the family. They would drive home Sunday evening and if it grew dark the horse knew the way home.

From Edna Tufford, Regina, Sask. Canada; via Norman Tufford: Excerpts from one of the first settlers of "The Forks of the Delaware" and their descendants - Rev. Kieffer D.D. Translated from the German Record Books of the First Reformed Church of Easton, Pa. 1760 to 1852: excerpts are references which give names which might be Dufford - Tufford.

Page 1 - Baptisms -Page 87-1768 February 28 - A boy was brought to Holy Baptism and the name given him was George Henry. Born Jan. 13. Parents Adam Tufford and his wife Susanna. Sponsors George Heimrich and Mrs. Joanna Weygandt. (There was a Rev. Weygandt who issued a call for Volunteers of Long Valley to build "Old Union Church")

Page 96 1776 Adam Dufford and wife Susanna brought son Philip, born 4 April 1776 to be baptised 25 August. Godparents Philip Ackenback, wife Margaret.

#### Page 2: Marriages

1794 Dec. 7, Mr. Mutchler in Greenwich with Susanna Duffert.

1825 July 16 Joseph Doffert and Sarah Kelly

#### Burials

1800 Oct. 7 Susanna Hoffart, Dryland

1816 Aug. 15 Samuel Hoffert, Dryland

1835 April 18 Anna Marie Doffert, Dryland.

Edna Tufford also sent a loose leaf book with about 100 Tufford families and relatives. It seems a matter of record that their ancestor received a large grant of land from the Government as they migrated from New Jersey.

Timothy Murphy, a Revolutionary War sharpshooter and Indian fighter from Schoharie County was a Swackhamer. He was the great uncle to Glen Swackhamer's great-grand-mother. This information sent in by Glen Swackhamer with a newspaper clipping from the Oneonta Star on 11/25/78. Mr. Murphy was a member of Morgan's Rifles, and fired the shot which killed the English General Fraser at the Battle of Saratoga on 7 October, 1777. There is a "Timothy Murphy Trail" along Route 30 near Fultonham in honor of the legendary Revolutionary War hero. Any family member traveling in that area might want to look up the Trail.