



# SUMMER

S U M M E R I S S U E

1 9 8 7

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 - James V. Wert, R.D. 1, Nineveh, New York 13913

VICE PRESIDENT - Bert Swackhamer, Fairmount Ave., Long Valley, NJ

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TREASURER - Mrs. Annette Hart, 1614 Holly Blvd., Manasquan, NJ 08736

HON. HISTORIAN - Mr. Russell Dufford, 528 Hayes Dr., Lynchburg, VA 24502

BULLETIN EDITORS - Ruth Alpaugh, 7 Prospect St., High Bridge, NJ 08829

Ruth Hartman, 7 Brentwood Tr., New Monmouth, NJ 07748

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS USED TO DESIGNATE FAMILY CONNECTION

(D) DUFFORD      (S) SWACKHAMER      (B) BOTH D AND S      (F) FRIEND

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

The Annual meeting of the Dufford-Swackhamer Genealogical Society will be held at the Zion Lutheran Church, Long Valley, July 26, 1987 at 12:00. Take a box lunch and beverage with you and items of interest you may wish to share after the meeting.

President Wert's message for '87 is "to brighten the corner where you are," an old hymn "that could be put to good use today - with all the down beat news that is affecting us so adversely." He will also share some slides of far away corners he has been brightening this past year. Audrey and Herb McCaffrey too, just back from Alaska.

At our last meeting silver dollars were presented to: Frieda Trebilcock (my mom), the oldest member present and Kathleen Corritori, youngest member and Ben Wert for coming the longest distance.

Treasurer Annette Hart reports a balance of \$375.57 in the treasury which hopefully will cover the cost of this newsletter (541 copies). Contributions to the Zion Lutheran Church, \$30.00, the Middle Valley Cemetery Fund, \$10.00, and the Washington Valley Historical Society, \$15.00, were approved at the last meeting. Thanks to your regular support we always just make it.

James Swackhamer, Wheaton, IL, sent our mailing labels as usual, also material from his research on Samuel Swackhamer (to be covered later in this issue).

Continue sending letters and articles for those additions make the Bulletin interesting.

TO BE RECORDED

BIRTHS

Corritori, Erin Christine - March 10, 1987. Daughter of Eileen and Dan.  
Martynuik, Michael Christopher - October 12, 1986. Son of Carol and Peter.

ADDRESS CHANGES

Jeanette Dufford Pierson - United Heepers Nursing Home, Riverside Dr.,  
Odgensburg, NY 13669 (also celebrated 91st Birthday in May)  
Eleanor Griffith - 43 Coleman Rd., Long Valley, NJ 07853  
Charlotte and Alfred H. Swackhamer - 3825 Pennsylvania Ave., Erie,  
PA 16504  
Gail Keefer - 260 Olmsted, Riverside, IL 60546

NEW ADDITIONS TO MAILING LIST

Gregg Swackhammer - 1455 Sherman Rd., Millbrook, IL 60062  
Lucia and Morris Trimmer - 8022 S.W. 23 Ave., Gainesville, FL 32807  
William D. Moyle Jr. M.D. - 23 Blackberry Lane, Keene, NH 03431  
Earl Swackhamer - P.O. 77 Honey Harbour, Ontario POE LEO Canada

GENEALOGY MISC.

Swackhamer, Marion C. - died May 26, 1986  
Adams, Catherine Naughtright - died December 8, 1985  
Caskey, George - died (no date given)  
Swackhamer, Howard D. - died September 7, 1963  
Dufford, Frank R. - died May 25, 1985  
Dufford, Mace - died 1985  
Bakum, Lindsey Margaret Jo - born June 11, 1984. Daughter of Jean and Anthony Bakum  
Saums, Loree Elizabeth - born January 23, 1958. Daughter of Jane and John Saums  
Behrens, Anna Mae married Robert Frech  
Son: Roger William born 1954  
Son: William Robert born 1957  
Frech, Roger William married Joyce Scholers, 1976  
Son: Benjamin Alan, 1978  
Daughter: Tracy Lee, 1982

Morris Trimmer's letter of Christmas '86 tells of spending a busy year traveling around Florida with Lucia attending conferences and conventions on telecommunications. There were lighter moments though, including a Caribbean cruise with Granddaughter, Lucy. Morris spent six weeks in China at the Beijing Language Institute. The pleasure of speaking and being with the Chinese people again far surpassed the discomfort of going to class in a hot, dusty building where renovations were in progress.

Historian Russell Dufford is missing one generation in the line of Adam in his research to link the Duffords of SC and Mercer, PA with his family. (Help welcomed.) He adds that his father, Henry P. owned the farm and store in Middle Valley which is the present residence of Frank Dufford, Jr. His Grandparents, Lou and Annie Dufford lived in the stone house on the left near the Zion Lutheran Church.

From James Swackhamer: August 2, 1986, all 20 living descendants, along with seven spouses, arrived at Long Beach Island, NJ, for a week's reunion of the family. The Bryon Swackhamer side from Haddonfield, Cranford, and Montclair, NJ, and the James Swackhamer side from Wheaton, Naperville, Paris, and Oswego, IL. It was the first time they had such a reunion and first meeting for some of them. George Swackhamer was one of the sons of Jacob who lived in Readington Twp. (Descendant chart included in this bulletin. Material for following portion of bulletin from James W. Swackhamer, May '87.)

#### SAMUEL SWACKHAMER 1700 - 1782

In the Swackhamer-Dufford Bulletin, Summer 1967, Fred Sissen III says that the account of death of "Samuel Swackhamer" in the Church Book of Zion Church, New Germantown (Oldwick), NJ, describes him as "a good Pallantine."

In "The Germans in Colonial Times" Lucy F. Bittinger writes that the Rhenish Palatinate was a badly ruled and plundered principality in Germany between Bavaria and Austria. So many of its inhabitants fled that in America all German immigrants were called Palatines.

The German Immigrants into Pennsylvania through the Port of Philadelphia by Frank Reid Diffenderffer reports that the German Immigrants were regarded as legitimate game by nearly all men in contact with them. Few men in control of immigrant traffic were honest and were more interested in what they could gain from them. Inability to communicate in the English language prevented the aliens from defending their rights and made them prone to trust others.

A memorial letter written in 1774 by the well known Philadelphia clergyman Lewis Weiss to the Honorable John Penn, Govenor of the Province of Pennsylvania gives insight into the frauds against these people.

Included is a letter written to Rev. Michael Weiss about a ship that sailed from Rotterdam for Philadelphia in May 1731 carrying more than 150 Palatines. The "survivors" were put off on Martha's Vineyard, Mass. and only 34 reached Philadelphia in 1732.

"In a letter written by Johannes Gohr, Jacob Diffebach, Jonas Daner, Jacob Kuntz and Samuel Schwachamer, dated February, 1732, to the Rev. Michael Weiss, a German Reformed minister in Philadelphia, they say among other things: 'Captain Lobb, a wicked murderer of souls, thought to starve us, not having provided provisions enough, according to agreement; and thus got possession of our goods; for during the voyage of the last eight weeks, five persons were only allowed one pint of coarse meal per day, and a quart of water to each person. We were twenty-four weeks coming from Rotterdam to Martha's Vineyard. There were at first more than one hundred and fifty persons - more than one hundred perished. \* \* \* To keep from starving, we had to eat rats and mice. We paid from eight pence to two shillings for a mouse; four pence for a quart of water. \* \* \* In one night several persons miserably perished and were thrown naked overboard; so sand was allowed to be used to sink the bodies but they floated. We paid for a loaf of Indian corn eight shillings. Our misers was so great that we often begged the captain to put us on land that we might buy provisions. He put us off from day to day for eight weeks, until at last it pleased Almighty God, to send us a sloop, which brought us to Home's Hole, Martha's Vineyard. \* \* \* Had he detained four days longer every one of us would have famished; for none had it in his power to hand another a drop of water. \* \* \*. All our chests were broken open. \* \* \*. The captain constrained us to *pay the whole freight of the dead and living*, as if he had landed us at Philadelphia, and we agreed in writing to do so, not understanding what we signed; but we are not able to comply, for if we are to pay for the *dead*, we should have taken the *goods of the dead*; but in discharging the vessel, we found that most of *their chests* were broken open and plundered.

"The captain however, has determined, that we shall pay him in three weeks; we, therefore, desire you to instantly assist us as much as is in your power, For if we have to pay, the wicked captain will make us all beggars. \* \* \* We would have sent two or three men with this letter, but none of us is yet able to stir, for we are weak and feeble; but as soon as there shall be two or three of us able to travel they will follow."<sup>2</sup>

"The whole history of American colonization may confidently be challenged to present so pathetic and sorrowful a tale. The voyage of the 'Mayflower' has been told and retold in song and story. It is the entire stock in trade of certain writers. If I remember it aright its one hundred and two Puritans were all landed after a voyage of sixty-five days duration. Not a death from any cause, certainly none from starvation. Yet that voyage is extolled as the one beyond all others where the courage, fortitude and endurance of colonists were tried to their utmost. If the student of American colonization wishes to learn where humanity's sorest trial on this continent occurred, he must turn to the German immigration to Pennsylvania in the eighteenth century.

"In this instance the deception and rascality perpetrated on these poor people became the subject of official investigation."<sup>3</sup>

"The sequel to this tale of oppression and suffering is not the least interesting part of the story. It appears that several of these wretched German immigrants had charged Captain Lobb with killing several of their countrymen by his brutal treatment. Such an accusation could hardly be passed over in silence, so he haled his accusers into the Massachusetts courts, and after a prolonged trial, the captain was not only acquitted of the charge but the witnesses against him were saddled with the costs of the trial and sent to jail until they were paid. The *Philadelphische Zeitung* of 1732 has an account of the proceedings."<sup>4</sup>

"The foregoing action on the part of Massachusetts had its counterpart in Pennsylvania in January, 1796. A ship arrived in Philadelphia in the fall of

1795 with a large number of French immigrants, many of whom were women and children. On January 13th of the first named year, the Legislature passed an Act appropriating \$1,500 for their relief, and two hundred and twenty persons were thus aided.

"In addition to this Martha's Vineyard episode, there is still another New England Palatine story, less fully authenticated, but of the truth of the main details there seems to be no question. As the story goes, a number of Palatine immigrants were either shipwrecked or landed under very destitute circumstances on Block Island towards the middle of the eighteenth century. No record of the occurrence has been preserved so far as is known; tradition only has dealt with it, and that says many of these people were landed there and that some of them perished. Some of the survivors got away from the island. a woman who remained is reported to have married a negro.

"The name of the vessel is said to have been the *Palatine*, but perhaps that is a mere supposition, the result of confounding it with the country whence these unfortunates came.

"It has been conjectured that this ship was one which, although destined for Pennsylvania, was nevertheless diverted from her course by the captain, as was frequently done for improper purposes, and that the disaster, whatever its character, was the result of ignorance of the coast on his part."

Recorded by James W. Swackhamer, May 23, 1987

Prepared by: James William Swackhamer

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George Swackhamer (1862-1929)

+Mary K. Stryker (1864-1915)

- : George Fremont Swackhamer (1885-1971)
- : +Romalda Grace Stratton (1884-1973)
- : . Byron Fremont Swackhamer (1912- )
- : . +Margaret Isolene Tew (1908-1983)
- : . . Richard Derwood Swackhamer (1940- )
- : . . +Katherine Shevlin (1941- )
- : . . . Richard Michael Swackhamer (1973- )
- : . . . Michael James Swackhamer (1976- )
- : . . . Tracy Joan Swackhamer (1979- )
- : . . . Joan Margaret Swackhamer (1945- )
- : . . . +Walter Anthony Bakum (1946- )
- : . . . Caitlin Joan Bakum (1980- )
- : . . . Lindsay Margaret Jo Bakum (1984- )
- : . +Mary Elizabeth Cox (1926- )
- : . James William Swackhamer (1920- )
- : . +Lillian Louise Maxey (1923- )
- : . . Martha Swackhamer (1949- )
- : . . +Thomas J. Yorke (1946- )
- : . . . Mathew Austin Yorke (1971- )
- : . . . Carolyn Swackhamer (1951- )
- : . . . +James M. Ray (1950- )
- : . . . James Levi Ray (1979- )
- : . . . Kelly Elizabeth Ray (1982- )
- : . . . Janet Swackhamer (1954- )
- : . . . +John Wayne Hoekenga (1954- )
- : . . . Nathan James Hoekenga (1981- )
- : . . . Stephanie Hoekenga (1984- )
- : . . . June Lillian Swackhamer (1959- )
- : . . . +Mark A. Charlett (1954- )
- : . . . Scott Mark Charlett (1984- )
- : . . . April June Charlett (1985- )