

# 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 2021 BULLETIN

Dear Members and Friends:

In this issue are Covid driven stories. First, I wondered if voluntary donations would be sufficient to pay for composing, printing, and mailing two issues of the Bulletins. It was a needless worry. Over twenty-five gifts, nearly ten percent of individual mailings, were received since the annual gathering in July. Enough to assure 2022 operation and maintain a steady safety reserve (one year of operating expense). I think the “stay-at-home” Covid encouragement, and a little more family appreciation helped. Thank you, donors.

A second concern was, would our in-person meeting work? We did hold an annual gathering at Zion Church in July in Long Valley. We were the first outside group approved to return to Zion Church in 2021. Sharon and I stayed in Long Valley for the outside Sunday church service the next day and got to express the appreciation of our Society. A summary of the gathering is in this Bulletin. We will meet again on Saturday, July 30, 2022, if the pandemic permits. Another challenge emerging is that interested, but unrelated Swackhamer-Dufford attendees outnumber family members. Their participation is beneficial for discussion diversity and meeting viability but departs from family history exchange, a part of our mission. To balance outside participation, more members are being asked to make presentations.

In recent Bulletins, we have had more material than space, so communication and obituary information were omitted. In this issue, both have returned. Communication items are still limited, but Necrology was expanded to catch up, to use two recent deaths as memorial tributes to illustrate the value of each life, and to show the presence of family interests and values within busy professional lives. The dash of life is the little symbol (-) that separates birth and death dates on a tombstone. It is our legacy.

Society volunteers and new ideas are always welcome. Your family history and genealogy connections to Phillip Dufford or Samuel Swackhamer are valuable additions to the Society.

From all the volunteers that help the Swackhamer-Dufford Genealogy Society to recipients of this Bulletin, we extend warm Season Greetings and our best wishes for a safe and healthy New Year.

Sincerely,

Gene L. Swackhamer, President

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### Swackhamer - Dufford Genealogical 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 this issue (D) represents a Dufford connection, (S) for Swackhamer, (S & D) both families, and (F) for friend of the Society.

## Communication with Members and Friends

**Clyde Verbryck (S)** of Vestal, NY, sent me a couple of family photos last summer. The photo of an old frame house with a group of formally dressed adults sitting on the porch railing tweaked my interest. Who were they? Where was the house? How did that all relate to Clyde? I had to write back. Clyde said that the house was the John Swackhamer home in Rummerfield, Standing Stone Township, Bradford County PA, his mother's home. Eleven adult cousins are in the photo, which appears by the formal dress to be the early 1900s and a special occasion. Maybe a survivor can add to the story. How did all the ladies in long dresses get over the porch railing? Looking at the photo of the entire house, the segment of the porch they are on appears to be elevated by several feet.



Clyde wrote in August 2021 that he is the son of **Mark and Lleta (S) Verbryck** of Johnson City, NY, born 12-14-29. He will be 92 this year. He was married for 65 years, served two years in the Korean War, living eighteen months of that time in a tent. He worked for IBM for thirty-

four years and has been retired for thirty-four years, living six months in FL and six months in NY until very recently.

**Love and Unity Zoom Call.** During the annual summer gathering a Zoom call was held for descendants of Love and Unity survivors to discuss additional research interests. The call was only partially successful. Two anticipated participants did not join in the call. One discovered that their ancestor was not on that ship, and the other said they were no longer interested in genealogy. **Michael Youngman**, a call participant, and descendant of Jungmann (Youngmann) offered several constructive thoughts about further research.

*As space permits within the one-ounce first-class postage limit, we are happy to post inquiries.*

## **Celebrating 75 Years of Family Gatherings** **By William (Bill) Cramer and Gene Swackhamer**

Keeping track of Society anniversaries can be quite challenging. In the beginning, two family groups were meeting each summer as traditional family reunions common both before and after WWII. Both the Duffords and Swackhamers met on farms in the Long Valley community each summer. Old correspondence refers to such meetings, but no written record remains for most. Around 1946, due to family overlaps (Dufford/Swackhamer marriages) and perhaps economic considerations regarding travel, etc., a joint Society emerged and an information Bulletin for members was published. Following is a reprint of the 1953 winter Bulletin, the oldest that we have. Its opening paragraph explains why the Society decided to publish a Bulletin.

This publication is for the descendants of Samuel Schwachhammer and Philip Dufford who find some pleasure in knowing about their forefathers. Not that we feel we are better than those who cannot trace their ancestry. We just think it is nice to know.

MAJORIE DUFFORD LOGAN - PRESIDENT  
ELIZA DUFFORD HARRIMAN - HISTORIAN  
EVERETT SWACKHAMER - HISTORIAN  
MILTON SWACKHAMER - SECRETARY-TREASURER and EDITOR

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A BIT OF HISTORY

SWACKHAMER  
(From Chambers "Early Germans of New Jersey")

Samuel Schwachhammer was born in 1700 and died February 3, 1782. He came to this country in 1731, it is believed from Neuwied, Germany (George Dufford claimed this date should be 1730) He built his home in what the Indians called the Long Valley His funeral notice in an old church book states that he married three times and had 25 children, 73 grand children and 25 great grand children.

His will dated February 1, 1780 and probated March 8, 1782 (Trenton Lib. 23, fol. 247) Names wife Elizabeth and 13 children as follows;

1. Conrad b.1720, d.1813 M. Elizabeth	7. Barbary
2. John b.1727, M. Sussana Margaret Terryberry	8. Hellena
3. Catrina (Catherine) b.1733 d.1815, M.	9. Baltus
4. Ann, M. a Leeke	10. Samuel
5. Dolly (Dorthea) M. Philip Terryberry	11. Andrew
6. Elizabeth, b.1748, d.1823, M. Jacob	12. Jacob
Dufford son of first Jacob Dufford	
13. Daniel	

On August 16, 1941 a first meeting of Swackhamer descendants held the first meeting and laid plans to raise funds to erect a tombstone over the grave of their pioneer ancestor. This was done before the next meeting a year later. Meetings of the group which called itself the Swackhamer Historical Association, continued until 1951 when it was proposed that it unite with the Dufford group since so many persons belonged because of intermarriage to both groups.

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DUFFORD  
(From the Research of George Dufford, father of our President)

The name was originally Du Ford and originated in Le Mans in the province of Orne, France. Religious persecution caused an exodus to other countries such as England, Germany and Holland. In those days of illiteracy the spelling of the name became confused because of the various pronunciations in different countries. Hence the name has been spelled Du Four, De Voor, Toffort, Duffort, Tuffert, Tefort, Dufford, and Du Ford. On September 11, 1738 the ship Robert and Oliver, Captain Roberts, Master delivered to Philadelphia among others Philip Du Ford, Senior, Philip Du Ford, Jr., and George Stephen, Son of Philip, Jr.

They followed the Delaware to the Muscanetcong up that to an old Indian trail and thence over Schooleys Mountain to the Long Valley.

In the very beginning Philip, Jr. and son George Stephen seem to drop out of sight. In the will left by Philip, Sr., dated February 16, 1767 and probated February 1, 1769 he names wife, Catherine, sons Adam and George, daughter Mary Magdalena, and grandson, George Stephen, the son of Jacob. Jacob had been disinherited by his father because he married an Indian maiden. (This fact was ascertained by George Dufford, who back in 1890 talked to one Rudolph Schaffer, then 90 years old who said his father had often spoken of seeing the man named Dufford fishing in Lake Hopatcong, with the Delaware Indians. He had married an Indian girl and had been disinherited.)

The son Adam appears on Tewksbury Township records as a tax payer in 1758. That is all of him. George had a daughter, Catherine born 1752 and confirmed in 1772. No further record. Mary Magdalena married Andrew Mack and no further record of her. Jacob and his Indian wife had three children, Mathias, David & George Stephen and these three are the ancestors of all the Duffords.

Jan 1953 2 of 4

**Swackhamer-Dufford Genealogy Society Annual Reunion Summary  
Zion Lutheran Church, Long Valley, NJ, July 31, 2021**

On a sunny fall-like day, members and friends assembled in Faith Hall of Zion Lutheran Church, Long Valley, New Jersey. The educational building is a relatively new addition that included the former parsonage, the childhood home of Debra Hayden and her parents Bob and Kay Swackhamer. Since the pandemic began, we were the first outside group permitted to use church property. Unfortunately, our 2020 gathering was canceled, and this meeting was uncertain until early June. Even now, because of the resurgent delta variant of Covid-19, additional church gatherings may be restricted.

Attending the meeting were twelve pre-registered and two additional for the Zoom call regarding the "Voyage of the Love and Unity." Attending all or part of the meeting were the following:

Jill and Steffen Drees	Matt and Nova Martyniuk	Mike Apgar
Carol Martyniuk	Steven Firtko	Eileen Stokes
Pastor Ingrid Wengert	Shelley Heretyk	Michael Youngman
Gene & Sharon Swackhamer	Sheri Swackhamer	

Following coffee, a light breakfast, and friendly greetings, Gene Swackhamer called the meeting to order. He assured the group that tables were set for social distancing with two chairs per table. The wearing of masks would be a personal choice and the group expressed satisfaction with the arrangements.

Matt Martyniuk, S-D Webmaster and Assistant Dufford Historian, reported on his test of the Dufford Driving Tour of historic family sites in Long Valley and along highway 513. His helper, daughter Nova (7), used a Microsoft computer pad to give her impression of the tour. She liked the animals, especially the ponies. She liked the fields and the piles of old stones, too. Her poise and articulation were excellent and drew a round of applause.

Jill and Steffen Drees gave a PowerPoint talk on Altlusheim, Germany (Samuel Swackhamer and Steffen's hometown) titled "then and now." Jill focused on the life and art of Willie Schwechheimer, a deceased resident of Altlusheim. Willie was a butcher, an artist, and a survivor of six years as a WWII prisoner of war.

Following a break, Gene Swackhamer shared thoughts on "the way forward" for genealogy societies that have suffered due to population mobility, aging members, and the pandemic. Change is certain; how dramatic it will be is still uncertain.

Sharon Swackhamer served a luncheon of cold cuts and trimmings for personalized sandwiches with warm German potato salad, shrimp pasta salad, and numerous desserts. It again was a highlight of the day.

Scheduling a 1:00 pm Zoom call among "Love and Unity" descendants of survivors and those attending the reunion was a good way to close lunch and postpone the desire for a nap. The Zoom effort was not as successful as it could have been. Still, it was very helpful for future planning and did surface several questions and issues worthy of further pursuit regarding the tragic story of the 1731 crossing of the Atlantic.

The business session began with a moment of silence for departed family members and friends that had died in the past two years. Two deaths noted included Dr. Debra Swackhamer, a nationally distinguished environmental scientist, and Lou Schwechheimer of Wichita, Kansas, a popular owner and manager of minor league baseball teams. The traditional determination of youngest was Nova Martyniuk (7), the oldest was Gene Swackhamer (83), and the farthest traveled was Gene and Sharon (174 miles). Robert Swackhamer Treasurer's report was distributed and reviewed. As of June 30, 2021, the checking account balance was \$3,244.29 with \$205.00 pending deposit. All expenses are current for 2021. Fiscal year receipts totaled \$1,035.00, and disbursements were \$1,198.10. Acting Bulletin Editor Teryl Cartwright will do the winter 2021 Bulletin before deciding if she wants to continue. All officers will continue in their present positions, and a search will be made for additional Bulletin reporters.

Next year will be the 75th anniversary of the Dufford and Swackhamer family reunions. Consideration will be given to ways of special recognition.



From L to R: Shelley Heretyk, Mike Apgar, Steve Firtko, Sharon Swackhamer, Jill Drees, Gene Swackhamer, Matt Martyniuk, Carol Martyniuk with granddaughter Nova, and Eileen Stokes; Steffen Drees is taking the photo.

## Continuous Dufford Research Project By William Cramer

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

Donn Dufford, an excellent historian, emailed me some interesting information titled "The Heritage of Daniel Haston." It is not about the Duffords, but it has interesting information on what the Dufford and Swackhamer families experienced in the early 1700 journey to America. It includes a neat drawing of Philadelphia circa 1730. This article includes information on the reasons for emigration, emigration routes, the Atlantic journey, and arrival in America. This story can be found at: <http://www.danielhaston.com/roots/emigration.htm>

### NECROLOGY

In recent issues of the Bulletin reported deaths were omitted to provide space for feature stories. Included below is the material that was pulled. Although the Society has not focused on being a register of deceased members, there is an awareness that future generations may someday find information on an ancestor through these obituaries, so your communication of family obituaries is welcome.

**Helen Swackhammer** (b. 4-18-1940 Ashville, OH; d. 5-9-2020 Circleville, OH). Helen was the daughter of Lawrence Hoover and Ethel (LeFever) Hoover. She was preceded in death by her husband of 46 years, Dale Swackhammer. Surviving children include Jeff Swackhammer, Kim (Swackhammer) Anders, Jodi (Swackhammer) Cain, and five grandchildren.

Helen was well known for her former catering business that she loved so much. Her delicious from-scratch cooking and baking was enjoyed at countless weddings, banquets, corporate parties, and other events throughout central Ohio. She was so proud of her many entries and placements at the Circleville Pumpkin Show, where she won Grand Champion with her famous carrot cake. She was very active in the Circleville Eastern Star Chapter #90 and Marie Hamilton Temple. She held the position of Worthy Matron and enjoyed catching up with old friends at Past Matron meetings. Dale and Helen spent most of their Ohio summers camping with friends.

**Roger Allen Bowsher** (b. 1-15-1938 Kansas City, MO; d. 7-31-2019 Clinton, MO). Roger was the son of Allen Bowsher and Naomi Francis (Swackhamer) Bowsher Hupp. Naomi was a sister of former S-D Society President Rev. Thomas Cecil Swackhamer, and a cousin of Robert Lee Swackhamer, S-D Society Vice President and Treasurer. Roger and his wife Mary J. were married in Springfield, MO, on November 5, 1965, and she preceded him in death on April 8, 2017.

Roger was a life-long Missouri farmer, but he also was an aircraft insurance investigator, and he and Mary drove big rig trucks together while operating M & R Farms. In addition, he served in

the Army National Guard during the Korean War as a radio operator and tank driver. He also was an avid pilot.

Surviving are one daughter Debbie Castor and husband Gary of Jefferson City, MO, two sons, Mike Bowsher and Maria of Clinton, MO, and Scott Bowsher and Amy of St. Louis, MO. Grandchildren include Dr. Sarah Castor, Garrison Castor, Nathan Bowsher, Shae Bowsher, and Hadley Bowsher.

**Carolyn June (Swackhammer) Faber** (b. 3-12-1943 Hocking County, OH; d. 9-23-2019 Lancaster, OH). Carolyn was the daughter of George and Jessie (Reed) Swackhammer. In her 76 years of life, she worked at Dupont, A.E.P., Anchor Hocking Glass, and retired as an accountant for Crestview Manor.

Carolyn was preceded in death by her parents and brothers Ray William Swackhammer and George William Swackhammer. She is survived by her son Dr. Joseph (Rebecca) Faber and grandsons, Wesley Hanlon and Reed Faber, sister Judy Meenach, nephew, Troy (Carla) Meenach and their children Alica, Sam, and Aubrey.

**Dr. Deborah Swackhamer**, (b. 6-23-54; d. 4-23-21) professor emerita of the Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota, died of cancer on April 23, 2021, at age 66. A University press release said, *"she was a highly respected environmental scientist being remembered for her brilliant mind, boundless energy, generous mentorship, and steadfast advocacy for integrity in science. She was an environmental chemist and toxicologist, focusing her research on persistent organic compounds such as polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), dioxins, and pesticides, which remain in the environment for a long time."*



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In recent years Gene Swackhamer corresponded with Deborah several times, but never on PCBs, the subjects were about family and genealogy. Included in this memorial recognition are some communications in her words. First, regarding Gene's grandson, Clay Swackhamer, a Ph.D. candidate in biological engineering at the University of California Davis, she wrote: *"My brother Michael (born in 1949) died at age 24 of kidney cancer. I mention this because he was attending UC Davis at the time, getting his PhD in biochemistry. There is a modest scholarship in his name there, set up by my mother and his major professor (now long retired). How terrific your grandson is there. Lots of smarts in those Swackhamer genes! My best, Deb"*

On another occasion, she wrote, *"Enjoy your reunion. I am well aware of the Family Society. We came up straight through the generations of families in NJ. I am the first generation of my family to not live in NJ. My father was James, an architect in Somerville. I grew up in White House Station, where my great grandfather, John, did something for the train company (Morse code operator, I think?). My grandfather, Egbert, was from Middletown. My mother did our genealogy back in the 1960s and traced all of the lines back to Samuel. And now, with Ancestry.com, my sister has taken up the passion and has all the direct lines and all the branches in all directions!"*

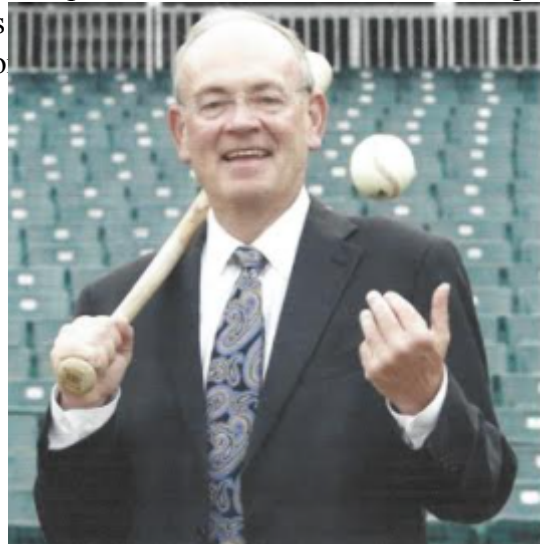
At age 12, Deborah rode with her family in a car trip to the west coast with a stop in Denver so her father could attend the American Institute of Architects convention. *“Having become aware that the name Swackhamer was not found everywhere, at every motel stop my older brother and sister and I would go to the phone book to see if there were any Swackhamers listed. It was a disappointing exercise until we stopped in Battle Mountain, Nevada. In the phone book was a whole page of Swackhamers; we were overjoyed. We even had pizza at a Swackhamer pizza parlor. What a fun memory. If you saw the Rachel Maddow interview of me following my Congressional testimony, you know that she was quite taken by our name!”*

In 2017 Deborah became involved in a tug of war between politics and science. As an expert, she was asked to testify before Congress and agreed to do so as a private citizen, not as Chairman of the EPA's Board of Scientific Counselors. The EPA took the position that she was subject to EPA's approval of her testimony as a member of the Board of Counselors. The EPA demanded several changes. Deborah stood her ground and did not yield to the politicians, saying she was not a government employee. Her position of steadfast scientific integrity over politically modified science won the day in the eyes of the public. Even though the EPA administrator removed her and several others from the Advisory Board, thereby effectively terminating it, her message and her stature were forever set in stone.

Through these anecdotes, Deborah becomes more than a superb scientist. She was a good citizen, a defender of proven facts and a regular person just like you. To the lady I never got the chance to meet, rest in peace.

**Lou Schwechheimer, Jr.** (b. 9-14-57; d. 7-29-20) Lou, a highly respected Minor League Baseball executive for more than four decades, died of complications related to Covid-19 at age 62. His passing was mourned by colleagues and friends. Lou worked, he was known for his effervescent personality, and his storytelling, especially about baseball.

Ludwig Herman Schwechheimer, Jr. (Lou) was born on September 14, 1957, in Newburyport, MA to Ludwig Sr. and Marion. At his death, he was survived by his wife Jane and daughter Jenn of Wakefield, RI; brother John and his wife Nell from Essex, MA; brother Tom and his wife Betsy from Hampton, NH, and sister Anita and her husband Glenn from Rowley, MA, and 12 nieces and nephews.



Lou never lost sight of the fact that baseball was a game. He felt blessed to be able to have a career in a sport he loved, which was his tool for mentoring, motivation, and developing character. Dozens of associates benefitted from his dedication and devotion to them, and fans admired his community support and dependability.

Aside from the many professional recognitions, he was known for his engagement with the community. For over 25 years, he supported Boy Scouts of America and was known for his sponsorship of Saturday PawSox post-game troop sleepovers at McCoy Stadium in Pawtucket. He even has the distinction of being involved in the longest baseball game in professional baseball history—a 33 innings and two months 3-2 PawSox victory over Rochester Red Wings



that extended from April 18-19 to June 23, 1981! One of his last projects was the construction of Riverfront Stadium in Wichita, KS, a stadium that Covid-19 prevented him from fully enjoying.

## **DONATIONS TO THE SWACKHAMER-DUFFORD GENEALOGY SOCIETY**

**07-31-21 through 12-1-21**

The following donors have made contributions since the summer 2021 *Bulletin*. 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.

Mike Apgar (DE), a donation and reunion registration to support the S-D Society

John K. and Pamela J. Blumenstein (DE), a gift in memory of Hellen Tufford for Bulletin production

J. Lawrence Brasher (S) (AL), a donation for Bulletin production in memory of Bessie Swackhamer Clark Watters

William (Bill) Cramer (D), (NJ), a gift for Bulletin production and general operations in honor of President Swackhamer

Jill and Steffen Drees (S), (MD), donation through reunion registration

Donald and Marilyn Dufford (IL), a gift to the Society for general operations in memory of William L. Dufford

Kenneth and Sandra Dufford (CA), a donation for general operation of the S-D Genealogy Society in memory of Laurene Dufford Baracough and Carol Dufford Sherlock

Philip Wickstrand Dufford (WA), a donation for operation of the Society

Steven F. Firtko, (F), (PA), a portion of registration for the July 31 reunion meeting

Ellen E. Freeman (D), (NH), a donation for operations in memory her father, Stanley C. Dufford.

Frank E. Grant (S) (NY), a donation in memory of Mildred Swackhamer Philips for general operation

Mr. Laurin Henry (D) (VA), a gift for operation of the S-D Genealogy Society

Mrs. Shelley Heretyk (F) (NJ), a gift to the Society and a portion of reunion registration.

Peg Johnson (WI), a gift to the Society in memory of Jane Loree Saums, "a beloved aunt and inspirational family genealogist"

Carol Martyniuk (D) (NJ), a gift through donation and reunion registration for operation

Mrs. Judy Meenach (S), (OH), a donation in memory of her husband Robert

Raritan Inn (F), (NJ), a donation for general operations

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

Eileen Stokes (F) (NJ), a gift to the S-D Society through reunion registration

O. Clete and Catherine L. Swackhamer (IA), a gift for general operation of the S-D Society

Doug Swackhamer (IN), a donation in memory of his father Clyde Swackhamer

Gary D. Swackhamer (NY), a donation for operations in memory of Claude and Raymond Swackhamer

Mike Swackhamer (IN), a gift for operation of the S-D Society

Gene and Sharon Swackhamer (MD), postage for 2021 winter Bulletin mailing

Douglas Van Horn (PA), a donation for Bulletin production in memory of Elizabeth Trimmer Van Horn.

Clyde Verbryck (NY), a gift for Bulletin production in memory of Karen Verbryck

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Winter 2021 Bulletin  
<http://www.panaves.com/swackduff/index.html>

### **Distribution of this Bulletin**

The question is often asked, "Who gets the Bulletin?" This Winter 2021 Bulletin was distributed to a total of 300, as follows:

Email 33; Organizations 13; Germany and Canada 11; 39 states were mailed one or more Bulletins, the top ten: NJ 36, PA 26, NY 26, OH 19, IN 18, CA 16, FL 13, IL 9, TX 9, and SC 7. Four states received 4, 5, or 6 Bulletins, six states received 3, ten states got 2, and seven states received 1.

The total of 300 includes email distribution, so the printed number of Bulletins is less. Still, some receive both email and printed copy, and no effort was made to determine the overlap. From a cost consideration, email saves postage and printing cost, but volunteer donations come primarily

from those receiving printed copies with donor envelopes rather than from email recipients. Also, the annual turnover rate among email recipients is almost 40 percent, making managing the distribution list nearly impossible.