

SWACKHAMER-DUFFORD GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

WINTER 2007 BULLETIN

**FOR THE DESCENDANTS OF SAMUEL SCHWACHAMMER
(SWACKHAMER) WHO IN 1732 SETTLED IN LONG VALLEY, NEW JERSEY AND
PHILLIP DUFFORD (DUFOURD) WHO SETTLED THERE IN 1738.**

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Check the web site at the address below and put your comments or questions in the "Guest Book." The site is monitored and you will get a response. Swackhamer- Dufford Genealogical Society: <http://www.geocities.com/swackduff/> Throughout this issue (D) represents a Dufford connection, (S) for Swackhamer, (S & D) both families and (F) for friend of the Society.

An opening still exists for a volunteer to assume the Bulletin editorship. Volunteer reporters and story writers are always welcome. Just send in your material and we'll print it under your authorship.

Dear Members and Friends:

It is hard to know what Samuel Schwechheimer (Swackhamer) would have thought about our celebration of the 275th anniversary of his settlement in Middle Valley, but I, for one, was impressed and I suspect that even Samuel might have smiled at the thought of such an event. From touching the fireplace stones laid by Samuel's hands in the Raritan Inn, to seeing the Middle Valley Cemetery re-enactors, to the fellowship of distant Dufford and Swackhamer cousins in the conference center barn, we had a great 2007 annual reunion. Thanks to all who attended (71 count) and assisted with this event. See the photos and summary of the day-long program on pages 6-7.

We don't have another anniversary to celebrate in 2008, but we will have another interesting program next year on Saturday, July 26 at Zion Lutheran Church in Long Valley, New Jersey. Save the date. Carol Trimmer Stout, Vice President, is already at work on the program. See page 11 for some of the preliminary plans.

The impact of science and technology in our lives is truly amazing. We have bionic body parts, photo phones, instant messaging, a world wide Internet of information and even new forms of spam, scams and junk mail emerging daily. The DNA of the human body has been mapped and genetic genealogy is emerging as a new tool for genealogists. When the paper trail of proving ancestry fails, Y-DNA and mtDNA testing often is coming to the rescue. See page 10 for details about the Swackhamer Surname Project using Y-DNA to confirm family ancestry.

The Swackhamer-Dufford Genealogical Society is partnering with the Washington Township Historical Society on a project to document a self-guided auto tour of local Dufford-Swackhamer historical places. Once completed, it will enable visitors to the area to find places where their ancestors once lived and worked. A donor grant for a summer intern is being sought to advance this project.

The Society is still in need of a Bulletin editor. This is the third issue that I have put together as "acting editor," so I know that it doesn't require a journalism degree. All it takes is the assistance of other volunteers originating interesting material and someone to organize and assemble it. If you are interested in this position or know of someone that would do it or are willing to be a reporter, please let me know.

One of the summer reunion evaluation form questions was, "Should the Swackhamer-Dufford Genealogical Society collect dues, charge a Bulletin subscription fee, or continue to rely on donations?" The overwhelming response was: *rely on donations*. Following that advice, a donation form for your convenience is enclosed. Please send a voluntary donation now before it slips your mind. (If you are in Canada, make the check payable to me (so we can cash it) and the Treasurer will send to you a confirmation of receipt.

Happy Holidays.



Gene L. Swackhamer, President

Communication from Members and Friends

1-28-07 **Mrs. Thelma Swackhamer** wrote about her late husband, Merlyn, and his family. His father, **David Victor Swackhammer** (b. 4-7-1898; d. 1-13-59), of Bennezzette, PA, was a coal miner and his wife, **Mildred Irene English Swackhammer** (b. 7-5-1900; d. 11-8-55), was a school teacher and church Sunday School teacher. Both died of cancer. They raised nine children:

Donald Swackhammer b. 4-8-22; d. 4-8-74

Merlyn Lloyd Swackhammer b. 10-7-25; d. 12-2-2005

Leon Ray Swackhammer b. 9-1927

Ila Gertrude Swackhammer Kraus b. 9-1930

Orley Swackhammer b. 11-28-32

Russell Swackhammer b. 9-1934

Dora Arlene Swackhammer DeCarli b. 11-28-35

DeMonte R. Swackhammer b. 4-29-36; d. 2-7-65

Joel Edward Swackhammer b. 11-17-38

Mildred said that Merlyn was a great husband and father, a veteran of WWII U.S. Army Air Force Pacific campaign, and active in the Legion, an Astronomy club and an avid hunter and fisherman. They have a son and daughter and eight grandchildren.

2-20-07 **Mr. William K. Swackhamer** of Fortuna, CA wrote: "I have never been able to come to a family reunion, but I do appreciate all of the information I have received from the S-D Society." William further wrote of his visit to Altlussheim, Germany, and noted that the name *Schwechheimer* was on many graveyard headstones, written on church pews and on one store that he saw. He said the spelling puzzled him and he wondered if at one time it might have also had an "i." There is a village near Trier named Schweich and heimer means home, so the original surname might have been Schweichheimer, or those whose home was Schweich. What do you think?

4-12-07 **Mrs. Nancy E. Schanes** (F) sent the obituary of **Darrell E. Swackhammer** of Smyrna, DE, who died 4-9-07 at age 72. He was buried at the Odd Fellows Cemetery in Smyrna.

4-29-07 **Joyce (Swackhamer) MacRae** of Ontario, Canada, emailed that her mother had died in January 2007. She said they enjoy the Bulletin and wish everyone well at the summer reunion.

5-2-07 **Carol Martyniuk** (D) ever the proud mother sent a clipping on her daughter Christie's (former S-D Society President) summa cum laude graduation from Rutgers with a BA in English. Her plans are to pursue further education in the healthcare field.

5-7-07 **Virginian Allen** (F) and an 80 plus year resident of Middle Valley wrote to say she wasn't stable enough on her feet for the reunion, but would be thinking of us that day. She told of walking down the hill to a farm (now the Neighbor House Inn) as a child to get milk at 10 cents a quart, which she carried home in her pail.

6-5-07 **E. Mike Apgar** (S & D), genealogist for the Apgar Family Association, sent his

regrets at not being able to attend the July reunion. He said he really liked the content of the program. Mike further described the use of ground-penetrating radar to locate the 1740 grave of his family patriarch, Friedrich Eggert. He also is supporting an Apgar DNA study.

6-8-07 **Dick and Bonnie Wilson (D)** emailed to say that they were looking forward to returning from FL for the reunion. They are building a cottage in the Armenia mountain area of Morris Run-Wellesboro, PA, as a summer home. Dick took over 100 photos of the July reunion and has them for public viewing and acquisition on a Kodak website: www.marketplace.kodakgallery.com/creativecarpentry. Check them out; you will feel that you were at the reunion! Some are used in this issue of the Bulletin.

6-26-07 **Angeline Hunter (S)** of State College, PA, emailed that she was sorry that she and Ken could not make it to the reunion. She said that Ken has a hip that won't hold him up and she has a torn rotator cuff. Angeline is an accomplished genealogist and has an extensive collection of Pennsylvania Swackhamer history.

6-27-07 **Mrs. Diana C. Swackhamer** of Montrose, PA sent a note and donation, saying that she would not be able to make the reunion, but did enjoy receiving the Bulletin. Donations also were received from **Mr. and Mrs. Mark McKinney (F)** of IN and **Greg Swackhamer** of Canada.

7-5-07 **Sarah E. Nichols (S)** of Murrells Inlet, SC, and the daughter of **Harry J. Swackhamer**, a former mayor of Dunellen, NJ, wrote that she was now 88 and not traveling very far from home anymore. Harry and Ruth had three other children: **Helen M., DeWitt W. and Elmer H.** **Ruth Almond** is the daughter of Elmer. Sarah said her brother **DeWitt** was a former president of the S-D Society and as a teen she was a "reluctant attendee" of reunions. **Patricia Rudoff** is the daughter of Helen. **Merry Lou Oxford** is a second cousin of Sarah.

7-25-07 **Helen Milliken Remskifski (F)** contacted the S-D Society asking for help in locating her high school friend, **Nancy Swackhamer**. They were classmates and graduated in 1952 from Roxbury, NJ High School and lived in Succasunna, Morris County, NJ. If anyone has information for Helen on Nancy's whereabouts, please advise the Society and we will forward the information.

8-3-07 **Phyllis A. Young (S)** of Columbus, OH, wrote regarding the Summer 2006 Bulletin obituary of Alice U. Swackhamer. Her great grandson, **Nicholas Vermaaten**, is a descendant of Alice. She said Nick is interested in his surname and she wants to help him with some genealogy.

8-9-07 **R. E. and Mildred Swackhamer** of Springfield, MO, sent a nice note saying that Robert Earl celebrated his 92 birthday this summer and except for a few aches and a heart that needed some fine-tuning, he is doing well. R.E.'s brother, **Thomas Cecil**, was a former president of the S-D Society.

Introducing Society Officers Greg A. Swackhammer, Assistant Swackhamer Historian



Greg was born May 4, 1955 in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. He is the son of **Allan F. Swackhammer** (b. June 1916; d. October 2006) and **Beatrice Joyce (Trudgeon) Swackhammer** (b. April 1925; d. Sept 2005). Greg has a sister **Laurie E. Swackhammer** born in 1957 who also lives in Dundas. Greg describes himself as a multi-tradesman: plumber, steamfitter, millwright and auto-mechanic. Recently he has been working in "the north" shutting down some operations, but mostly he works in the province of Ontario. He said he is following in our ancestor's path having been married three times. He has 4 children and 3 grandchildren. His son Kodie, age 15, who attended the 2007 reunion, lives with his dad.

Greg said a recent highlight of his life was a trip to Altlusheim, Germany. He has contributed photos and a description of his experiences there for a future Bulletin story on the Schwechheimer ancestral homeland. (Your editor is collecting material about Altlusheim for the summer 2008 Bulletin and welcomes additional submissions.) Greg has his laptop computer loaded with nearly 14,000 connected individuals, mostly Canadian Swackhammers following a decade of more active interest in family genealogy. As Assistant Swackhamer Family Historian, Greg will focus primarily on the Swackhammers of Canada. See his genealogy chart beginning on page 8.

Jane Saums, Bulletin Reporter, from an interview with Jill M. Kaplan at the July 28, 2007 Reunion.

Mrs. Jane Saums, widow of John Saums, who enjoyed 50 years of marriage (1949-1999) before John's death, was the oldest family member at the reunion. There might be more preferable ways to introduce a lady, but at a genealogical society meeting, "the oldest" is a title of distinction and Jane proudly accepted the silver dollar gift given to the oldest attendee recognizing her longevity. The Saums' had one daughter, **Loree (Saums) Emmons**, who also attended the 2007 reunion.

Jane is the daughter of **John and Marion Strandberg** of North Plainfield, Somerset, NJ. Jane said her father was called "The Peaceful Swede." Her paternal grandfather was a church organist from Gotland, Sweden (an island off the southern coast). She was told that her grandparents' Swedish home was surrounded by roses and only a stones throw from the Baltic Ocean. Jane has a brother **William Saums**, a sister **Ruth** and a deceased sister **Elizabeth**.

Jane's love of family history was inspired by her maternal grandmother **Bessie Swackhamer** and her niece **Margaret (Strandberg) Johnson** of Bremen, IN. It was her grandmother who took Jane to her first Swackhamer Family reunion in 1941, held at a little house in Long Valley. Later she attended reunions at Zion Lutheran Church, where everyone sat in chairs on the church lawn under the trees. The early Swackhamer-Dufford reunions were hosted by George Dufford on his Middle Valley farm. Jane said George Dufford was "fun and colorful," always greeting her with "I'm so glad you came!"

Jane has been a faithful attendee of many reunions and she said that she has enjoyed them all, learning something new about her family at each one. At the 2007 reunion she had the additional honor of winning the adult poetry competition with her poem, "Family," included in this issue. She is a keen letter writer and frequently helps this editor find missing names, dates and other data.



Commemorating the 275th Anniversary of Samuel Swackhamer's Arrival in German Valley, New Jersey (1732-2007)

July 28, 2007

What a day! What a wonderful location for the annual reunion of the Swackhamer-Dufford Genealogical Society. Bill Asdal and his staff welcomed us to the Raritan Inn, site of Samuel's New World homestead, and we filled the barn conference center. We had interesting speakers, workshops, a delicious catered lunch, a tour of historic sites and concluded the day with poetry reading at the dedication of a kinetic sculpture followed by a farewell ice cream social. Seventy-one people attended the event.

The winning adult poem entry was from **Jane Saums** and titled "Family." Unknown to the contest judge was that two of the entries in the contest were taken from the book, "A Peep at Other People," by George S. Dufford, published in 1928. It was a test to see if a modern-day poet could beat an old master from our past? Jane did. Congratulations.

FAMILY

I am a Swackhamer, and glad enough to be,
The many times great granddaughter
Of one who crossed the sea,
Leaving a home in Altlusheim,
In the country of Germany.

A perilous journey then began for many died at sea
Of starvation and diseases
On board the *Love and Unity*.
At Holmes Hole, Massachusetts, kind people took them in
And nursed our Samuel back to health
So his new life could begin.

In beautiful German Valley, the family made it home
Content to stay in this paradise world
They ceased at last to roam.
He never left the Valley until at last death called
They buried him at Oldwick,
By the church's eastern wall.

Though many, many years have passed
Since he was taken there
The church in all its glory stands,
So strong, so dear, so fair.
It calls one back to look again upon its lovely face
As does the German Valley
So filled with peace and grace.

How glad I am he chose so well
The perfect place to be,
To live and work and love and dance
And raise his family.



The winning youth poem was submitted by **Clay Swackhamer** (age 14) of Macungie, PA. He was present to read his poem and we learned that this wasn't his first winning poem. He won a poetry contest in the 5th grade with a poem titled "Homework" and has another used by his school called "Veteran's Day." He also was his school's representative to the regional competition in this year's National Spelling Bee.

WOODEN SHIPS

How did they come on wooden ships,
A long, long time ago?
How did they feel when breakers rolled,
And sea monster heads would show?

It must have been so terrible,
On tiny little boats.
Just try to pack all your possessions,
Into some hand held totes.

Next time I look out over the sea,
I'll wonder how much heart,
It would take to leave all that you knew
And gamble at a new start.

They must have been resilient.
They must have been quite tough.
Because they kept on going,
Even though the going got rough.

If a new world was discovered,
The question not if but when,
Would modern people settle it?
Are we ready to do it again?

Perhaps the best way to tell you that you missed a memorable reunion is to show photos of the event. Thanks to the camera work of **Dick Wilson** we have a record of the festivities. You can see more people and action photos on a Kodak public website at www.marketplace.kodakgallery.com/creativecarpentry. Click on the S-D Society shield logo.



Scott Swackhamer and his mother Sharon at Middle Valley Cemetery as Philip and Elizabeth Swackhamer, up from the grave.



Youth learning about Clydesdales and enjoying a ride with the big team.



Clay's poetry reward—first in the line for ice cream.



Russell Dufford and friends at Dufford family workshop in the Raritan Inn barn.



Attendees gathered for sculpture dedication at end of the day.

The Swackhammers in Ontario Canada

By Gregory A. Swackhammer

This part of the Swackhammer story in Canada takes us to Grimsby Township, Lincoln County, Ontario (Upper Canada). It is the area where 3. Christopher Swackhammer, Sr., son of 2. John Johannes Swackhammer, and grandson of 1. Samuel Swackhammer (Schwechheimer) emigrated during a period of turmoil with the Wars and politics in the United States, only to be caught up in the War of 1812 between the United States of America and the British Territories known as Upper and Lower Canada.

A big incentive for emigration to Upper Canada (Ontario, Canada) was the availability of free farm land to settle for all that wished to be loyal to the British Empire. The 1895 book entitled "Early Germans of New Jersey" by Chambers said only this about Christopher: "Christopher married Kate Terryberry (Durrenburger) and went to Canada."

The date that they arrived in Canada is probably not recorded. A clue to the year is in a statement about their oldest son Jacob: "He was born in Pennsylvania, and removed to Canada with his parents when he was about twelve years old." According to a record in the Churchill Cemetery in Esquesing Township, Halton County, Jacob died January 10, 1874 aged 80 years 6 months, thereby putting his birthday in July 1793. The immigration was, therefore, in 1805.

The Ontario Canada Swackhammer family line of descendants from Christopher, Sr. and Catherine Terryberry is shown below. Only the male line of families is given in order to save space. Names not in bold and underlined do not have any known descendants.

1. **Samuel Swackhammer** B: Jan 1700 Altlusheim Ger. D: Feb 1782 N.J., USA. Marr: **Eva Maria Hoffman** B: 1700 Hockenheim Ger. D: July 1728 Altlusheim Ger.
2. **John Swackhammer** B: Feb. 1726 Altlusheim Ger. D: Feb. 1827 Long Valley, N.J., USA. Marr: **Susanna Terryberry (Durrenburger)** B: 1725 D: Nov. 1825 Long Valley, N.J., USA.
3. **Christopher Swackhammer** B: July 1776 Long Valley, N.J., USA. D: Apr. 1840 Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. Marr: **Catherine Terryberry (Durrenburger)** B: Apr. 1772 D: June 1858. They had 11 children: 6 boys and 5 girls.
 1. **Jacob Swackhammer** B: Aug. 1794 Long Valley, N.J., USA. D: Jan. 18__ Acton, Ontario, Canada.
 2. **John Swackhammer** B: 1796 Long Valley, N.J., USA. D: May 1883 Acton, Ontario, Canada.
 3. **William Sr. Swackhammer** B: May 1799 Long Valley, N.J., USA. D: May 1883 Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.
 4. **David Swackhammer** B: 1807 Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. D: Apr. 1894 Acton, Ontario, Canada.
 5. **Isaac Swackhammer** B: July 1814 Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. D: __ Grimsby, Ontario, Canada.
 6. **Robert Swackhammer** B: 1818 Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. D: Apr. 1929 Grimsby, Ontario, Canada.

Christopher and sons Jacob, John and William served during the War of 1812-1814 and were each granted land in 1820 for their service with the United Empire Loyalists. The land grants were in Grimsby and Acton, Ontario, Canada.

1. **Jacob Swackhammer** B: 1794 Long Valley, N.J., USA. D: 18__ Acton, Ontario, Canada. Marr: 1. **Elizabeth Thompson** B: 1794 PA, USA. D: 1818 Acton, Ontario, Canada. (Jacob and Elizabeth had 2 girls.) Marr: 2. **Mary Thompson** B: Oct. 1796 PA, USA. D: June 1890 Acton, Ontario, Canada. (Jacob and Mary had 2 boys and 11 girls.)

7. **Christopher Swackhammer** B: Nov., 1824 Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. D: July, 1914 Acton, Ontario, Canada.

8. **Hiram Swackhammer** B: Sept., 1837 Acton, Ontario, Canada. D: Dec., 1921, Guelph, Ontario, Canada.

2. **John Swackhammer** B: 1796 Long Valley, N.J., USA. D: May, 1883 Acton, Ontario, Canada. Marr: **Hannah Hainer** B: 1803 St. Catherines, Ontario, Canada. D: Mar. 1879 Acton, Ontario, Canada. (John and Hannah had 6 boys and 3 girls.)

9. **Robert Swackhammer** B: Mar 1834 Acton, Ontario, Canada. D: Sept. ____ Acton, Ontario, Canada.

10. **James Swackhammer** B: July 1836 Acton, Ontario, Canada. D: Sept. 1842 Acton, Ontario, Canada.

11. **William Swackhammer** B: Feb. 1837 Acton, Ontario, Canada. D: ____ Michigan, USA.

12. **John Swackhammer** B: July 14, 1839 Acton, Ontario, Canada. D: Sept. 1842 Guelph, Ontario, Canada.

13. **Isaac Swackhammer** B: June 1842 Acton, Ontario, Canada. D: Feb. 1912 Guelph, Ontario, Canada.

14. **Danford Swackhammer** B: July 1845 Acton, Ontario, Canada. D: Dec. 1878 Acton, Ontario, Canada.

3. **William Sr. Swackhammer** B: May 1799 Long Valley, N.J., USA. D: May 1883 Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. Marr: **Sarah Walker** B: Sept 1804 Upper Canada. D: Nov., 1888 Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. (William and Sarah had 2 boys and 8 girls.)

15. **Isaac Swackhammer** B: Feb 1829 Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. D: ____ Grimsby, Ontario, Canada.

16. **William Jr. Swackhammer** B: May 1799 Long Valley, N.J., USA. D: May 1883 Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

4. **David Swackhammer** B: 1807 Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. D: Apr 1894 Acton, Ontario, Canada. Marr: **Phoebe Smith** B: Aug 1808 Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. D: Jan 1883 Acton, Ontario, Canada. (David and Phoebe had 4 boys and 3 girls.)

17. **Wilbert Swackhammer** B: Nov 1837 Acton, Ontario, Canada. D: Unk.

18. **William Swackhammer** B: ____ 1838 Acton, Ontario, Canada. D: Unk.

19. **Amos Swackhammer** B: Mar 1847 Acton, Ontario, Canada. D: Sept 1851 Acton, Ontario, Canada.

20. **David Swackhammer** B: Dec 1850 Acton, Ontario, Canada. D: Unk.

5. **Isaac Swackhammer** B: July 1814 Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. D: ____ Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. Marr: **Catherine Henry** B: Sept 1814 Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. D: Apr 1869 Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. (Isaac and Catherine had 4 boys and 1 girl.)

21. **William Swackhammer** B: 1842 Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. D: ____ Grimsby, Ontario, Canada.

22. **James Christopher Swackhammer** B: July 1849 Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. D: ____ Grimsby, Ontario, Canada.

23. Norman Swackhammer B: July 1852 Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. D: Unk.

24. Brock Swackhammer B: 1857 Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. D: June 1917
Colchester, Essex County, Ontario, Canada.

6. **Robert Swackhammer** B: 1818 Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. D: April 1929 Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. Marr: **Martha Fisher** B: 1819 Ontario, Canada, D: ___ Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. (Robert and Martha had 2 boys and 1 girl.)

25. **Alexander Swackhammer** B: 1853 Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. D: Unk.

26. Jacob Swackhammer B: 1861 Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. D: Unk.

These Swackhammers settled the wilderness lands of Ontario and many of their descendants still live on some of the original grants. If you have information that will fill a hole in this chart, make a correction, or extend it further, please contact Greg A. Swackhammer, Assistant Swackhamer Historian.

The Swackhamer Y-DNA Surname Project by Gene L. Swackhamer

Only about half of the descendants of Samuel Swackhamer have been able to prove a paper trail to him. Roadblocks have abounded mostly due to the absence of correspondence, church and country records or other official government records. With the increasing affordability of genetic DNA analysis, there is now an opportunity to prove the connection by matching the Y-DNA of male descendants with a proven connection to Samuel to those who have been unable to find proof. A "Swackhamer Surname Project" has been established with Family Tree for the purpose of testing male descendant DNA. It is a safe and easy procedure that ensures privacy by giving participants a kit number so that their given names do not show in any of the reports.

Explaining Y-chromosome DNA analysis can become rather complex in a hurry. At the 2008 reunion I will present a workshop on the procedures and findings to date. In general, the analysis is of that portion of the Y-chromosome that gets transmitted from grandfather to father to son to grandson to g. grandson unchanged except for a mutation every few thousand years. It is those infrequent mutations that prove relationship. Further ensuring privacy of testing is that the portion of the Y-chromosome used has no other purpose known to date. It is called "junk DNA" and represents nearly 95 percent of the entire chromosome. The other 5 percent is what determines all our unique characteristics and is the portion used for medical and police work. There is no testing of that part of our DNA strand by Family Tree.

Is there no role for female descendants? There is a maternal line test using mitochondrial DNA, but it is more complicated since transference from mother to daughter is interrupted through marriage from generation to generation. Most mitochondrial testing is done in paternity or near relative cases rather than distant ancestry.

Want to learn more? Go to website: www.familytreedna.com/public/SwackhamerSurnameProject and look up the results to date. You will see a table of STR (ACTG protein repeats) at measured loci totaling 12, 25, or 37. A 12 marker test is adequate for anthropology and will show a "common ancestor" back 500+ years, but it is insufficient for proving relationships. A 25 marker test will show a common ancestor more recent than 500 years. Already I have been contacted by a PA man who matches me at the 25 marker level, but not at the 37 level. His ancestor came from a village only 10 miles from Altlussheim, Germany and we know that somewhere back in time we do have a common ancestor. Now, I need to find a Swackhamer 37 marker match. I hope that several Swackhamer males will participate. It is an important new tool of genealogy only available since 2001.

Plans for Saturday, July 26, 2008 Annual Reunion

Carol Trimmer Stout, Vice President, has volunteered to put together this year's program as a part of her VP responsibilities. We will be at Zion Lutheran Church in Long Valley and will again have lectures, workshops and a catered luncheon. Without a special event to commemorate in 2008, the program will be a little less ambitious, but the educational and social part will be just as extensive as last year.

Plans are to have two or three morning speakers, one of whom will be from the Delaware Indiana Nation speaking on early inter-marriages. We will again have optional workshops ranging from "Where do I start on family history" to "Genetic Genealogy."

The 2007 program attendees feedback requested more time for visiting the Washington Township Historical Society Museum, a better organized "show and tell" area and effort, and time for family social interaction. Many people wanted to do everything and with concurrent workshops and a tour that was not possible. The program team dilemma is to provide variety and social time all within one day. Our bias is to error on the side of leaving attendees feeling the trip was very worthwhile and a little overwhelming rather than have anyone say it was boring!

Put the date on your new calendar now; registration materials will be in the Summer 2008 Bulletin.

----- Clip and Mail -----

Enclosed is my voluntary contribution to help defray the costs of postage and supplies for the Bulletin and to support the annual reunion. Make check payable to "Swackhamer-Dufford Genealogical Society." Amount: \$ _____. Mail to Eileen Corritori, Treasurer, 66 E. Fawn Ridge Drive, Long Valley, NJ 07853. If in Canada, make check payable to "Gene Swackhamer" and mail to the Society address on reverse side. Eileen will send a receipt to you.

- Is your address label on the reverse side correct? Yes _____. If not, please print a correct address below.

name

apt., number, street

city and zip code

- Is there anyone you would like to add to our mailing list?

name

apt., number, street

city and zip code

- Would you like interim email communication? If so, please provide an email address:

- News about you and your family:

Swackhamer-Dufford Genealogical Society
16429 Yeoho Road
Sparks, MD 21152-9553

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Washington Twp. Historical
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