

# 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.

## WINTER 2020 BULLETIN

Dear Family and Friends:

This year has been defined by the Covid-19 coronavirus. It has changed our lives and the many organizations with which we associate from employment to charitable entities. It has caused hardship and devastation both for survivors and especially for those with family deaths. The Swackhamer-Dufford Genealogy Society extends its sincere condolences to everyone who has suffered a loss.

The S-D Society too has been impacted. Our traditional "last Saturday of July" gathering in Long Valley was cancelled. Numerous state and national genealogy society conferences were either cancelled or held virtually on the Internet. Libraries closed to avoid spreading the virus among patrons, which impacted genealogy researchers. Nothing was normal.

What lies ahead is not known, but it is apparent that recovery to a new "normal" will leave many still feeling discomfort with travel interruptions, organizational changes and life style adjustments. Producing this Bulletin has been a challenge as several who wanted to assist have been unable to complete projects, perform tasks and submit articles. It has been hard to see the glass half full.

Thank you to all who have financially supported the S-D Society this year. Your communication and suggestions are always appreciated.

Thank you also to Shelley Heretyk for over ten years of faithful service as Bulletin Editor. Her persistence, dedication to the task, constructive suggestions and practical solutions have been appreciated. Although she is stepping down as Bulletin Editor, she will remain a Bulletin contributor on an area she knows well, Long Valley, New Jersey; the location of the Dufford and Swackhamer family pioneer homesteads. Many of you have worked with Shelley on articles you have submitted and you might want to send her an email or personal note of thanks and good wishes. A successor editor has not yet been selected, but there will be a summer 2021 Bulletin even if an acting editor is needed.

In spite of it all, here is the winter 2020 Bulletin with all good wishes for a happy holiday season and a wonderful new year. We plan to hold a gathering in Long Valley at Zion Lutheran Church on Saturday, July 31, 2021, and will hold a workshop for descendants of *Love and Unity* survivors.

Sincerely yours,

Gene L. Swackhamer, President

## Officers of the Combined Societies

**Gene L. Swackhamer**  
President  
Swackhamer Family Historian  
16429 Yeoho Road  
Sparks, MD 21152  
GGSwack@cs.com

**Jill Drees (S)**  
Membership Coordinator  
6 Beehive Place # H  
Cockeysville, MD 21030  
jillmdrees@gmail.com  
(301) 335-9830

**Matthew Martyniuk (D)**  
E-Bulletin Webmaster &  
Asst. Dufford Family Historian  
martyniuk@gmail.com

**Bulletin Reporters:**  
**Bonnie Wilson (D)**  
rwilson578@cfl.rr.com

**Carol Martyniuk (D)**  
cmartyniuk@gmail.com

**Robert Lee Swackhamer**  
Vice President & Treasurer  
165 North Boulder Creek Drive  
Camdenton, MO 65020-6615  
bobnjeansswackhamer@hotmail.com

**Gloria Muir (S)**  
Canadian Representative  
Woodstock, Ontario  
(519) 475-4891  
gmuir\_1@yahoo.ca

**Bryan Swackhamer**  
Asst. E-Bulletin Webmaster  
bryan.swackhamer@gmail.com

**Steve Jones (S & D)**  
steve@jones88.net

**Shelley Heretyk (F)**  
sheretyk@comcast.net

**William (Bill) Cramer (D)**  
Vice President  
Dufford Family Historian  
49 Franklin Place  
Morris Plains, NJ 07950  
wnpc1226@gmail.com

**Vacant**  
Bulletin Editor

**Steffen Drees (S)**  
Aus dem Englischen  
Bulletin Translator to German  
s.drees@gmx.net

### Swackhamer-Dufford Genealogy Society Website [www.panaves.com/swackduff/index.html](http://www.panaves.com/swackduff/index.html)

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

**Barbara Sexton-Gregg (S)** of Tennessee wrote in June that she had been working on family ancestry for a few years and her mother and her aunt are interested in finding answers to some lingering questions. Her mother was particularly interested in learning if Charity Swackhammer was mentioned in the Samuel Swackhamer book. The answer was yes, Charity Ariel Swackhammer (1844-1922), was mentioned in Appendix D as the daughter of William Swackhammer (1814-1890) and Eleanor Watt (1818-1888). Charity married Samuel Leslie Schooley (1845-1922) on August 3, 1865. Charity is Barbara's 3 xs great grandmother. Since I (Gene Swackhamer) am descended from Elijah, a brother of William, Barbara has concluded that we are cousins a few times removed.

**Steven Louis Liam Serafin and Patricia Lynn Lucy Serafin (D)** gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, Martha Lynn Serafin (D) on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020. Patricia is a great, great, great, great, great, great, great granddaughter of Hans Philipps Dufforth. (that's 7 greats). For Martha, just add one more great. (that's 8 Greats). Congratulations Martha, Trish and Steve!

**Michael Douglas Timothy Cramer (D)** married **Allie Danielle Lowndes** on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. The beautiful wedding took place in the Cramer Family backyard. While the Corona Virus cancelled their wedding reception at the Historic Waterloo Village on the Musconetcong River in Allamuchy, NJ; the wedding still went on. Reception will take place at a later date. Michael is also a great, great, great, great, great, great, great grandson of Hans Philipps Dufforth. (that's 7 greats again). Congratulations Mike and Allie!

Just for an interesting fact, Michael, David and Patricia are also 7<sup>th</sup> generation great grandchildren of John (Hans) Trimmer, Leonard Neighbor, Johannes Hager, Matthais Sharp AND 9<sup>th</sup> generation great grandchildren to Michael and Annie Marie Cramerin (who arrived here in America in 1710).

**A Sailor's November Sky**  
**by Gene Swackhamer**

Big bold blustery clouds of billowing blues and blacks,  
behaving boisterously like brats,  
bravely bolting ahead then bending back.  
Bad omen sky boiling in blurring summer heat to a silent beat,  
beckoning, beseeching, bragging of a bygone feat,  
with bruising biceps bent to break,  
before the blast of blizzard and mercury meet.

A bawdy sea breaking beyond the beach, betraying sky,  
birch and beech bending beyond the breakers,  
bereft of beams of beauty, belay the breath of Beelzebob.  
Batten down and button up, bring in the sails, bar the bunk,  
be not blind to bitter blowing brackish bays,  
Bos'n barking bile. Believe.  
Behind the breakwater the bond blows fair.



**DONATIONS TO THE SWACKHAMER-DUFFORD GENEALOGY SOCIETY, thru 11-1-20**

The following donors have made contributions since the summer 2020 *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.

Donald L. Combe, Archivist, St. Mark's Church, ON, Canada, donation from purchase of Samuel Swackhamer book.

William (Bill) Cramer, (D), (NJ), a donation for operations in honor of the Society volunteers.

Linda J. Davis (F), (PA), donation through purchase of Love and Unity book.

Kenneth and Sandra Dufford (CA), a gift for where needed most in memory of Frank and Ruth Dufford and their son, Scott Dufford.

James W. Dufford (CO), a donation for *Bulletin* production in memory of William L. Dufford.

Maria Ernest (S), (NY), a donation for *Bulletin* production and general operations.

Barbara Gregg (S), (TN), donation with the purchase of the book, "The Emigration of Samuel ..."

Michael and Pamela Logan (D), (VA), a gift in memory of Ellen Dufford Logan.

Judy Meenach (S), (OH), a gift to the Society in memory of Robert Meenach.

Shannon A. Pilrose (S), (IN), a gift for Society operation in honor of Adelia Marie Swackhamer.

Dorothea Dufford Sage (NC), donation to the Society for general operations.

Barbara Schinkel (NJ), a gift in memory of Ruth Hartman for general operation.

Jean Sheppard (D), (TX), a gift for *Bulletin* production in memory of Harold Apgar Dufford.

Carol Trimmer Stout (D), (NJ), a gift for operation in memory of Elizabeth Dufford Trimmer.

O. Clete Swackhamer, (IA), a donation into the general operating fund.

Gene and Sharon Swackhamer (MD), postage donation for mailing the winter 2020 *Bulletin*.

Ricarda A. Swackhamer (CA), a donation for Society operation in memory of E. D. Swackhamer.

Richard D. Swackhamer (NJ), a gift for *Bulletin* production & operations in memory of Richard Michael Swackhamer.

Clyde Verbyck (NY/FL), a donation for operations in memory of Karen Verbyck.

## A FOLLOW UP TO THE SUMMER 2020 HISTORY OF EVE SWACKHAMER, DAUGHTER OF SAMUEL, WHO WAS MARRIED TO JACOB SCHUYLER

by Maria Ernest

Here is a story I've drawn together from bits and pieces of information and some speculation of events for additional history of Eve Swackhamer Schuyler. I was able to add a few photos that might help in visualizing the area where Eve and Jacob Schuyler and family settled around 1779. I have drawn from a cursory reading of the American Revolution in New Jersey and can speculate about the possible reasons Eve and Jacob left Long Valley for the Mohawk Valley region of New York.

At the time Eve and Jacob resided and farmed in Long Valley, the British forces were camped around Morristown, NJ, which is not far from Long Valley. From what I read, the British forces were numerous and were housed throughout the region, some being assigned to residences of the populace. These forces also confiscated farmers' animals and grain to feed to feed the troops. I can imagine many families were driven by need and/or design to leave the area.

Both Jacob Schuyler and son Jacob served in the American Revolutionary War. According to DAR records, Jacob (husband of Eve) was a Second Major in the New Jersey Militia. Son Jacob was a Private.

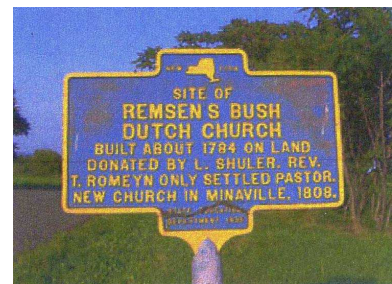
Jacob, Eve, and extended family left New Jersey in 1779 for New York State, settling in the area about 3 miles south of Amsterdam. Jacob and Eve lived on what is now known as Bulls Head Road in the area formerly known as Remsen Bush.

Land speculators from New York City had bought huge tracts of land in the Mohawk and Hudson River Valleys and began selling lots. Perhaps Jacob had bought or leased one of these lots. Alternatively, perhaps Jacob and his son Jacob had received payment in lieu of cash in the form of land to pay them for their service in the Revolutionary Militia. Probably the latter is closer to the facts.

Eve lived only two more years after arriving at the place in which the Schuylers would live and farm the fruitful earth. Since I have not been able to locate any information about Eve's burial place, I speculate that she was buried on the Schuyler homestead.

Delving into the Samuel Schwackheimer's family (Eve's father), I learned that 7 of his 17 children died in 1780. Curious, I learned that cholera was rampant in the Long Valley area when the British troops were encamped there. I speculate that Eve's health could have been affected by the disease and peripherally caused her death in 1781.

Jacob Schuyler died in 1807. According to burial records, his original burial was in Remsen Bush Cemetery on Bulls Head Road in Minaville. The cemetery was abandoned and overgrown with weeds. Fortunately a few years ago it was cleaned up and is now well maintained.



Above left is the Remsen Bush Cemetery located on Bulls Head Road in Florida, Montgomery County, New York. The center photo shows the cemetery when it was neglected. Jacob Schuyler who died in 1807, was buried in Remsen Bush Cemetery. His gravestone is pictured right.



Jacob Schuyler, son of Eve and Jacob, (1764 – 1825) married Martha Fancher (1765 – 1853). They had thirteen children, five of them sons. My line of ancestry to Jacob Schuyler and Eve Swackhamer is as follows:

Jacob--6th child: 1764-1825

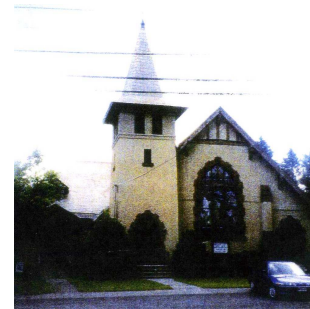
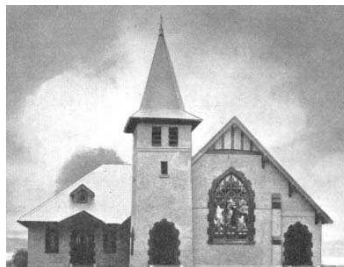
Richard--2nd child: 1788-1867

Hiram--9th child: 1830-1908

Albert--only child: 1850-1921 and last of the male line for me directly

Fannie E.--1st daughter: 1873-1945

George Ernest--my father: 1906-1988



Pictured above are the Florida Reformed Church Cemetery and Florida Reformed Church (center photo taken in 1916, right taken in 1992) located in Minaville, New York. Jacob Schuyler and his wife Martha Fancher Schuyler are buried in the Florida Reformed Church Cemetery. Minaville is a hamlet in the Town of Florida in Montgomery County. Montgomery County is in the heart of the Mohawk Valley and is filled with beautiful countryside.

There is a road in Florida, Montgomery County, New York named "Schuyler Road", on which one finds a number of residences for Schuylers. A few left for other areas to farm. Richard Schuyler, from whom I am descended, left for the Mohawk region north of the Mohawk River, where he was a successful farmer.

This history just scratches the surface of how Eve Schwackheimer's genes are perpetuated by many generations, namely 8, counting my grandniece and grandnephew. Quite a lengthy history of Eve, I know. I hope that other Swackhamers will find it interesting and perhaps will provide another piece to their picture of their ancestors.

**Correction to the Summer 2020 Bulletin:** There is an error in my story about Eve Swackhamer and Jacob Schuyler in the Summer 2020 Bulletin. My ancestor Jacob Schuyler was born in Schooley's Mountain, Province of New Jersey, on 29 March 1733. He married Eve Swackhamer. There is another Jacob Schuyler with a very close birth date whose family genealogy is deeply and widely researched. This Jacob Schuyler is a descendant of Davit Pieterse Schuyler who came to America with his brother Philip Pieterse. I have confirmed my ancestor Jacob Schuyler is NOT a descendant of Davit Pieterse Schuyler.



## CONTINUOUS DUFFORD RESEARCH PROJECT

by William Cramer

Hello descendants of Philip Dufford. This ongoing project is an attempt to update and inform the descendants of the Dufford family about their history, their origins, their ancestors and their descendants. Any Society members who have new Dufford branches or updated information on their specific Dufford branch, please get that information/tree/line to me so that we may update all of our Society members.

In this bulletin we have 2 contributions. The 1<sup>st</sup> contributions are two websites provided to us by our favorite Dufford researcher, investigator, scholar, Donn Dufford of California. He writes that because of the flu epidemic, the Internet Archives have just become available. This will take some effort, but I've (Donn) already found interesting pieces for Duffords. Use this page as a starting point. Search names you're interested in. I found 2600 entries for Dufford. Just started narrowing it down, but found one 500 page book (old) history of Morris County. Good luck with your hunting. The site is:

<https://archive.org/search.php?query=ufford&sin=TXT>

Also, from Donn, Google search for Washington, NJ graveyards gives this site of many Dufford leads/clues/names:

[https://search.yahoo.com/search?ei=utf-8&fr=tightropetb&p=WASHINGTON+NJ+CEMETERY+WARREN+COUNTY+20thCnt+PROMINENT+Early+Settler+int%2Fhistory&type=Y149\\_F159\\_167589\\_102119](https://search.yahoo.com/search?ei=utf-8&fr=tightropetb&p=WASHINGTON+NJ+CEMETERY+WARREN+COUNTY+20thCnt+PROMINENT+Early+Settler+int%2Fhistory&type=Y149_F159_167589_102119)

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The 2<sup>nd</sup> contribution is from a most interesting, educational and inquisitive email request from Donn Dufford and I received from Diane Ptak of New York, who read our work: "Following the Path The Original Long Valley Settlers took in 1738 Along the Lenni Lenape Trail Up the Musconetcong River to Long Valley".

*"Hello Donn and Bill,*

*I just finished reading your fascinating saga chronicling the path the Duffords took from Philadelphia to the Middle Valley in 1738. It was such a joy to read - I could not put it down. Your research and retracing of the steps of our families does much to enrich our understanding of their undertaking. Great job! Thank you!*

*Although I am a Schwackheimer descendant, I believe there is much overlap between the immigrant arrival of the Duffords and Schwackheimers... [I have] A few comments and questions. Perhaps you know the answers to some of these questions. Any additional detail would be of interest. Thanks again for contributing your interesting article to the summer 2020 Bulletin. It will be treasured.*

*- Diane Ptak from New York"*

For readers of this article, Diane's questions and comments are italicized and bold. Donn's replies immediately follow.

**1. You mentioned you will check your notes for a time when the Duffords moved from Phil to MV and for your references to them in MV.**

The five families (actually four families plus one single man) would not have stayed long in Philadelphia. There were no Holiday Inns and the group was very large. My guess, could be wrong, but I don't think so, is they found an agent(s), agreed to lease land, were introduced to the Lenni Lenape... and headed up the Delaware, all in less than a week. They didn't know anyone, so there was no need to wait around. The total time should be in our book.

**2. From my research I believe there were land agents and advertisements in the Speyer/Altlussheim area of B-W pre 1731. Perhaps sponsored by the immigrant vessel owners.**

I'm sure there were agents in the German states. I've found nothing close to the Duffords and the other families in the Alsace. Doesn't mean I'm not wrong. But it seems unlikely four families (Duffords, three Terryberries) would sell everything based on a land agent in Europe. They knew the negatives...three Duffords died on the trip. These later agents were promoters, not sellers. I'm basing my assumptions on reviews of what info came from the 3,000 passengers who landed there (3,000 more died on the trip).

My research has taken me to PA, NJ, MN, IA, NE and CA. I've been through Long Valley records, Northampton Co. PA (son of original Philip, my line), England and France. I've been fortunate enough to have found and visited the original Dufford home in Langensoultzbach. I've researched at the Bas-Rhin Archives in Strasbourg France. Two professional Genealogists have helped. My Dufford line reaches to Northern France, to Southern France, to very first Duffords in England in the 1200s and 1300s. I've traced the line back beyond that to the original name (Peyton) in the 900s.

The five families mentioned boarded the Robert and Nancy in Rotterdam, and sailed to Philadelphia. The Duffords (actual spelling for two generations in France, I've confirmed by seeing records in France), and Terryberries were from the same area around Langensoultzbach and related. Three Terryberry brothers, one married to Dufford woman.

I've researched every passenger aboard the Robert and Alice where records were available. None lived near the Duffords. And none lived near the Schwackheimers. The chance of the Schwackheimer and Duffords knowing each other are, in my opinion, minuscule. In 30 years of research, here and in Europe, I've found no connection between the five families and the Schwackheimers. I could be wrong, but I need proof and have only found guesses.

**[Donn's Editor Note- Incidentally, I'm using "Duffort" here because that was their name for the two generations before they left Europe. It's well documented in the Bas-Rhin Archives. The name appears to have been changed by scribes in the later part of the 1700s. It appears in Adam Dufford's will about 1778 (I don't have the exact date handy). By 1800, everyone used Dufford.]**

**3. Were there also land agents in the Palatinate?**

Yes, there were land agents in the Palatinate. But the majority of them were hired by William Penn from 1681-1685, decades before the Duffords immigrated. And Langensoultzbach is on the southern fringe of the Palatinate. Yes, the Duffords could have been encouraged by land agents in France. But because all of the families did NOT know each other, I find it more logical that they (the group of five) met land agents in Philadelphia. I also believe this because land agents in Europe were "selling" land in Pennsylvania, not deep in the wilderness of New Jersey.

As for letters passing between Long Valley and the Palatinate BEFORE Samuel arrived, no one lived in Long Valley then. There was a Dutch colony, but I see no connection between them and the Palatines. Besides, remember there were five families involved. Besides the Duffords, I see no connection between the other families until they boarded the Robert and Alice.

**4. Any idea how long the "Dufford" group was in Philadelphia before they made the overland trip to Middle Valley?**

I've never been able to answer this question. However, my search says the land agents were right there, at the dock, waiting for the immigrants. And, captains were likely to recommend (for money) agents to the immigrants. The agents would have wanted to get their customers out of Philadelphia quickly because the season was changing. I'll have to look, but I think I have a time frame in the book.

**5. Are there any records documenting their land purchases/lease through the Logan Tract, from landed settlers, or from the Lenni Lenapes, or their subsequent sales? Or was there a group purchase?**

Back to the land agents for a moment. It's unlikely they were waiting for the Dufforts/etc. The land agents would have had no idea whether the immigrants were coming, what ship they were on, and when they would arrive. Additionally, there is a "rumor" that the Indians were sent to lead the party to Long Valley. I think this is highly unlikely for the same reasons as above. The Indians would not have sat around waiting for the party to show up. Instead, I feel it is more likely the Indians were hired by the agents to lead the party to Long Valley. The five families (actually four plus one single man) would have had to "buy" the land BEFORE they were led to it. When I visited Langensultzbach, I found it interesting that the geography is almost identical to Long Valley. Small hills forming a long valley. A stream running through the center. Very similar soil for farming.

If there are records for land, I haven't found them. There are references to them here and there. If I can easily find them, I'll share. But they're buried in my files. There were no "sales." All land was leased long term (I believe 99 years). That has made land transfers very difficult. I THINK (!!!) four of my families leased land. The Old Dufford Farm still exists. It runs from the river south up the hill. The house is falling apart, but they still grow corn and soybeans. I thought about buying it awhile back when it was up for sale for back taxes.

The Dufforts also had a mill on the river. Interesting because I believe that had one in Langensultzbach. There are streams on each side of their original house, and a mill on one side for sure. It doesn't appear there was a "group" purchase of land. And the Indians didn't own land they could sell. There were two "tracts" in that section of the valley that were sub-divided.

**6. Are there any published books with maps of the early Native trails in Northwestern or Northern Provincial NJ? Or references to what roads now follow those paths?**

I wish. I've looked for these for years. Most of the Indian paths appear to have been along rivers, which makes sense. As for where, they are lost to time and the forest. The one Bill and I followed wasn't there. Lost to 200+ years of non-use. Roads? This was before the Revolution. There was one north south road between Philadelphia and Boston. There was a coach that rode from the Long Valley area to Easton PA. My Adam used that to leave Long Valley (actually Hunterdon). Also, "roads" then were narrow paths that were washed out by rain and snow.

**7. Did the immigrants to Long Valley travel in 20+' shallow bottom batteaux? Would they have slept along the river banks (dangerous with wild animals) or in the LL villages? Or when they bedded down on pine boughs in a sheltered area would they have been likely to have kept a fire going all night to keep the wild beasts away?**

Canoes? I assume so. Had to be big enough for Indians, settlers unfamiliar with them, and provisions. I'm guessing they bought SOME provisions in Philadelphia. Corn for planting, axes, rope. Probably slept along the river. Whatever Lenni Lenape villages probably would have been small families. Except for near Easton, which may have had larger groups of Indians. Wild animals, I doubt. They wouldn't attack groups of people. There were plenty of sheltered areas along the rivers (Delaware and Musconetcong). The Indians would have shown them how to be comfortable sleeping (I'm laughing at "comfortable".) There would have been fires to keep them warm. It could have been near freezing at night.

**8. Was there or is there, by chance, a portage around the waterfalls at the Musconetcong River Gorge?**

The trip up the Delaware was flat and mostly straight. They would be paddling upstream. I would guess, based on where they came from, most of the settlers hadn't rowed before. Coming up the Musconetcong would be different and more difficult. Yes, there is a waterfall. Not huge, but with lots and lots of large boulders.

**9. If they followed the Natives' lead, they probably had backpacks to carry their provisions.**

Had to have something because they certainly would not have brought it aboard the Robert and Alice.

**10. Since they arrived in Middle Valley about October or November 1738 - The natives likely helped them get settled that first year with - building a wikiup hut (or a variation?), significant donations of food, identifying safe-to-eat woodland plants, and planting/fertilizing their first garden.**

Yep. Had to have had the Indians' help. They wouldn't have made it through the winter. Temperatures would have been 44 to 65 when they arrived. 31 to 45 by Thanksgiving. 39 to 24 by New Year's (I can't stand it). And snowing. They HAD to have the Indians' help.

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Jill Drees  
Swackhamer-Dufford Genealogy Society  
6 Beehive Place # H  
Cockeysville, MD 21030



Winter 2020 Bulletin  
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***11. Wondering - Did most of the early 18th century Palatine settlers of Middle Valley and Lebanon, build bank houses, or was that style unique to Samuel S.?***

They built whatever was easiest and would shelter them quickly so they could get to planting. If you ever go to Long Valley, what you'll notice is 1) large areas where the trees have been cut down. Used for housing. There's lots of twigs and bog to fill the holes between logs. 2) thousand and thousands of rocks. The valley is full of them. Now they're fences. Then, they were used to build houses. The early houses would have been very small. Bill and I found the foundation of one, and fireplace. Probably 12x12. It's in the area where one of the first Duffords lived.

A special thank you to Diane Ptak & Donn Dufford for this interesting and educational series of questions & answers.