

SUMMER

2005

<http://www.geocities.com/swackduff>

59th Annual Reunion
July 30, 2005

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**SWACKHAMMER-DUFFORD GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN
SUMMER, 2005**

FOR THE DESCENDANTS OF SAMUEL SCHWACHAMMER (SWACKHAMER) WHO IN 1730 SETTLED IN LONG VALLEY, NEW JERSEY AND PHILIP DUFFORD (DUFOURD) WHO SETTLED THERE IN 1738.

OFFICERS OF THE COMBINED SOCIETIES:

<p>PRESIDENT: Christie Martyniuk (D)</p>	<p>4 Washington St. Vernon, NJ 07462 christieam@hotmail.com</p>
<p>VICE PRESIDENT: John Dufford</p>	<p>42 Aberdeen Road Elizabeth, NJ 07208 Bearduff@aol.com</p>
<p>SECRETARY: Carol Martyniuk (D)</p>	<p>4 Washington Street Vernon, NJ 07462 pmartyniuk888@earthlink.net</p>
<p>TREASURER: Eileen Corritori (D)</p>	<p>66 E. Fawn Ridge Dr. Long Valley, NJ 07853 ny-7@worldnet.att.net</p>
<p>PUBLICITY CHAIRPERSON: Jane Saums (S)</p>	<p>5 Old Church Road Warren, NJ 07059</p>
<p align="center">HISTORIANS - CONTRIBUTORS:</p>	
<p>Russell T. Dufford, Jr.</p>	<p>528 Hayes Drive Lynchburg, VA 24502</p>
<p>James W. Swackhamer</p>	<p>405 West Front St., Unit 405 Wheaton, IL 60187-2334 jimswack@sbcglobal.net</p>
<p>BULLETIN EDITOR: Matthew Martyniuk (D)</p>	<p>4 Washington St. Vernon, NJ 07462 martyniuk@gmail.com</p>

**Please send all newsletter submissions by 6/10/06 in ready to print format if possible.
Thanks!**

**59th ANNUAL REUNION - Saturday, July 30, 2005 at the Zion Lutheran Church, Long
Valley, New Jersey. 11AM to 3 PM
Come and celebrate our families' 275 and 267 years of living in this valley!**

A Message from Our Secretary 6/27/05

Dear Dufford-Swackhamer Cousins and Friends,

Since our President, Christie Martyniuk, has departed for a summer of study in Spain, I am sending you greetings in her place. Happy summer! With summer just beginning, our thoughts turn to our annual reunion on the last Saturday in July. This year the date is Saturday, July 30th. We will meet again at the Zion Lutheran Church in Long Valley.

I'd like to encourage you to write to us with genealogically related family news so that we can include it in our newsletter. Also, our editor, Matt Martyniuk, is always looking for things to post on our S-D website. He can be reached by email: martyniuk@gmail.com

I hope that this finds you well and enjoying the beauty of this summer season. Looking forward to seeing many of you at our reunion!

Sincerely,
Carol Martyniuk
Secretary

Editor's Corner

Congratulations to our editor, Matt, who graduated from the University of Scranton (PA) on 5/29/05 with a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education and English. After completing this newsletter, he just headed out on a cross-country road trip with a college friend. He is hoping to soon teach English overseas.

PLEASE HELP!!!

Matt Martyniuk is still willing to type our newsletter, even if he is working overseas next year. However, I am now resigning as the person who takes it to Staples for copying, seals, stamps, places address labels, and return addresses them.(the "copy-stamper person") I have been happy to do this for the past seven years, but now since I am teaching full-time I will no longer be able to do this job. Of course I have recruited family help with this, and the help of our treasurer in the past. If our newsletter is to continue, someone will need to step forward. Please consider it! Matt would either mail you the master copy, or he could email it to you. Someone would mail you the "mailing labels" to attach.

We also now need a new Swackhamer historian. Jim Swackhamer's vision is impaired, unfortunately, so he can no longer serve in this capacity. Please consider this job. Jim would be willing to speak to you on the phone to get you started.

Finally, we need someone to produce the mailing labels for the newsletter. Jim did this for us also!! The list, and the program are done, so you could speak to Jim about getting this information. You'd just need to update the list once each year, and print out the

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labels. Then you'd send them to the "copy-stamper" person.

THANK YOU!!! Carol Martyniuk

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Celebrating the Life of Grover C. Trimmer 1884 – 1904

On November 13, 2004, a few of us were able to gather at the Teetertown Ravine to mark the 100th anniversary of the untimely death of Grover C. Trimmer. The Hunterdon County Park System in cooperation with the Washington Township Historical Society and the Lebanon Township Historical Society helped with this celebration. Doug Kiovsky, of the Hunterdon County Parks System arranged most of this day. It was a very cold, sunny day, and we gathered at the quarry site where Stephen Firtko (author of History of Middle Valley, NJ) spoke about "The Trap Rock and Mining Company". Ralph Lomerson, Pres. Of the Lebanon Township Historical Society, spoke about the Swackhamer and Trimmer Families. Following this, we drove to the Washington Township Museum for a lovely lunch, and a very interesting presentation by Bill Asdal on the renovation of the Lawrence Hager Trimmer House. Then, we drove to the Raritan Inn Bed & Breakfast on West Mill Road for a tour of the Trimmer/ Dufford/ Swackhamer House (which is now the Raritan Inn B&B). The history and some pictures follow. The website for the Raritan Inn is www.raritaninn.com. You can see pictures of the house at this site.



ELIZABETH DUFFORD TRIMMER



LAWRENCE HAGER TRIMMER

THE MIDDLE VALLEY TRAP ROCK AND MINE COMPANY QUARRY SITE In the Teetertown Ravine Nature Preserve

Establishing the mine company in 1896, Lawrence Hager Trimmer (1847-1909) was a commanding presence in the local community, representing the 2nd District of Hunterdon County in the State Assembly from 1889-1891. He was also a prominent businessman, having founded and served as director of the High Bridge National Bank, and he owned a mill, specializing in the manufacturing of peach baskets. With 30 workers employed in the mill, 4,000 peach baskets could be produced each day. His other business, the Middle Valley Trap Rock and Mine Company, supplied crushed stone from the Teetertown Ravine, which was used for macadam road surfaces and railroad ballast. Quarried rock from the Ravine, such as gneiss and Diabase, was considered the hardest in the State.

Quarry operations at Teetertown were typical of the highly mechanized methods used widely in the northeastern US during the Victorian Era. Strategically spaced, 2-1/4" wide, by 6' (+/-) deep holes were first drilled into the rock face, with drills powered by a 150-horsepower steam engine. Dynamite was then carefully packed deep into the holes, with paper/gunpowder fuses that were lit by hand, providing sufficient time for workers to clear the site. The ensuing blast would dislodge tons of rock, to be crushed into smaller stone and gravel, as needed. The quarried stone was subsequently loaded into ore carts, which were winched up the hill over small-gauge rails by a 3/4" steel cable powered by a single drum steam hoist and transferred onto the railroad. The plant had a daily capacity of 400 tons, and employed 30 immigrants of Italian and Greek heritage. The workers slept on bunks inside of wooden shanties on the property. Facilities on the site also included a boiler house, a blacksmith shop, coal bins, and a "keg house," where beer was stored and served to workers. In 1897, the 1.3-mile Middle Valley Railroad, the shortest independent railroad in the State, was constructed for \$10,548 to facilitate the transportation of rock from the quarry to the main railroad line (the CNJ line) near Middle Valley Road.

On display in the park Visitor Center, in the Mountain Farm Section of the Teetertown Ravine Nature Preserve, is a quarried rock with a boring hole through it, a drill bit from the same era (found in another NJ quarry), several assembly parts from a steam boiler, a nugget of boiler clinker (spent coal from a fired boiler), a section of wire cable (possibly from a winch, used to pull ore cars), and spikes from small-gauge rails. Mine worker artifacts on display from this site include a file, a bottle opener, and a broken beer bottle.

Rock quarry drilling and blasting was a dangerous art form! The pattern of holes drilled and the amount of dynamite used, determined the amount of rock to be dislodged - - and just where it might fall. If too few holes were drilled, or too little dynamite was used, time and money would be wasted - - *BUT*, if workers misjudged the drilling pattern or hole depth, overestimated the amount of dynamite needed, or handled the explosive carelessly, *the results could be fatal!*

Such was the case on Saturday, November 12, 1904, when 21-year-old Anthony Trimmer (1883-1931) and his younger brother, 20-year-old Grover Cleveland Trimmer (1884-1904), were working at the quarry. It was a cold, damp day, and an immigrant worker had placed two sticks of dynamite inside the boiler house to keep them dry. Anthony, his father's personal business representative, met his brother inside the boiler house to have lunch and to keep warm, but he remembered that he had left his lunch container in the blacksmith shop. Just after Anthony had left the boiler house to retrieve his lunch, the building exploded, knocking him to the ground and shattering the windows of nearby homes. Quickly, workers ran to the site and found Grover badly burned, and under a pile of building debris. Despite attempts to save him, he succumbed to his injuries five hours later. Funeral services were conducted in the parlor of his father's home.

* NOTE *

ROCK CLIMBING IS NOT PERMITTED IN THE TEETERTOWN QUARRY SITE!
SITE VISITS MUST BE CONFINED TO THE BASE OF THE QUARRY WALL!

Our Condolences To:

The family of Fred Plewes (S). According to the Columbus (OH) Dispatch archives, Frederick Plewes, age 44, died Friday, November 7th, 2003. Mr. Plewes traced his ancestry back to Samuel through Maurice, Daniel, John Johannes, Samuel Frederick Schwecheimer, Daniel, Christopher, Amandus, Johannes, and Jacob. (Thanks to Gene L. Swackhamer for this information).

The family of Virginia (Logan) Jones (S/D). Died June 14, 2004. Sister of Gail (Logan) Keefer, daughter of Marjorie (Dufford) Logan, granddaughter of Hattie (Swackhamer) Dufford and George S. Dufford.

The family of Byron Fremont Swackhamer, age 93, of Haddonfield, NJ, who passed away on Feb. 21 2005. He is survived by his wife Mary Beth Swackhamer, two children, and five grandchildren. He was the brother of our historian Jim Swackhamer.

Wedding Bells:

Thomas Oxford (S) was married to Carol Hansen in San Francisco, CA September 2003. They are currently residing in Pasadena, CA. He is the son of Merry Lou Oxford and the late George T. Oxford of Huntsville, AL.

Births:

Keefer Glenshaw, born October 20th, 2003 to Bridget Glenshaw. Bridget is the daughter of Gail (Logan) Keefer, of Vero Beach, Fla. Gail is the granddaughter of George S. Dufford and Hattie Swackhamer.

Please send all announcements of births, weddings, deaths, to your newsletter editor.

Minutes from the 58th Annual Meeting of the Swackhamer-Dufford Genealogical Society

July 31, 2004

Our new President Christie Martyniuk (D) called the meeting to order at 12:40 PM. A moment of silence was observed for our deceased relatives and friends. Everyone introduced themselves and stated his or her connection to the Swackhamer/Dufford families.

Secretary Carol Martyniuk (D) read the minutes of the last meeting and gave the treasurer's report, and they were approved as read.

Eileen Stokes of the Washington Township Historical Society gave some very interesting background, and there was discussion of the history of Schooley's Mountain and many interesting stories.

Our Historian, Russell Dufford, gave his report. Matt Martyniuk's efforts in compiling and editing the newsletter were acknowledged. Jack Dufford requested that anyone who has ideas for

a speaker for next year's reunion should email him. Gene Swackhamer proposed a motion to increase our annual donations by 10% for next year and the membership approved it by a vote.

NEW BUSINESS: Eileen Stokes reiterated the Trimmer information in light of the upcoming 100th anniversary of the death of Grover C. Trimmer. Photos were desperately needed of the L.H. Trimmer family.

Susan B. Anthony silver dollars were then presented to the following members:

Youngest attendee – Christie Martyniuk, Age 20

Eldest attendee – Jane Saums

Attendee traveling the farthest – Russell Dufford and his friend Mary Sublett, from Lynchburg, Virginia.

Eileen Stokes gave a very interesting presentation and slide show on the history of Long Valley.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 PM.

Attendees: Jack Dufford, Gene L. and Sharon Swackhamer, Russell T. "Jack" Dufford, Mary Sublett (Friend), Greg Hartman (D), Ruth Hartman (D), Benjamin and Carol Trebilcock (D), Vivian Logan (D), Mildred Van Dyk (F), Jane Saums (S), Eileen Stokes (F), Diane S. Ptak (S), Charlie King (F), Evelyn Newbold (F), William Miller (F), Tess Miller (D), Miriam Miller (D), Tamalyn Miller (D), Christie Martyniuk (D), Carol Martyniuk (D).

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Martyniuk (D)



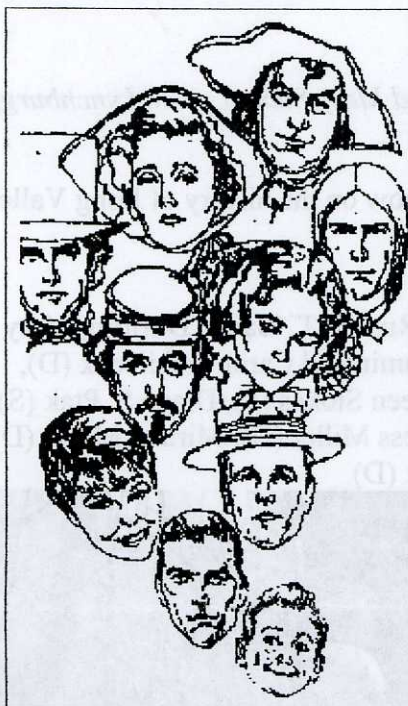
GENEALOGY ON THE INTERNET:

For those members with access to the Internet, here are some useful addresses to genealogical sites:

The Swackhamer-Dufford Genealogical Society Web Page-(Minutes and any pictures from the 2005 reunion will be posted here shortly after the meeting.)

Official S/D Site: <http://www.geocities.com/swackduff/index.html>

- Terryberry (Durrenburger) family website <http://www.aloha.net/~esinger/terryber.htm>
- Morris County Historical Society: <http://www.acornhall.org>
- Warren County Cultural & Heritage Commission: <http://www.wcchc.org>
- Hunterdon Country Historical Society: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~njhunter/hchs.htm>
(see last page for info to order Hunterdon Gazette CD).
- <http://www.ancestry.com>
- NJ State Archives Site: <http://www.state.nj.us/state/darm/> (This site will soon contain the collection of rare documents related to our early state history).



"Genealogists are Time Unravelers."

-- Unknown

"Any man has had countless myriads of ancestors and among them any number of rich men and beggars, kings and slaves, Greeks and barbarians"

--Plato

"SHH!! Be very, very quiet, I'm hunting forebears."

--Unknown

From Kathleen E. Kaar-Isleib, of PA (by email):

Kathleen is searching for any records of the Kaar, Dufford, and Kishpaugh/Kishbaugh families. Please send responses to isleib301@msn.com, or by mail to 301 Hanver Ct., Chesterbrook, PA 19087.

From Carol Martyniuk:

Our historian, Jim Swackhamer, is unfortunately suffering from vision impairment, and will no longer be able to accept or answer inquiries. We greatly appreciate his dedicated efforts in continuing this year to produce the mailing labels for this newsletter. I'm sure we will all keep Jim in our thoughts and prayers.

We greatly appreciate all the donations we have received from our Canadian cousins. However, our treasurer is unable to redeem Canadian money orders in a practical manner. If at all possible, please make future donations in a way that will be negotiable at standard US banks. Thank you very much!

Treasurer's Report
June 30, 2005

Amount on hand as of 11/30/04 including all donations	\$1,360.94
Donation to the Zion Lutheran Church	40.00
Donation to the Washington Twp. Hist. Soc.	35.00
Donation to the Middle Valley Cemetery Assoc.	55.00
Postcard/Thankyou notes	12.50
2004 Newsletter Copies	232.97
2004 Newsletter Postage costs	153.69
 Amount on hand as of 6/30/05	 \$ 1,230.94

Respectfully submitted

Eileen Corritori
Treasurer

Swackhammer and Dufford cousins gather at the Washington Twp. Historical Society Museum in Long Valley on 11/13/04 to observe the 100th anniversary of the death of Grover C. Trimmer. Included in this picture are : Diane Ptak , Eileen Corritori, Erin Corritori, Sharon Stout Turner, Jack Dufford, Fred Schatzle, Carol Trimmer Stout, Margaret Trimmer, and Carol Martyniuk. (see story p. 4 and 5)



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A remnant of old Morris County stays green

Middle Valley proudly remains haven for agriculture

BY TANYA DROBNES
STAR-LEDGER STAFF

Buried in Margaret Nordstrom's back yard are pieces of history.

Tinged bottles of whiskey rise by her perennial flower garden. Glass salt shakers and marbles seem to harvest beside plants of basil and lavender. Even dusky medicine bottles, all intact, surface alongside broken bits of china.

Like those relics emerging through the earth, her neck of the woods in Washington Township, Morris County — a rural haven called Middle Valley — also has stood the test of time.

The area that stretches about two miles along County Route 513 is a historic district and an isolated frontier, where acres of farmland, open space and rustic stone homes retain an antique charm that has been lost elsewhere in Morris County.

"In many ways it looks like it did 200 years ago," said Nordstrom, who has lived in Middle Valley for two decades.

Others agree.

Steven Firtko, a former resident and Middle Valley Community Center trustee, said the valley's discreet location, far enough from regional centers and major highways, has kept suburban development at arm's length. He should know about the valley's past, as he has penned a book about it.

"The land has the most fertile soil in the county. Peach orchards were the most lucrative crop during the late 1800s," Firtko said.

Just ask Nordstrom, a Morris County freeholder, what's planted out in Middle Valley, she'll tell you peach trees and corn. Looking out over the land known as the prime agricultural belt of the county, she adds, "You name it, it's out there."

Within the last 20 years, local officials have managed to spread farmland protection across town while waging a continuing struggle to fend off sprawl and maintain the community's agricultural character, Nordstrom said.

Many of those who move out to Middle Valley, where the most farmland in the county is preserved, join the preservation effort to save one of the few agricultural zones left in the county.

stays green

The Star Ledger

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2004

"The heart of the county's agricultural belt is the valley which makes up Middle Valley," said Frank Pinto, director of the Morris County Agriculture Development

Board.

There are 50 farms in Washington Township — covering 3,165 acres — that are permanently protected under the 1983 Right to

Farm Act, Pinto said.

Since 1987, the county's farmland preservation program has preserved a total of 73 farms in 11 municipalities, while another 24 farms

are pending easements, according to Morris County Agricultural Development Board data. Middle Valley, by far, harbors most of that preservation.

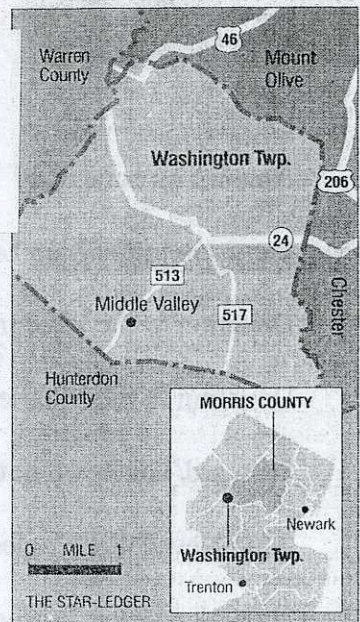
But even though Middle Valley was established as a farming community surrounded by peach orchards, fields and pastures, according to Firtko's book, "The History of Middle Valley," it had its share of commerce.

Among the most prominent businesses in the late 1700s were saw and grist mills. The only standing mill left in the area is the Obadiah LaTourette Mill in neighboring Long Valley.

Flush with vast farmland, Middle Valley's early German settlers needed to maintain their crops, yet few farms had African slaves or servants, according to the book. Most residents opposed slavery and felt the South's ways hindered the county's progress.

In the early to mid-1800s, while much of the country was transforming into an industrial powerhouse and New Jersey was being connected by a web of railroads, Middle Valley's agricultural economy continued to grow.

In your neighborhood



The local economy was helped along when the tracks of the High Bridge Branch Line traversed the valley in 1876. The line allowed many farmers to send their agricultural products to urban points east, Newark and New York.

Middle Valley also flourished in mineral resources such as iron and clay, and rested on a bed of limestone that was processed into a variety of products including fertilizer, mortar and plaster. Although short-lived, mining also played a role in the local economy.

Socially, the Middle Valley Community Center served as the hub for parties, festivals, group meetings and church services. In 1792, the first general store opened, and in 1802, the community's first post office was added. The building later became a church known in the late 1800s as Union Chapel, and a bell tower was added in 1904. Today, the quaint building is used for community gatherings.

Nordstrom said new residents in Middle Valley come out to enjoy what's left of Morris County's farms.

"The people that move here like the old houses and open land, and they just come here with that mind set," Nordstrom said.

Tanya Drobness works in the Morris County bureau. She can be reached at tdrobness@starledger.com or (973) 539-7910.

THANK YOU for your generous donations for the bulletin during the past year! Please consider an annual donation so that we can continue to send a bulletin and keep our society going strong!

(tear here)

Eileen Corritori, Treasurer
Swackhamer-Dufford Genealogical Society
66 E Fawnridge Dr.
Long Valley, NJ 07853

Please find enclosed \$ _____, my donation towards the Annual Bulletin.

Name _____
(Please Print)

Street _____

City & State _____ Zip Code _____

I am a descendant of: Samuel Swackhamer Philip Dufford Both Friend

(tear here)

Change of Name and/or Address Form

We have been receiving many bulletins back FOE (Forwarding Order Expired). Please help us! If you or someone you know are planning to move within the next year, please complete and return this form to:
The Martyniuks
4 Washington St.
Vernon, NJ 07462

Thank you!

Your Name _____
(Please Print)

Street _____

City & State _____ Zip Code _____



Bill Asdal, renovator, and Doug Kiovsky of the Hunterdon Co. Parks System display old shoes which were found placed between walls in the Dufford-Swackhamer-Trimmer house, which is now the Raritan Inn Bed & Breakfast. (see pages 4 and 5)

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