

SWACKHAMER-DUFFORD GENEALOGY SOCIETY



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

SUMMER 2020 BULLETIN

Dear Family and Friends:

My big news for this issue of the Bulletin is the cancellation of the July 25, 2020, Swackhamer-Dufford Reunion at Zion Lutheran Church in Long Valley, New Jersey. I wish it could be otherwise. I was reluctant to take this action now, but with the cancellation of June events, discussions of how to modify July 4th celebrations, and the number of uncertainties regarding travel, church availability, attendance and risks versus rewards, the prudent action is cancellation.

It is a short-term victory for the COVID-19 virus, but the Swackhamer-Dufford Genealogy Society will prevail in the long-run. In this challenge there are opportunities for innovation. We might want to try a national or regional traditional telephone conference, perhaps a Zoom audio-video assembly or a Facebook dialog on genealogy issues. What do you recommend? Has the lifespan of traditional reunions in New Jersey reached its end as a viable and productive use of time and funds?

The 2020 gathering also was to be a first-time assembly of representatives of families from Love and Unity survivors wanting to gain insight into life aboard the ill-fated ship and possible inter-family connections. The next assembled meeting for the Swackhamer-Dufford reunion and Love and Unity meeting will be on Saturday, July 31, 2021 at Zion Lutheran Church in Long Valley.

The virus will not stop creative genealogical minds. The quest for family history and ancestral information will continue as people seek answers to questions and ancestry riddles as illustrated in the communication section of this Bulletin.

The saga of the arrival of the Duffords in the New World and their river journey from Philadelphia to Long Valley continues in this issue as researched by **Donn Dufford** with the help of **Bill Cramer**, Dufford Family Historian. Today, we complain about the frustrations of travel, but we don't sleep with the critters of nature while traveling. Rivers were the highways of the 1700s. **Elijah Swackhamer** moved his family by covered wagon on the National Road from Ohio to Indiana in the 1800s. It took him 11 days--a distance I can drive in 3 hours on Interstate 70.

The virus is a serious obstacle now, but it too will pass. In the meantime: Stay Safe. Stay at Home. Stay Healthy.

Sincerely yours,

Gene L. Swackhamer, President

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Current and past Bulletins are located here. Put your comments or questions in the "Guest Book". The site is monitored and you will get a response.

Throughout the Bulletin, (D) represents a Dufford connection, (S) for Swackhamer, (S&D) both families, and (F) for friend of the Society.

Communication with Members and Friends

My *Bulletin* cover letters of 2019 discussed the challenges of downsizing and moving to a continuous care retirement center. It brought forth numerous responses—some were "how to" advice, some addressed the gifts of life after the move (travel, less burden of stuff, etc.), and others shared similar experiences and frustrations. **Gloria Muir** (ON) gave up her three bedroom home and yard for a one bedroom apartment and has no regrets. **Olivia Culver** sent several helpful suggestions of where and how to save S-D documents.

Connie Rupert (MO) while traveling with her mother to visit ancestral locations in Pennsylvania discovered the Moravian Church Museum and Archives in Lititz. They had family history information for early Germans, but did not know the Love and Unity story or have information on her Westhaeffer family. She gifted a copy of the book to the Archives; a nice gesture we can all practice. Also, descended from Valentin Westheber (Westhafer), is **Sharon Beach** (FL). She and her sister are working on a family history of descendants from Valentin.

Lace Lynch (OH) (F), a genealogist, has long been a watcher for information from the Zanesville, Ohio region regarding Swackhamers. She periodically sends obituaries and other references regarding the cluster of Ohio Swackhamers. The 60 plus years search for an Ohio connection back to Samuel still continues.

John Wolozanski (D) sent a request for information regarding the parents of his GGG Grandfather Andrew Dufford (1843-1907) of Butler, PA (see *Summer 1988 Bulletin*). What had been a family mystery was solved for John by **William (Bill) Cramer** (NJ) Dufford Family Historian.

My daughter-in-law, **Emelie Swackhamer**, a Penn State University Extension Educator received an inquiry at a conference about a naval officer named **Leon Swackhamer** that was the questioner's boot camp leader in Norfolk, VA in the 1960s. She forwarded the inquiry to the S-D Society for help. After checking various membership lists it was discovered that the naval officer was **Leon J. Swackhamer**, father of **Leon Swackhamer** of Montrose, PA. Leon J. died in 1993. The inquirer, **Ed Horenburger** of Philadelphia said, "Master Chief Petty Officer Swackhamer had a sleeve covered in gold hash and had been a submariner in WWII. He was a great man. Wish I had known how to stay in touch decades ago."

By invitation of the Middle Valley Cemetery Association, **Bill Cramer** represents the S-D Society on the Board of Directors for the cemetery trust. The cemetery has many Dufford and Swackhamer graves and is a stop on the Dufford and Swackhamer driving tours. Like many of these old graveyards, funds are barely sufficient to keep the grass mowed. Our Society continues to be a contributor to the Middle Valley Cemetery Association.

A SYNOPSIS OF HISTORY OF JACOB SCHUYLER, WHO WAS MARRIED TO THE DAUGHTER OF SAMUEL SWACKHAMER, GERMAN VALLEY, NJ

by Maria Ernest

Jacob Schuyler's Genealogy

The first record of the Schuyler family is of his great-grandfather, Tjerck (Jansz), ca. 1577-1627, in Norden (Emderland), Niedersachsen. He was married to Styntje Doudes.

His son, Pieter (Tjercks) Schuyler 1601-1656, in Emden, East Friesland, Germany, is the direct ancestor of the above-named Jacob Schuyler. Pieter assumed the surname of his first wife, Geertruij Philips van Schuyler, at his father-in-law's request. He married second Grietje Leenders in 1651.

Pieter (Tjercks) Schuyler had two sons with his first wife Geertruij Philips van Schuyler:
Philip Pieterse Schuyler (1628-1683) and Davit Pieterse (1636-1690).

Philip and Davit immigrated to America before 1650 aboard the ship *De Valckenier*. They traveled to Rensselaerwyck (NY) and were carpenters and gunstock makers until they became involved in the fur trade.

Davit married Catalyna Ver Planck and their son Pieter married Alida Van Schlicthenhorst in 1681 in Albany, NY.

One of their sons, David Pieters Schuyler (1688-1762) married Anna Bradt in 1720. She died in 1724. He married second Margaretha, unknown last name, in 1724. It was this couple who moved to Schooley's Mountain NJ at a yet unknown date.

Jacob Schuyler was one of their sons (1734-1807). It was this Schuyler who married **Eve Swackhamer** (b. 1730), the 8th child of **Samuel Swackhamer**. Her mother was the third wife of Samuel, Elizabeth. Samuel arrived in New Jersey about 1732 with his family from Germany and settled in German Valley. Jacob and Eve were married in 1754 and they had thirteen children:

Elizabeth, born 3/10/1755

Christina, born 9/1/1757. Married John Abel, 1/26/1852

John Jacobse, born 3/2/1758 NJ census 1855). died 1/5/1852. Married first Mary VanSickle. Married second Anna Schuyler, daughter of Philip Schuyler and Eva (unknown last name). Anna was born 3/15/1776 and died 12/4/1868. She is buried in Lyme NY.

Catherine, born 3/29/1760. Married Richard Fancher, son of Richard and Sarah Douglas.

Dorothy, born 10/2/1761, in NJ. Married John Wiley. Also known as Dolly.

Jacob, born 2/2/1764. Died 4/12/1825. Married Martha Fancher, daughter of Richard Fancher and Sarah Douglas.

Margaret, born 2/13/1766.

Ann, born 7/6/1767. Married Richard Degrey, 1/8/1786.

Philip, born 10/22/1769 in NJ. Died before 1850. Never moved to Montgomery County, NY. Married Mary Kinnon.

Samuel, born 5/22/1771. Died 8/2/1824. Married Abigail Fancher 10/7/1795, in Schaghticoke, NY.

Eva, born 9/14/1773. Married Israel Luce.

William, born 3/2/1776. Died 3/15, 1843. Married Mary Servis, 1/1/1801. in Minaville, NY.

Daniel, born 7/30/1779, in NJ. (1855 census). Married first Anna Thomas. Married second, Elaine/Delanah Hilts. Buried in Chuctanunda Cemetery, Minaville, NY.

Both Jacob Schuyler and son Jacob fought in the Revolution. Jacob and Eve moved to the Mohawk Valley (NY), along with numerous other Schuyler family members, about the late 1770s. Eve died in 1781 at age 51. She was buried first in Remsen's Bush Cemetery (Minaville, NY) and later reburied in the Florida Reformed Church Cemetery in Minaville.



Maria Ernest, of Rochester, New York, is the 5th great-granddaughter of Jacob Schuyler and Eve Swackhamer. Since her first visit to the Swackhamer-Dufford Genealogy Society Reunion she has been searching for the names of the parents of Jacob Schuyler. Historical records via the internet, in particular Wikitree, have greatly helped her research. Some of her sources are: *The Emigration of Samuel Swackhamer* by Gene L. Swackhamer, Wikitree, Schuyler family documents, and Stefan Bielinski's comprehensive genealogy of the Schuyler family in America.

Maria is confident she has enough verified information to safely provide it as resource material to anyone interested in the Schuyler family of NJ. She can be reached by email or phone: mariaernest@gmail.com, 585-473-5601.

Items are needed for the Winter 2020 Bulletin.

Please send material to Shelley Heretyk, Bulletin Editor, by October 15th.
See page 2 for contact information.

A QUESTION ANSWERED
(Written by Gene Swackhamer from research by Steve Firtko)

When I first saw the one room foundation and fireplace of Samuel Swackhamer's colonial home (now part of the Raritan Inn basement), I tried to picture life in one room and the unseen sleeping lofts that would have been above. I imagined that I could smell wood smoke from a chimney down draft that would have been ubiquitously everywhere. The wood table seemed period appropriate, but I wondered about the spinning wheel. Would it have been there in the early 1700s?

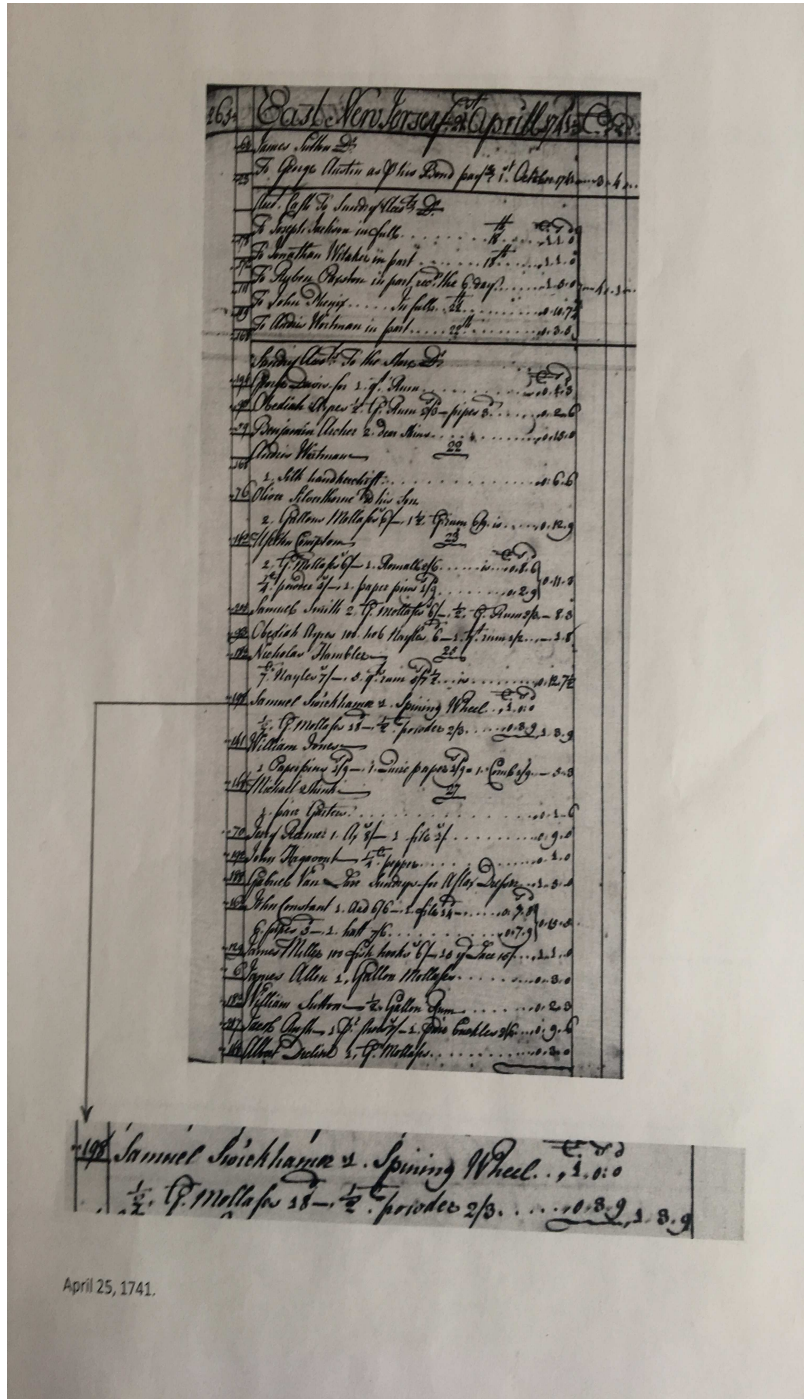
Now 14 years later, the research of Steve Firtko has answered the spinning wheel question. Samuel did buy a spinning wheel on April 25, 1741. While doing family history research for Donn Dufford at Rutgers University, Steve came across a microfilmed copy of Jacob Janeway General Store Account Books from Middlebrook (now Bound Brook), East New Jersey from 1737 to 1742. He did not find any Duffords among the accounts, but he did come across Samuel Swickhamer (Swackhamer), "a Pallantine near Peppenger's" and later listed as "living near Hendershots."

All of the entries for Samuel are interesting, especially one on the page for April 25, 1741, which list his purchase of a spinning wheel for 1 pound, 0 shillings and 0 pence, given as 1.0.0. The hand writing can be difficult to read, as is often true for genealogy research. Test your own translation skills on the accompanying photo reproduction of the page. What were the two additional items purchased by Samuel that day? Might one have been ½ gallon of molasses?

Some of Samuel's purchases were for others—his son Conrad, Casper Hendershott, and "sundrys for an Indian." Another entry was a purchase on Samuel's account by John Constant, a cooper at Samuel's home. Just purchasing a spinning wheel does not prove it was used in his home, but it does confirm common use in the early 1700s when homes and farms were the factories satisfying needs of the time.

This page is a copy of a microfilm reproduction of the original store account books of the Jacob Janeway General Store at Middlebrook (now Bound Brook), New Jersey (then East New Jersey). The original document is in the Alexander Special Collections Section of the Rutgers University Library.

Each line shows a numbered account of a customer's purchase. This page is for April 25, 1741. In that year Samuel Swickhamer's (Swackhamer) account number was 198 shown in the first column. An enlargement of the purchase description is shown at the bottom to enhance legibility.



Following the Path the Original Long Valley Settlers Took in 1738 Along the Lenni Lenape Trail up the Musconetcong River to Long Valley by Donn Dufford and Bill Cramer

[Editor's Note: I apologize for inadvertently omitting a large portion of this article in the Winter 2019 Bulletin. The entire story and photographs are printed below.]

Donn has been a Dufford Family Historian for more than 30 years. He is a direct descendant of Philip and his son Adam Dufford, who helped settle Long Valley in 1738. Donn has traced the Dufford line back to the 13th Century. He visited the home in France where Philip and Adam Dufford and their family lived in 1738 before coming to America. Bill is the Family Historian for the Swackhamer-Dufford Genealogical Society. He has researched his ancestors since 1970 (Father's line - Cramer, Dufford, Hager, Sharp, Stoll, Trimmer, Weiss ... Mother's - (Ukrainian) Balnicki, Hupulu, Iwashko, Kiwtyk, Kuzyk, Makyuk, Riznyk, Stasyuk). Bill and Donn are cousins. Donn lives in Pasadena, CA and visits Long Valley annually. Bill lives in nearby Morris Plains, NJ.

In late 1738, our families traveled from Philadelphia up the Delaware River to the Musconetcong River, and on to Long Valley. In August 2019, we retraced part of our families' journey, from the Delaware River up the Musconetcong River. This is the route that was taken by five of the families who settled Long Valley in the fall of 1738. Before we tell you about our adventure along the Musconetcong, here's a little background.

Records show there were 320 passengers aboard the ship "Robert and Alice" when it landed in Philadelphia on September 11, 1738. On board, there were 102 males age 16 or older, and 218 women and children. The ship originally sailed from Rotterdam, The Netherlands, with a mandatory stop in Dover, England. The passengers included five families who became friends on the long journey, and would settle what is now Long Valley, Morris County, New Jersey. Aboard the ship were:

- The Duffords (spelled "Duffort" in France) (8 family members) and the Terryberry/Durrenbergers (5 members). Both were German and French speaking French citizens from the Alsace region of northeastern France. They were related because Dufford daughter Anna Clara was married to Stephen Terryberry.
- The Neighbors (unconfirmed estimated 4 members)
- The Weises (6 members) were both from what is now the Rhineland-Palatinate area of southwestern Germany, bordering France, Luxembourg and Belgium.
- Heinrich Shenckle, who was traveling alone. We're not sure where he was from, but since he was in line with the Weises when they signed the Oath of Allegiance, he was probably from the Rhineland-Palatinate also.

In this article, we use long-established spellings of the family names, not how early mostly illiterate church and civic officials misspelled them. The names of these families were spelled at least 29 different ways in early 1700s records!

When new immigrants arrived in Philadelphia, it was common for them to be contacted by land agents. What was originally known as the Logan Tract was an area that was being opened up for settlement (lease) in what is now Middle Valley, NJ. Our families were probably encouraged by the land agents to acquire land in Middle Valley. (It is sometimes thought these 5 families knew the Swackhamers or Welshes who settled in Long Valley a few years earlier. We haven't found evidence to prove this.) The land had plenty of trees for building houses, rocks for walls, a river running through it with fish, wild game, and was ideal for farming. For the Duffords & Terryberrys, the valley would prove to be almost identical to what they had left in their Alsace, France homeland.



Legend has it that from Philadelphia, the families were led 65 miles up the Delaware River to near the current Easton, PA, then up the Musconetcong River Indian path to Long Valley by a group of Lenni Lenape (Delaware) Native Americans who lived in the Long Valley area. Since in 1738, nothing resembling a road existed from the Delaware to Long Valley, the settlers and their guides would follow the well-worn Indian path along the Musconetcong, through what was then a heavily wooded forest. Along the way, the only things they would pass were a handful of small Lenni Lenape villages, a fur trapper or two, and plenty of wild animals.



One sunny day last summer, we traveled the Musconetcong River to Long Valley, just as our ancestors had. Bill (top photo) and Donn (photo below Bill) began at the mouth of the Musconetcong at the Riegelsville Boat Ramp on the Delaware River, 6 miles south of Easton, Pa. The Musconetcong flows into the Delaware. The bottom photo is the mouth of the Musconetcong where it flows into the Delaware. Here, the original Long Valley settlers left "civilization" for the unknown of their new home in what was then the western edge of England's New Jersey Colony. The concrete at the right in the photo is the remains of an abandoned railroad line. **(continued on page 6)**



The settlers had traveled about 65 miles up the Delaware from Philadelphia, on foot, by canoe, or both. They would continue their journey up the winding Musconetcong through thick forests to Long Valley. Today the 28-mile trip up the Musconetcong might take 40 minutes by car. In 1738, it probably took the families a week or two. The group would have been loaded down with the few items they brought from Europe, provisions bought in Philadelphia for the winter, farming tools for spring, and axes and saws to build their initial shelters. They also may have had a few dairy cows and a couple of horses.

The settlers followed the Indian path along the river to the present Hackettstown area. From there, they would hike overland about 5 miles to Long Valley. They would have traveled through dense forests and walked upstream against the river, which was probably only 2 to 4 feet deep in September or October.

From what is now Riegelsville on the Delaware River, the Musconetcong heads northeast, roughly paralleling Riegelsville Warren Glenn Road (County Highway 627/State Highway 173) on the west side and Mt. Joy Road on the east. At the Mt. Joy Road bridge crossing, the river begins to parallel Musconetcong St. to the west. It passes through Finesville and beneath Milford Warren Glen Road. The forest land around the river appears today almost as it did when the Long Valley settlers first saw it. The river runs through the Musconetcong River Gorge where our families would have had to carefully navigate through the thick vegetation, huge boulders and waterfalls.

At what is now the Borough of Bloomsbury in Hunterdon County, the river becomes a calm 175-foot-wide avenue, which the travelers would have welcomed. A spillway, which was later built at what is now the Church Street Bridge, slowed and calmed the river. In 1760, a grist mill was built on the site, and in the late 1800s it was converted to a graphite mill which ceased operations in 1968. Approximately 61.4 million gallons of water were expected to pass through the Bloomsbury section of the Musconetcong River the day we visited. That was about 6% less than the day before, and 44% below average for late summer, showing the fluctuation in daily flow rates for the river.



THE MUSCONETCONG RIVER

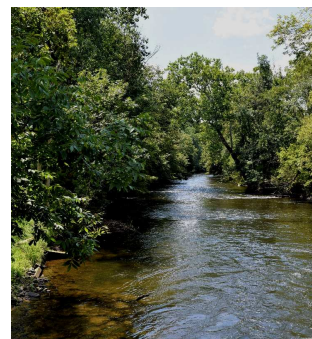
The Musconetcong River is a 45.7-mile-long (73.5 km) tributary of the Delaware River. It flows through the rural mountainous country of northwestern New Jersey. Part of it is a National Wild and Scenic River.

It rises out of Lake Hopatcong, on the border between Sussex and Morris counties. The river flows through Lake Musconetcong, then southwest, past Stephensburg and New Hampton, south of Washington, then along the southeastern side of the Pohatcong Mountain ridge. It joins the Delaware River at Riegelsville, Pennsylvania, about 10 mi (16 km) south of Phillipsburg.

The river does not flow through large population centers and has been the site of relatively little industrial development. In the 18th century, the surrounding hills were largely deforested as a source of charcoal for the iron industry in the surrounding region. Local industry declined by the middle of the 19th century after the building of the former Morris Canal, which ran along the upper river, to bring coal from Pennsylvania to northern New Jersey. The introduction of railroads in the late 19th century brought the demise of the canal. Remnants of the canal itself, can still be seen along the river.

Heading northwest from Bloomsbury, the Musconetcong parallels the current State 173 and goes under the Phillipsburg-Newark Expressway (I-78) and then parallels Asbury-Bloomsbury Road. Today, the river is joined by three small streams near Bethlehem Township. When our families passed by here in 1738, there probably were several more small streams entering the river at various points. The view on the right looks downstream from the Pearson Road/Lime Kiln Road Bridge just south of Bethlehem.

The river makes a series of “s” turns, parallel to Asbury-Bloomsbury Road until it reaches the small community of Asbury (**left photo on page 8**). There, it makes a 90 degree right turn and goes east of what becomes Asbury-Anderson Rd. At nearby Hampton, the River flows beneath Route 31 and follows Musconetcong River Road (County Road 645). Here, the river banks are dotted by a number of homes. The **right photo on page 8** was taken on the bridge crossing the river near Penwell and Anderson, NJ on County Rd 645 (Musconetcong River Rd becomes Point Mountain Rd here). From here to Hackettstown the river follows NJ route 57.



The Musconetcong River took us, like the early settlers, through what would become the current communities of Changewater, Anderson, Penwell, and Beattystown before reaching Hackettstown. The settlers saw only the river, a thick forest filled with unfamiliar animals, and a few small Lenni Lenape villages. (**continued on page 7**)

In 1738, except for the estimated 5,000 to 12,000 Lenni Lenape in all of what is now New Jersey, the inhabitants of a few tiny settlements of Europeans like Long Valley, and a handful of trappers and fur traders, few others were hardy enough to live here. Our families were truly coming to the wild, uninhabited American Wilderness.

We believe our families most likely left the river path somewhere between Beattystown and Hackettstown. From there they were lead down Schooley's Mountain (elevation 1,194 feet) to their final destination, Middle Valley, and what the natives called "Long Valley" (elevation 554). For reference, our starting point at Riegelsville on the Delaware River was at an elevation of 179 feet.

For generations, the Lenni Lenape had called this "Long Valley." The early settlers called it "Dutch Valley" because of a nearby small community of immigrants from The Netherlands. The valley then became "German Valley" because of the growing number of German-speaking families calling it home. "German Valley" was changed to "Long Valley" during World War I because of the anti-German sentiment.

Along the river are portions of what, in 1738, was a dense forest that covered the county. Now, farms, ranches, a couple cemeteries, a handful of houses, and a few tiny towns are adjacent to the river. Look at the photos closely and you'll see the dense brush along the river that our families had to make their way through to reach Long Valley.

Authors' Closing Note: *Our journey gave us a much greater understanding of and appreciation for what our ancestors must have gone through to settle Long Valley. The Dufford family lost three members during the trip to a new beginning. We're thankful for their courage and sacrifices. The significant part the Lenni Lenape Native Americans played also comes into greater focus. The Lenni Lenape not only guided the settlers from Philadelphia to Long Valley, they undoubtedly helped build structures to protect our ancestors from the harsh winter. The Lenni Lenape probably helped the immigrants fish and hunt in order to survive.*

Bill and Donn have done extensive research in the U.S. and Europe, and compared dozens of sources to present this information. We believe the facts to be the most accurate to date. Please email us at donnduff@aol.com with your questions or comments.

To follow Bill and Donn's journey, go to the following Google Maps site for Riegelsville PA. Zoom in to the Musconetcong River. Follow the river northwest through several small towns to Hackettstown, or continue north to the river's source at Lake Hopatcong, or southeast to Middle Valley and Long Valley.

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Riegelsville,+PA/@40.5972001,-75.1839483,14.83z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x89c4115847e4c3ed:0x7f478568339fe634!8m2!3d40.5942673!4d-75.195453>

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DONATIONS TO THE SWACKHAMER-DUFFORD GENEALOGY SOCIETY

The following donors have made contributions since the winter 2019 *Bulletin*. Donations include in-kind gifts, contributions from solicitation envelopes and from a portion of the purchase price of Nancy Schane's book, *Voyage of the Love and Unity*, and from Gene Swackhamer's book, *The Emigration of Samuel Swackhamer*. If we missed recognizing your gift, please forgive us. We truly appreciate every dollar received; your voluntary gifts have sustained the Society since 1951. Family symbols included, if known, are (D) for Dufford or (T) for Tufford, (F) for friend of the Society and (S) for Swackhamer.

Patricia Barber (NJ) (F), a donation for operation of the Society.

William (Bill) Cramer (NJ) (D), a donation for operation of the Society in memory of his parents.

Donn Dufford (CA), donation for use where needed by the Society.

Maria Ernest (NY) (S), a donation from the purchase of "The Emigration of Samuel Swackhamer..." book.

Stefan F. Firtko (PA) (F), a donation for general operations of the Swackhamer-Dufford Society.

Karen Griffin (RI) (D), a gift to support the Society's greatest need.

Laurin L. Henry (VA) (D), a donation to the general operating fund.

Gloria Muir (ON, Canada), a gift for use wherever most needed.

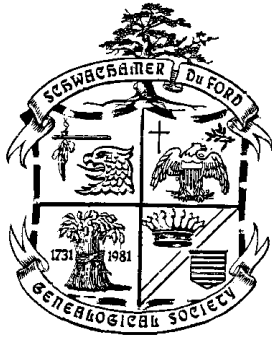
Connie Rupert (MO) (F), purchased "Love and Unity" book as a gift to the Lititz Moravian Church Archives in memory of the Westhaeffer family.

Paul S. Smith (MA), a donation through purchase of "Love and Unity" book..

Gene and Sharon Swackhamer (MD), a gift of postage for mailing 2020 *Bulletins*.

Note: The wisdom of holding enough financial reserve for a year of operation without income is being proven sound. With the arrival of the coronavirus, donations ceased. The most recent donation was on January 17, 2020. Given the uncertainty of jobs, income, pensions, and even livelihood, a bunker mentality is a natural response making it difficult to fully believe that "this too shall pass," but it will.

Jill Drees
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Summer 2020 Bulletin
www.panaves.com/swackduff/index.html

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Donations to the Swackhamer-Dufford Genealogy Society

Scenes of the Musconetcong River are shown in the photographs below. The story by Donn Dufford and Bill Cramer begins on page 5 and these photos are explained at the bottom of page 6.

