Jonas Nilsson, who served as a soldier and a tailor under Governor Printz from 1642 to 1653, died in Kingsessing in West Philadelphia in 1693 after raising a family of ten children with his wife Gertrude, daughter of Sven Gunnarsson. Little did he or his family expect that he would be suddenly thrust into the headlines of the Wilmington News Journal 315 years later.

In early February 2008 that newspaper published an article by Robin Brown bearing the headline “Delaware’s oldest document leaves more questions than answers.” She asked Russ McCabe, director of the Delaware Public Archives in Dover, Delaware, “What’s the oldest thing you have?” and thereafter wrote her findings:

“McCabe says the oldest item is dated 1653, from the state’s first European settlement, then just 15 years old. ‘This is an account for a man named Jon or Joon Nielson, settling up with the New Sweden colony before going home to Sweden,’ McCabe said. He noted the signature by the colony’s most famous governor, the flamboyant Johan Printz. But McCabe can’t read the details. ‘It’s in Swedish,’ he said.

“Philanthropist Pierre S. du Pont gave the account sheet to the state in 1938, the 300th anniversary of Swedes’ and Finns’ landing. Du
Thomas Jacobsson
the Finn and his
Thompson Descendants

Among the many Finns arriving in former
New Sweden on the Mercurius in 1656 was the
family of Thomas Jacobsson from Letstigen,
Värmland, which included his wife, three chil-
dren and a maid. With them was the family of
Pål Persson which also included his wife, three
children and a maid. New Sweden was then
under Dutch rule and the two families decided
to settle on the colony’s western frontier at a
place on the north side of the Christina River
called “Bread and Cheese Island,” located at
the junction with White Clay and Red Clay
creeks.

By the time a grant was issued on this land
in 1666, Pål Persson had died and his eldest
son Olof Pålsson and Thomas Jacobsson were
named owners of the land. Both were leaders in
the area. Olof Pålsson became the clerk of the
Swedish church at Crane Hook. Thomas
Jacobsson held the title of lieutenant of the
militia.

In 1671 Thomas Jacobsson became no-
rious (among the English) and famous (among
the Finns) for his leadership role in the rebel-
"lion against Judge Hans Block’s dike. The
Dutch judge, desiring better road access
between his plantation north of Sand Hook
and the capital at New Castle, persuaded his
fellow judges to issue an order requiring all
freemen to contribute labor to build the road
through swampland for Judge Block’s private
benefit. Lieutenant Thomas Jacobsson, by his
mark (“T”), was the first name on the protest
against doing this forced labor.

The English sheriff William Tom addressed
Governor Andros claiming that “a number of
the inhabitants in such a mutinous and tumult-
uous manner, being led by the priest Jacob
Fabritius and others, including Thomas
Jacobsson, some having swords, some pistols,
others clubs with them,” insisted they would
not work on Block’s dike. The end result was
that Thomas Jacobsson and his two adult sons
(Olle and Peter Thomasson) were each fined
20 guilders for their refusal to work on Block’s
dike and Thomas Jacobsson himself was fined
400 guilders for his leadership role in the rebel-
lion.

Thomas Jacobsson was a prosperous
farmer who assembled substantial lands for his
sons Olle, Peter and Christiern Thomasson. He
left his home plantation at Bread & Cheese
Island to his son Olle. He acquired land on
White Clay Creek in 1676 for his son Peter,
and was instrumental in securing land at
Tacony in the present Philadelphia area for his
son Christiern.

Our last glimpse of Thomas Jacobsson was
on 9 January 1679, when an English orphan,
Charles Hedges, was indentured to him by the
New Castle court, after Thomas Jacobsson
promised that his son Olle Thomasson would
“larne the boy to read as much as he could
teach him.” Thomas Jacobsson died before 14
October 1679, when his son Olle represented
the family in signing a mill agreement with
other property owners in the area of Bread &
Cheese Island.

Thomas Jacobsson left no will. However,
four sons have been identified, the eldest of
whom became a Lenape Indian chief:

1. Jacob Thomasson, the eldest, born in
Sweden, was kidnapped as a small child by the
Lenape (Delaware) Indians. He is first men-
tioned in surviving documents in a letter from
Pastor Andreas Sandel to his family in Sweden,
written on 17 June 1702: “A Swede, when he
was a little boy, went out picking berries in the
forest and was taken by the Indians. Now he
lives among these wild heathens and won’t
return.”

As later described to Pastor Ericus Björk,
based on a report by the Swedish Indian trader
John Hans Steelman: “Now it once happened at
the Christina congregation that two brothers
[Jacob and Olof] rambled together away from
the house in the woods, of whom the one
became lost. The parents couldn’t find the
child again, but came to the conclusion that
some Indian had kidnapped the child. The par-
ents went around for many years and sought
after the child, but could get no news of him,
because those Indians were far away. At long
last it happened that [John Hans Steelman],
who carried on a large trade with the heathens,
comes among the said group and engages in
conversation with their king. Then it seemed to
him from all the circumstances that he was not
of heathen but Christian blood. And as he had
heard some discussion of it, therefore he let the
continued on page 4
Dear Friend of New Sweden,

Plans for the Centennial Jubilee of the Swedish Colonial Society are well underway as we plan for a Centennial Colonial Forefathers Luncheon on March 29 in Pennsylvania and a weekend of celebrations on October 24-25, 2009. We have invited our High Patron, His Majesty King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Sylvia to be our guests for events that will take place in Wilmington, DE, Swedesboro, NJ and Philadelphia. We expect that the Swedish Council of America will be having their meeting in Philadelphia at the same time and will be joining us for the celebration. We will be publishing a full list of events as the planning proceeds under the enthusiastic direction of Senior Deputy Governor Herb Rambo. Please mark these dates and tell your friends about what promises to be a “once-in-a-lifetime” experience. There is also a possibility that several of our Swedish members will be with us to enliven our gatherings.

In addition to the Centennial Jubilee weekend we will be sponsoring three Museum exhibits during 2009. Titled, “New Sweden in the 21st Century” these exhibits will be at the New Jersey State Museum in Trenton, the American Swedish Historical Museum in Philadelphia and the Delaware History Museum in Wilmington. Each exhibition will have artifacts that will not be shown in other locations, drawing on the seldom displayed treasures of each institution. Some things from our own members and our Archives will be at all three locations. In addition we will publish a coffee-table book of pictures of the New Sweden sites in the Delaware Valley that we plan to have off the press by the October celebrations.

But even this year we have the New Sweden History Conference on Saturday, November 8. Our theme will be, “New Sweden and the Fine Arts.” We have Roland Fleischer speaking on Gustaf Hesselius and Carol Solis speaking on Adolph Wettermuller. We will be at Christ Church, Old Swedes, Upper Merion, Bridgeport, PA, where we will be able to see the history of New Sweden in stained glass as portrayed by Paula Himmelsbach Belano. Then on December 14 our annual Julmiddag will usher in the Christmas season. And of course our Colonial Records of Swedish Churches in Pennsylvania multi-volume book project continues under the careful editing of Dr. Peter S. Craig. We expect that Volume 4 will be available well before the History conference and then we will be working on Volume 5. Write to Gloria Dei Church for your copies of Volumes, 1-3.

We had a delightful Colonial Forefathers Luncheon at the Wilmington Country Club in March. This was the first time that we had planned a luncheon together and it is our intention to continue to do this, rather than just be together every other year and be hosted by one Society. Since many of us are members of both Societies it makes sense and helps us to work together for the common cause of historical memory and celebration.

Pro Suecia.

Kim-Eric Williams
Governor
kidnapped boy’s brother, Olle Thomsson, know about it. They traveled now to the king and believed they recognized him, but weren’t able to say anything. But finally the king came home to Olle Thomsson, where they so arranged it that they were found to be brothers by that which childhood memory brought to hand. With embraces and tears they heartily rejoiced together. And he had then been king among them a long time. Preparations were made to get him away from there. But the heathens were ill-disposed and became alarmed, and thus would not let their king go anywhere alone. On account of his wise and capable rule among them he was much respected and had accrued a great reputation. Afterwards he was killed there.”

It seems certain that Jacob Thomasson, the Lenape Indian chief, had surviving descendants, but recorded history does not provide proof. However, there is strong circumstantial evidence that he not only had children but also that his descendants remained prominent among the Lenape or Delaware Indians. This was the opinion of my mentor Dr. C. A. Weslager, the noted historian, who wrote several books about the Delaware Indians and their westward migration. His principal source for interpretation of Lenape words was the late Nora Thompson Dean (known as “Touching Leaves”) whose grandfather Joseph Thompson was one of the signers of an 1860 letter by leaders of the Delaware Indians seeking lands in the Indian Territory (present Oklahoma). Dr. Weslager related to me that “Touching Leaves” claimed that the family tradition included the story that they had a Swedish ancestor.

2. Olof Thomasson, the second son, was also born in Sweden. As presumably the eldest son of Thomas Jacobsson, he inherited his father’s 200-acre plantation at “Bread and Cheese Island.” In 1689 he added 200 acres more, half of which he sold to Bengt Pålsson (son of Pål Persson) in 1697. After the arrival of Pastor Erious Björk in 1697, Olle Thomasson became a stalwart supporter of the new church. He gave £5 for its construction, transported lumber by canoe to the building site and volunteered his service and two horses for hauling other materials. In June 1699 he and his wife Helena were assigned pews in the new Holy Trinity Church.

Illness struck in 1699. Olof Thomasson wrote his will on 4 November 1699, by which he left one of his plantations at Bread & Cheese Island to his eldest son Peter, his plantation on Mill Creek to his second son Paul Thomasson, and his home plantation on Bread & Cheese Island to his youngest son Olle Thomasson. He died before 1701, when his widow was listed owner of his properties. His widow Helena was still living in 1704 when she was granted £4 by John Hans Steelman, but she died soon thereafter.

The 1693 census had shown nine persons in his household. This probably included Charles Hedges and his younger brother Joseph Hedges. Three others were his own sons. Only one of two presumed daughters has been identified. The four known children were:

> Peter Thomasson, the eldest son, died unmarried and without issue. His brother Paul Thomasson inherited his land.

> Paul Thomasson married Hileke, the daughter of John Boyer of New Castle, about 1700. He wrote his will on 4 February 1707, declaring himself a resident of Red Clay Creek Hundred, New Castle County. He gave his lands to his only child Eleanor. She married John Twiggs, 16 February 1721, and had eight children: Abraham (who married Sarah Bird, 24 September 1747), Anne (who married John Ferguson), Mary (who married 1st Eric Stallop in 1746 and 2nd Joshua Watson), Sarah (who married Matthew Glenn), Eleanor (who married John Marten), John, Rebecca and Hannah (who married Nathan Scothorn in 1759).

> Olle Thomasson, Jr., survived his two older brothers. On 28 June 1721 he sold his 135 acres at Bread & Cheese Island to Charles Justis, Jr., of the Wicaco congregation. Not further traced.

> Maria Thomasson, the only known daughter, married Bärtil (alias Bartholomew) Johnson of Elk River, Cecil County, c. 1712. He was the son of Simon Johansson, one of the first settlers of present Elkton, Maryland. They had three children: Anna (who married Cornelius Clements & Henry Pennington), Maria (who married Conrad Garretson) and Susanna.

3. Peter Thomasson was fined 20 guilders in the 1671 dike rebellion and in 1676 was granted a patent for a plantation on White Clay Creek. He died unmarried and without issue before 4 December 1682 when his brother and heir Ollo Thomasson sold one-half of the land.

4. Christiern Thomasson, the youngest son, turned his attention to the northern Swedish community in present Pennsylvania. On 25 October 1675 Walter Wharton surveyed
for Eric Mullica, Olle Nilsson Gästenberg and Christiern Thomasson a tract of 950 acres at Tacony. On division of the land, Christiern Thomasson secured 160 acres for himself. In January 1683 he was naturalized by William Penn. He appears to have confronted economic misfortune, as in 1685 he sold a meadow to Anna Salter and owed her money at her death in 1688. In the next year he sold his farm to Henry Mallow, but both parties died before the deed was executed. The May 1693 census of the Swedes on the Delaware listed Christiern Thomasson’s widow with six in the household. She died before 1697.

The children of Christiern Thomasson were:

> Anna Thomasson, born c. 1674, married Swan Rambo, son of Peter Rambo, Jr., c. 1700. In 1713, she and her husband joined her three surviving siblings (Maria, Thomas and Lawrence) in executing a deed to Henry Mallow’s widow Sarah for the land sold by their father in 1689. Anna died by 1719 when Swan Rambo married 2nd Barbara (surname unknown). Swan Rambo moved to the Swedish settlement on the upper Schuylkill River where he died at Cacoosing Creek in Lancaster County in 1730. Anna had eight children, at least two of whom lived beyond infancy: Christian Rambo (born 1708, died in 1748 in Virginia) and Lawrence Rambo (born 1713, died in Abbeville, South Carolina). On 2 February 1773, Lawrence Rambo of Granville County, South Carolina, executed a deed to Gloria Dei Church conferring rights which his grandfather, Peter Rambo, Jr., had owned for the benefit of the church.

> Maria Thomasson, born 1676, married Lawrence Boore, Jr., son of Lars Larsson and Elisabeth Bjur in 1699. Born in 1678, Lawrence Boore lived his entire life at Pennypack in Lower Dublin Township, Philadelphia County. He served as a warden and vestryman of Gloria Dei Church and one year (1733) as a justice of the peace in Philadelphia County. His will of 12 October 1745, proved 16 August 1746, named six surviving children: Andrew (who married Gertrude Cox in 1731 and died in 1765), Joseph (who married Elizabeth Paxton in 1743 and died in 1748), Peter Boore (who married Mary Hall in 1755), Mary (who married John Chamberlain), Thomas (who married Elisabeth) and Benjamin.

> Thomas Thomasson, born c. 1679, married Elizabeth [parents not identified]. In 1704 he donated 15 shillings toward the cost of completing the side porches at Gloria Dei Church. He served as a church warden at Gloria Dei in 1709-1710. In 1713, under the name of Thomas Thompson, as son and heir of Christiern Thompson, he received a patent for 160 acres in Oxford Township, paid 40 bushels of wheat as settlement for overdue quitrents (taxes) on the land since 1689 and, with his siblings, conveyed the land to widow Sarah Mallow in 1714. Thomas Thompson of the City of Philadelphia wrote his will on 27 April 1734, naming his wife Elizabeth executrix and sole heir. He was buried the next day in the “Stranger’s ground” at Christ Church.

> Lars Thomasson, born c. 1682, also donated 15 shillings in 1704 toward the cost of completing the side porches at Gloria Dei. He subsequently married Grace Smith, daughter of Thomas and Sarah Smith of Darby Township, Chester County. On 16 April 1711, as Lawrence Thompson, he purchased 200 acres in the Manor of Moreland from Nicholas and Priscilla Moore for £80. Lawrence and his wife Grace mortgaged the latter property in 1713. The mortgage was satisfied in 1723. Their first child, Sarah Thompson, was remembered in her grandmother Sarah Smith’s will of 8 July 1715. This family has not been further traced. It is probable, however, that they had two sons who followed their Rambo in-laws to Lancaster County and then to North Carolina: Lawrence Thompson, Jr., married Sarah Finney c. 1735 and wrote his will in North Carolina in 1790 after having eight children, the eldest of whom was baptized at St. Gabriel’s Church in Amity Township in present Berks County, Pa. Thomas Thompson married Ann Finney c. 1738, and died in North Carolina c. 1795 after having eight children.

> Ingeborg Thomasson, born c. 1685, was living in the household of Peter Rambo, Jr., in 1697. She apparently died without issue before the sale of the family farm in 1713.

> Helena Thomasson, born 1687, was living in the household of Peter Rambo, Jr., in 1697. She apparently died without issue before 1713.
The John Hans Steelman house at Historic Elk Landing is in imminent danger of collapse. The entire stone wall facing Little Elk Creek is bowed out and there is one area where the stones are bulging out precariously. The stone house, dating from the early 1700s, might or might not survive the winter. The roof is completely gone.

The house is currently held together by a number of steel beams. It needs to be stabilized by a process called “cocooning.” This includes putting on a roof, building an internal support structure, adding floors, and doing masonry work to repair the stone and mortar of the walls. If the cocooning is accomplished, it provides a 10-year window during which the house could be restored to its original condition.

Judge Kenneth A. Wilcox and his wife, Anne, gave me a tour of the Elk Landing site and shared with me the architect’s proposal. The rehabilitation would take $400,000. To date the Foundation has received a grant of $50,000 from the Maryland Historic Trust. This must be matched by $60,000. This has been done. Some of this has been spent on the preliminary design and on the requisite archaeological dig (which yielded a log house adjacent to the stone house!).

The legislature has designated $100,000 toward the stone house. This must be matched by $100,000 before it can be spent. This match will be accomplished by the allocation of $100,000 of the proceeds from the sale of the Thomas Jefferson letter found in the adjacent Hollingsworth House.

The Elk Landing Foundation has been
refurbishing the adjacent Hollingsworth House with funds furnished by a bond bill grant from the Maryland Legislature and from private donations.

The situation is so urgent that the Elk Landing Foundation is proceeding without the complete amount in place. The board members and volunteers have done wonders with the Hollingsworth House. A group of gardeners were planting a colonial-style garden as I walked around with the Wilcoxes. The site is absolutely glorious. The old stone house, originally the home of the Swedish Indian trader John Hans Steelman, is certainly one we ought to preserve!

Interest in saving the stone house, originally built by John Hanson Steelman with later additions by subsequent owners, began with Dr. Peter S. Craig’s article in the *Swedish Colonial News*’ Fall 1994 issue. Dr. Craig had assisted Dr. Richard H. Hulan in obtaining a listing for the house on the National Register of Historic Places back in 1984.

In October 1998 the mayor of Elkton and the commissioners asked the Cecil County Historical Society to compile information and to make a recommendation to buy the site. On October 15, 1999, the town bought the property of 42 acres and asked Judge Ken Wilcox, a former president of CCHS, and four others to form a foundation to preserve Elk Landing. (see *Swedish Colonial News*, Summer 2000 issue).

Judge Wilcox and his wife, Anne, had eaten dinner in the stone house as late as the 1950’s, when John Young, Sr, owned the house. They described the interior as “rustic, pleasant, and liveable.” The first floor included corner chimneys typical of Swedish construction. The Wilcoxes and I met years ago at a “Robert Burns” Scottish party. Judge Wilcox had been my aunt and uncle’s lawyer. The Wilcoxes and I reconnected while they were waiting in line for Scottish fare at the pre-Revolutionary structure, the Wallace Tavern, at the Apple Butter Festival. I was volunteering at the Tavern. Following my aunt’s footsteps, I am the secretary of Elk Creeks Preservation Society, a group which hosts the event.
Kim-Eric Williams
Receives Swedish Royal Honors

Kim-Eric Williams received the Royal Order of the Polar Star, First Class, at the Residence of the Ambassador of Sweden in Washington, D.C., on March 17.

On behalf of King Carl XVI Gustaf, the certificate and medal were presented by Chargé d’Affaires Caroline Vicini and Mrs. Eva Hafström, wife of Jonas Hafström, Sweden’s Ambassador to the United States.

Williams was recognized for his work as Archivist and four-time Governor of the Swedish Colonial Society, as Swedish Lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania and Translator of the multi-volume Gloria Dei Records Project. He serves as Archivist at the Lutheran Archives Center at Philadelphia and is the editor of Archives Advocate.

He is an 11th generation descendant of three 17th century Swedes.

The Order of the Polar Star is awarded by the King to non-Swedish citizens only for distinguished service to the country. It was established by King Fredrik I in 1748.

Fellows Named

At the Forefathers Luncheon on March 30th, Earl Seppälä, Chairman of the SCS Fellows Committee, announced that the SCS had unanimously voted to bestow the title “Fellow of the Swedish Colonial Society” on Sally Bridwell and Doriney Seagers. Each of these ladies has provided years of distinguished service to the Society in their leadership capacity. Accompanying the honor was a recognition certificate and gold medal bearing the society’s seal and the words “Swedish Colonial Society Fellow”. The first Fellow awards were presented in the year 2000. To date, 18 Fellow awards have been presented.
Pont bought the paper for $800 from a Pennsylvania autograph dealer, who advertised it as the only Printz signature ever to surface for public or private sale. The dealer identified Printz as Wilmington’s founder and the nation’s first yachtsman and beer-brewer. ‘You’ve got to like that,’ McCabe said.

“But he said it was a second Nielson paper, a 1654 letter, that gave the older document its context. In 1934, McCabe said, the state paid the same dealer $660 for that letter, with an 1889 translation. **From another box and folder, he lifted the second Nielson paper, a letter signed by Printz’s successor, Johan Rising. ‘This is literally Jon Nielson’s passport,’ McCabe said. The letter asks all who meet him to aid his safe travel, citing his virtues as a tailor in 12 years at New Sweden.’”

“But the letter is mum on his opting to leave. Had he been Printz’s tailor? Did the financial tally give any clues? The biggest unknown, McCabe said, is what became of him. ‘Why is the passport here instead of Sweden? Did he not leave? Did he die? Those are questions we’ve never been able to answer.’”

The Answers

The first error made by the Delaware Public Archives is that the 1653 account is not written in Swedish but rather in Dutch, the language of the New Sweden commissary Hendrick Huygen. He kept meticulous account of the wages due each settler and the amounts charged against that settler for items purchased from either the company store or Governor Printz’s warehouse. He also kept such accounts in Dutch guilders.

Second, they mistook his name. The person’s first name in Swedish was Jöns, which later evolved into Jonas. Huygen generally wrote that name as “Joen.” Further, Jöns’ patronymic was Nilsson (son of Nils), which Huygen spelled as “Nielson.”

The circumstances of the 1653 document were that both the commissary Hendrick Huygen and the governor Johan Printz were on the eve of leaving for Sweden and Jonas Nilsson wanted proof of the money owed to him. After Governor Rising arrived in 1654, Jonas Nilsson was able to secure passage to Sweden to collect the money due him. The passport was necessary to insure his safety on his round-trip. (He was then married to Gertrude Svensdotter, who was pregnant with their first child.) He returned to the Delaware on the Mercurius in 1656 and was one of the first settlers in Kingsessing where he died in 1693.

All of this is summarized in my book, The 1693 Census of the Swedes on the Delaware, published in 1993, a copy of which is in the Delaware Archives, and in my article about Jonas Nilsson and his family for the May 1993 issue of the Swedish Colonial News which is on the Swedish Colonial Society website.

Hendrick Huygen kept a Monatgelderbuch (monthly account book) for all settlers in the colony. There were two volumes. The first volume ended as of 1 March 1648 and was sent to Sweden on the Swan. His second volume began with 1 March 1648 and ended with 1 September 1653. These accounts are preserved in Sweden.

The document at the Delaware Archives is a copy of Jonas Nilsson’s pages in the second volume and show that he was paid 10 guilders a month as a soldier and tailor. As of 1 March 1648, he was owed 258 guilders and 1 styver by the New Sweden Company. In the 66 months from 1 March 1648 to 1 September 1653 he earned an additional 660 guilders, against which he incurred expenses of 412 guilders and 3 styvers, so that the amount owed to him by the New Sweden Company as of 1 September 1653 had increased to 505 guilders and 18 styvers.

Of his purchases over these 66 months, 221 guilders and 1 styver had been billed to him by Governor Printz at his Printzhof warehouse. (There were 20 styvers to a guilder.) Another 191 guilders and 2 styvers had been billed by Hendrick Huygen at the company store. The latter purchases are itemized.

The largest item on Huygen’s bill was 65 guilders for 16? ells of duffel at 4 guilders per ell. The second largest item was 64 guilders for 8 beavers at 8 guilders per skin. These were used for trading. Also used for trading were half-beavers at 4 guilders and an ell of sewant (wampum) at 2 guilders.

From this and other accounts preserved at the Swedish Archives in Stockholm we can determine the prices of other items:

A hat cost 5 guilders. With a ribbon added it cost 5 guilders and 6 styvers. A pair of lisle thread stockings cost 4 guilders, woolen stockings 3 guilders, linen stockings 1 guilder. A pair of shoes cost 3 guilders. An axe cost 1

continued on page 10
guilder and 10 styvers, 50 fish hooks 1 guilder, a knife 9 styvers, a comb 5 styvers, a mirror 4 styvers. A pound of salted meat cost 5 styvers, a pound of dried meat 6 styvers, a pound of bacon 8 styvers, a pound of butter 10 styvers, a bushel of grits 2 guilders, a bushel of peas 3 guilders. A dozen clay pipes cost 10 styvers, a bottle of whiskey 2 guilders.

New Sweden was essentially a barter economy where the currency consisted of beaver skins, half-beaver skins and sewant. To collect real money for one’s services, it was necessary to go to Sweden, which is exactly what Jonas Nilsson did. Most of the settlers in New
Sweden owed money to the New Sweden Company and had no incentive to return.

It would be interesting to know the list of persons who possessed this account and the related passport before they were sold to a Philadelphia antiquarian in the 20th century. They undoubtedly were the cherished possessions of one of Jonas Nilsson’s many descendants. But it is a sheer guess as to which of his 10 children and 68 grandchildren were involved.
The Rambo Family Tree

2nd edition by Beverly Nelson Rambo and Ronald S. Beatty

Nearly all of the Rambo families in the United States are descended from one common ancestor, Peter Gunnarson Rambo, who landed on the shores of the Delaware River in 1640 at what is now Wilmington, Delaware. This 2300-page history of the Rambo family describes Peter and his six children and lists their descendants who can be found in every state of the Union. Some of the family lines have been extended to the 12th generation with their children comprising the 13th generation.

This third volume of the series is the first volume published and describes the children of Gertrude Rambo Bankston, Peter’s second child and eldest daughter. Up through 1850 all the Bankson and Bankston families in the United States are believed to be descended from Gertrude and her husband, Andrew Bankston (spelled Andreas Bengtsson in the Swedish records). Andrew and Gertrude lived in Moyamsing along the Delaware River in present South Philadelphia. Andrew became a large landowner, a church warden, a court justice, and was elected to the Pennsylvania Assembly in 1683. This volume lists all their children and many generations of descendants, although generally no people still living will be recorded herein.

Bankson and Bankston are the primary surnames in this book although extended families are recorded by daughters who married Allen, Crosby, Dyson, Hambrick, Hill, Irvin, Lawrence, Mason, Mozley, Richardson, Ridgely and Robertson husbands.

The other volumes (1, 2, 4, and 5) will become available from the publisher below as they are finished this spring and fall. (Sixty-year-old Ron Beatty is taking a vacation from his genealogical work to hike the entire 2175 miles of the Appalachian Trail this summer.)

Use your credit card to order directly from the “BookStore” on www.authorhouse.com on-line or by telephone (1-888-280-7715) for about $31.60 including shipping and handling. Search for title Rambo. The Rambo Family Tree: Third Volume: Descendants of his daughter, Gertrude Rambo Bankston is a large book in large print, 540 pages at 8.5 inches by 11 inches in a 13-point Times New Roman font.

You can also follow a link on the RamboBook web site at http://members.aol.com/RamboBook to get to the publisher. (This site comes up first when you search for Rambo genealogy.)

After all five volumes are in print, an inexpensive read-only CD will be created containing all the Rambo families in one “book” along with numerous extras. Hopefully the CD will be available by Christmas 2008.

A third edition of this genealogy is being compiled as you read this. Please help to improve this genealogy by sending corrections, additions and improvements to rsbeatty@gmail.com. Be sure to include source citations and documentation when available. With your help, the third edition can be more accurate and more complete.

Thanks again to all the cousins and to everyone else who contributed to this book. Wonderful cousins and new friends have turned this incredible effort into a real pleasure.

Ron Beatty

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FOREFATHER FACTS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>STATES WITH 10 OR MORE MEMBERS</th>
<th>PA 66</th>
<th>NJ 24</th>
<th>DE 20</th>
<th>TX 20</th>
<th>CA 17</th>
<th>MD 17</th>
<th>FL 13</th>
<th>VA 13</th>
<th>NY 11</th>
<th>OH 10</th>
<th>SWEDEN 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

There are 332 Forefather Members of the SCS who descend from 57 identified Forefather families. They are located in 42 states and Sweden. There are no Forefathers noted in AL, AR, HI, ID, MT, NE, VT, or WV.

FOREFATHER FAMILIES W/10 OR MORE DESCENDENT MEMBERS OF THE 57 FAMILIES REPRESENTED

| PETER GUNNARSSON RAMBO 42 | PETER JOCHIMSSON (YOCUM) 30 | SVEN GUNNARSSON (SWANSON) 20 | JÜRGEN KÜHN (KEEN) 18 | OLOF STILLE (STILLEY) 15 | HANS MÅNSSON (STEELMAN) 13 | PETER NILSSON LAICAN (LYKINS) 12 | JONAS NILSSON (JONES) 12 | TIMEN STIDDEM (STIDHAM) 11 | NILS LARSSON FRÄNDE (FRIEND) 10 |
| TOTAL 183 |

The 183 descendent Forefather members from ten families represent 55% of the SCS Forefather members.
List of Current Forefather Members [as of May 2008]

Under the By-laws of the Swedish Colonial Society, Forefather Members are “active members who can prove descent from Swedish colonists in the United States prior to the Treaty of Paris, marking the close of the Revolutionary War, in 1783.”

- Jöns Anderson
  Hans Gustav Ling, Uppsala, Sweden

- Måns Andersson (Mounce)
  Jerry L. Brinberry, Lilburn, GA
  Cindy Creighton, Amarillo, TX
  Sarah Carter Smith Gohery, Colorado City, TX
  Cheryl McMillan, Burbank, CA
  Christina W. Lassen, Greenville, DE
  Barbara Parsons, Oakdale, CA
  Nina J. Strahm, Terre Haute, IN

- Peter Andersson (Longacre)
  Howard Raymond Longacre, Ephrata, PA
  Raymond H. Longacre, Ephrata, PA
  Bickley Ashens Rivera, Land o’ Lakes, FL

- Anders Bengtsson (Bankson)
  Jill M. Abraham, Olney, MD
  Gail S. Bunch, Monroe, LA
  Martha Bankson Lyle, Pace, FL
  Katie L. Pryor, Laurel, MS
  David E. Milam, Toney, AL
  Peggy Carney Trexel, Hillsborough, NC
  Martha Bankston Shershin, Laurel, MS
  Rachel Smith Sykes, Starkville, MS
  Barbara Wescott, Moreno Valley, CA

- Lars Thomasson Bjur (Boore)
  Elizabeth B. Beers, Baltimore, MD
  Elizabeth M. Cecil, Philadelphia, PA
  James W. Marvin, Jr., Wyncote, PA
  Robert F. Marvin, Wynnewood, PA
  Sara Frances Marvin, Wyncote, PA
  William F. Marvin, Philadelphia, PA

- Sinnick Broer (Sinnickson)
  Rebecca Thorne Bowman, Houston, TX
  Olga Sinenx Brigham, Wilton, NH
  Charlotte H. B. Dallett, Taconic, CT
  Michael Sayre Maiden, Jr., Allenhurst, NJ
  Donald Johnson Sinex, Huntington Beach, CA
  Antoinette W. Sorensen, Tacoma, WA
  Judith Arlt Walker, Landenberg, PA

- Olof Matthiasson Isgrå (Caulk)
  Zebulon L. Bowman, M.D., Houston, TX

- Otto Ernest Cock (Cox)
  Janet Robinson Beerits, Alna, ME
  David R. Ross, Bryn Mawr, PA

- Peter Larsson Cock (Cox)
  Emily Samson Tepe, Wilmington, DE
  John B. Tepe, Greenville, DE
  John B. Tepe, Jr., Greenville, DE
  Virginia Wilson Thomas, Durham, NC

- Anders Larsson Dalbo
  Sandra D. Asher, Plate City, MO
  David Roger Dolbow, Murfreesboro, TN
  Alcosa Hogate, Pennsville, NJ
  Joseph E. Hogate, Jr., Longview, TX

- Anders Jonsson Ekoren (Jones)
  William L. Hires, Haverford, PA

- Garret Enochs
  Lester W. Enochs, Terre Haute, IN

- Johan Ericksson
  F. Leif Eareckson, Annapolis, MD

- Nils Larsson Frände (Friend)
  Gary L. Friend, Mount Vernon, WA
  James A. Friend, Edison, NJ
  Mark A. Friend, Arlington, TX
  Richard Friend, Centreville, VA
  Thomas A. Friend, Edison, NJ
  Trissa Haelfling, Chagrin Falls, OH
  Marjorie Jackson, Warren, OH
  Kevin C. Miller, Beaverton, OR
  Delores E. Shade, Frederick, MD
  Glen Allen Swartz, Alexandria, VA

- Marten Gerritsen
  Stephen H. Garrett, Boothwyn, PA

- Johan Grellson (Archer)
  R. Michael Borland, Colora, MD

- Sven Gunnarsson (Swanson)
  Andrew Clayton, Raymond, IL
  Barbara H. Clayton, Raymond, IL
  Dennis J. Cunniff, Cedar Grove, NJ
  Iréncé du Pont, Jr., Montchanin, DE
  Eugenia Eberle, Springfield, IL
  Elise K. Eberle, Albuquerque, NM
  John W. Eberle, Springfield, IL
  Richard P. Eberle, Albuquerque, NM
  Robert M. George, Willow Grove, PA
  Allyson R. Lomax, Sr. Paul, MN
  Audrey R. Lomax, St. Paul, MN
  Emily P. Lomax, St. Paul, MN
  Ruth E. McCullough, Williamsburg, VA
  Charles William Middleton, Norristown, PA
  Philip F. Otto, San Francisco, CA
  Kirsten A. Seager, West Chester, PA
  Shelly L. Seager, West Chester, PA
  W. Andrew Sisson, Somerville, MA
  Barbara Ann Turk, Blanding, UT
  Ann Walz, Naperville, IL

- Johan Gustafsson (Justis)
  Jan Widtfeldt Hawkes, Orem, UT
  Emily Ann Howell, Dallas, TX
  John Walton Justice, Chattanooga, TN
  Virginia Ann Moore, Dallas, TX
  Janet Justice Papke, Sylva, NC
  Anne W. Ream, Provo, UT
  Lori Justice Smith, Shoemakersville, PA
  Steve Widtfeldt, Fort Worth, TX

- Måns Jänsson Halton
  Joyce Stevenson, Mullica Hill, NJ

- Anders Hansson (Hanson)
  Gary L. Ball-Kilbourne, Jamestown, ND

- Matts Hansson (Mattson)
  Lawrence Mattson, Maccadow, NY
  Robert S. Mattson, Vallejo, CA
  Andrea Mattson Posner, Washington, DC

- Israel Åkesson Helm
  Eldon L. Angelo, Puyallup, WA
  Anna E. Bauer, Haddonfield, NJ
  Mary Tomlinson Bauer, Haddonfield, NJ
  Marie Bates Boisvert, West Chester, PA
  Frederick Robeson Miller, Lafayette Hill, PA
  Stephen Robeson Miller, Cambridge, MA
  Elizabeth T. Scholl, Williamstown, NJ
  Martha B. Stredich, Gradyville, PA

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Johan Hendricksson
Ronald Hendricksson, Moorestown, NJ
Patricia Richardson, Fullerton, CA

Johan Hendricksson (Bilderback)
Marlene Dillinger Melching, Decatur, IN

Matthias Claesson Holstein
Barry R. Holstein, Amherst, MA
Perry F. Holstein, Raleigh, NC
Harrison G. Moore, IV, Houston, TX

Hans Hopman (Hoffman)
Creston F. Laager, IV, Albany, NY

Peter Jochimsson (Yocum)
Gerald H. Barr, Warminster, PA
Helene Yocum Basile, Berwick, PA
Lois Berry, St. George, UT
Y. Bernita Bundy, Barnesville, OH
Peter S. Craig, Washington, DC
Virginia Yocum Fraser, Seal Beach, CA
Joan Paver Gleibs, Plano, TX
David L. Greth, Columbus, OH
June Yocum Greth, Shillington, PA
James Jeffrey Hepler, Middletown, DE
Louana G. Johnson, Dulduth, MN
Ellen Ohnmacht, North River, NY
Doris E. Parsons, San Jacinto, CA
Dorothy Lee Smith, Surprise, AZ
William Clark Snyder, Binghamton, NY
Darryl Stroup, Great Mills, MD
Beverly Walker, Glenside, PA
Ralph H. Walker, Mansfield, TX
Katherine Williams, Seminole, OK
David H. Yocum, Boalsburg, PA
Frederick W. Yocum, Jr., Brewer, ME
Harold A. Yocum, Edmond, OK
Howard C. Yocum, Aston, PA
James Allan Yocum, Blue Bell, PA
James R. Yocum, Tacoma, WA
James S. Yocum, Mapleton, PA
John F. Yocum, Jr., Henderson, NV
Keith C. Yocum, Middletown, DE
Keith C. Yocum, Jr., Middletown, DE
Lauren E. Yocum, Middletown, DE

Anders Jöransson (Anderson)
Nicki F. Haas-Kovalcik, Penn, PA
Barbara T. Harrell, San Antonio, TX
Keli A. Kovalcik-Spiegel, Jeannette, PA

Clement Jöransson
Louise Powell Dobbs, Calhoun, GA
Reva Dillard Powell, Calhoun, GA

Jürgen Kühn (Keen)
Bonnie Hillman, Seattle, WA
Dawn A. Hillman, Los Angeles, CA
Heather L. Hillman, Laguna Beach, CA
Kendra Jean Hillman, Brooklyn, NY
Tatnall Lee Hillman, Aspen, CO
Paul J. Holsen, Fort Myers, FL
Robert C. Jackle, Westminster, MD
George M. Jenkins, Radnor, PA
William R. Johnson, Plymouth, MN
Gordon L. Keen, Jr., Stroud, PA
Stuart Craig Keen, Jr., Venice, FL
Patricia T. Marshall, Milford, DE
Joseph J. Pepe, Clayton, NC
Margaret Scott, Devon, PA
Susan Thompson, Ft. Washington, PA
William Thompson, Ft. Washington, PA
Dortha Watkin, Marble Falls, TX
Eleanor K. Williams, Berwyn, PA

Peter Nilsson Laican (Lykins)
Maria F. Barr, Peachtree City, GA
Elizabeth S. Farwell, La Canada, CA
John J. Foley, III, Baltimore, MD
Alexander P. Hartnett, Moorestown, NJ
John Kent Kane, II, Yorktown, VA
Peter Bayard Kane, Cazenovia, NY
Andrew R. Lykins, Colorado Springs, CO
Bobby G. Lykins, Manchester, TN
Frances Snyder Ramirez, Tampa, FL
Bonnie Ray Reeves, Independence, VA
Audrey Ligget Snyder, Tampa, FL
Joan Ligget Snyder, Tampa, FL
Benjamin Patterson Wheat, Arlington, VA
J. Marc Wheat, Arlington, VA
Laura Elizabeth Wheat, Arlington, VA

Paul Larsson Corvhorn (Paulson)
William B. Neal, Claymont, DE

Marcus Laurensen (Hulings)
Carla V. Chamberlain, Schellsburg, PA
Virginia Hulings Hill, Oakmont, PA

Lars Carlsson Lock
Matthew Lee Grannell, Lancaster, PA
Barbara Locke Powers, Conowingo, MD
Susan Winters, West Palm Beach, FL

Mäns Svensson Lom
Leigh David Abraham, Barton, MD
Kay Jordan Campbell, Lawrenceville, KS
James Edwards Garrett, Jr., Pegram, TN
Gary Jordan, Täby, Sweden
Anne L. Kerr, Marlton, NJ

Nils Mattson
John R. Daggan, Staten Island, NY

Hans Månsson (Steelman
Eugene Bocelli, Mt. Laurel, NJ
Gloria R. Hoppe, Big Sandy, TX
Joann Klonz, Swedesboro, NJ
Emma Matthews, Hamilton, NJ
Shirley Ann Schmidt, Bordentown, NJ
Earl G. Stannard, III, Audubon, NJ
James F. Steelman, Mays Landing, NJ
Jeffrey B. Steelman, Boothwyn, PA
Robert B. Steelman, Bridgeton, NJ
Robert H. Steelman, New York, NY
William D. Steelman, Moraga, CA
Rushton D. White, Williamsburg, VA
William G. White, Deptford, NJ

Knut Mårtensson (Morton)
William R. Stevenson, Vero Beach, FL

Marten Mårtensson (Morton)
Charles M. Allmond, III, Wilmington, DE
Valley G. Francis, Syracuse, NY
Theodore J. Hazlett, Jr., Wilmington, DE
Mildred Meredith, Bloomfield, IN
Richard Morton, West Chester, PA
Donald C. Ward, Sr., Boyerstown, PA
William Ward IV, Toughkenamon, PA

Pal Jonsson Mullica (Poulsen)
Morgan D. Pope, Hillsboro, OR
Barbara Jean Poulsen Hines, Uhrichsville, OH
Ralph E. Poulsen, Jr., Powell, OH

Jonas Nilsson (Jones)
Martha Ducecher, McClean, VA
Carol Harmon, Traverse City, MI
Doris S. Hopkins, Duvall Island, SC
Carol B. Kehler, Broomall, PA
Elizabeth A. McFarland, Haverford, PA
Esther Ann McFarland, Haverford, PA
George McFarland, Jr., Haverford, PA
George McFarland III, Haverford, PA
Megan D. McFarland, Haverford, PA
Larry W. Penwell, Arlington, VA
John G. Taylor, Jr., Wallington, PA
Joan M. Young, Somerdale, NJ

Hans Ollesson
Stuart Henri Yost, Philadelphia, PA

Samuel Petersson (Peterson)
C. Matthew Peterson, Bountiful, UT
Rev. Andreas Rudman
Katharine A. E. Campbell, Malvern, PA

Johan Thorsson Scooggin
John W. Gareis, Lancaster, PA

Sven Skute
Julie Jensen Bryan, Philadelphia, PA
John J. Hagan, Lawrenceville, NJ
Ellen Thorson, Annapolis, MD

Charles Springer
Annabel C. Audet, Sacramento, CA
Alice C. Byrnes, Green Bay, WI
Eileen D. O’Brien, Baltimore, MD
E. William Ross, Villanova, PA
Gary E. Young, Centreville, MD

Mans Petersson Stake (Peterson)
Kenneth S. Peterson, Levittown, PA
Robert P. Peterson, Mullica Hill, NJ

John Andersson Stalcop
Richard S. Baskas, Tampa, FL
Carrie Sween Reynolds, Greenwich, CT
Janet S. Rontz, Albuquerque, NM
Branden Alexander Sween, Hockessin, DE
Carliise Sween, Elkton, MD
Christopher Kevin Sween, Lexington, MN
Janice M. Sneed, Meadowview, VA
Larry S. Stallcup, Virginia Beach, VA

Tinen Stiddem (Stidham)
Frances O. Allmond, Wilmington, DE
Mary E. Casseday, Lewes, DE
Harold Douglas Ford,
Stone Mountain, GA
Noria I. Gerg, Colorado Springs, CO
Florence Oleta Hodge, Sherman, TX
Frances H. Lewis, Deland, FL
Margaret R. Nesbitt, Mesa, AZ
Lynn Turner Shea, Louisville, KY
Linda Singleton, Noblesville, IN
Richard L. Steadham, San Diego, CA
Jack Stidham, Morristown, TN
William O. Stidham, Washington, MI
Walter D. Stock, Laurel Springs, NJ
John William West, La Plata, MD

Olof Stille (Stilley)
Margaret Sooy Bridwell, Berwyn, PA
Ruthellen Davis, Newtown Square, PA
Nancy B. Foster, Cincinnati, OH
Jan LeMoyn Hedges, Castle Rock, WA
Denis P. Higgenbotham, Fairhope, AL

Robert F. Higgenbotham, Fairhope, AL
Mildred W. Hollander, Ames, IA
James A. Kimble, Holland, OH
Timothy W. Lockley, New Castle, PA
Ronald Stuart Steelman, San Clemente, CA
Jill W. Van Hone, Horse Shoe, NC
Sandra G. Van Amberg,
West Chester, PA
Adelaide Weidknecht, Manahawkin, NJ
Kim-Eric Williams, West Chester, PA
Marjorie E. Williams, West Chester, PA

Christina, mother of Elias Johnsson Toy
James W. Toy, Lawton, OK

Walraven Jansen de Vos
Frank Walraven, Indianapolis, IN

Johan Van Culin (Culin)
Christopher Cameron, Malvern, PA
John C. Cameron, Malvern, PA
Meghan Cameron, Malvern, PA
Walter C. Culin, Burlington, NC
Harvey J. von Culin, Blue Bell, PA
W. Warren von Uffel, Ellicott City, MD

Jacob & Catherine Van der Veer
(Vandever)
Felicia P. Stidham, Washington, DC

Doriney Seagers resides in
West Chester, Pennsylvania,
and has received the design-
ation of Fellow of the
Swedish Colonial Society.
She has been serving as
Registrar for the Swedish
Colonial Society. She is
presently on the Board of
Governors for the American
Swedish Historical Museum,
and other Swedish organizations.
Landing Day
begins with service at
Holy Trinity (Old Swedes)


In his homily, Rev. Hutchinson cited the doubting Apostle Thomas’ response to feeling Jesus’ wounds, “My Lord, My God,” as the Bible’s greatest expression of faith. He stated further, “It is the kind of faith that brought the Swedes to this new land, to Wilmington. It is this kind of faith that will sustain us into the future.”

Following the Service at Holy Trinity (Old Swedes), the crowd gathered in Fort Christina Park, where a wreath was laid at the base of the Milles Monument and congratulatory citations were read from city, county, state, and Swedish Embassy officials, honoring those Swedes and Finns who established the colony of New Sweden 370 years ago – the first permanent European settlers in the Delaware Valley. Note the Kalmar Nyckel in the background.
Following the wreath laying ceremony, members of both the Swedish Colonial Society and Delaware Swedish Colonial Society and their guests adjourned to the Wilmington Country Club for the traditional Forefathers Luncheon. The beautiful affair was the result of many members’ help and participation, but special thanks go to these three ladies: Frances Allmond, Mary McCoy and Sandra Pfaff.

The delicious meal was followed by enjoyable table visitations, violin (fiddle) concert, guest recognition, address by Maj. Gen. Wäldemarsson and awards.
LIFE MEMBER
Eugene Bocelli and Family, Mt. Laurel, New Jersey
Edwin S. Rambo, Ringgold, Georgia
Rolf Sandels, Stockholm, Sweden

FAMILY MEMBERS
Rikard and Lea Edström, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Roy R. and Donna Johnson, Ambler, Pennsylvania
Leif and Margot Lundquist, Vaxholm, Sweden

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS
Edith Harris Brunia, Norwalk, Iowa
Joan Paver Gleibs, Plano, Texas
James K. Jeffrey, Denver, Colorado
Frederick Robeson Miller, Lafayette Hill, Pennsylvania
Gwen L. Morgan, Alexandria, Virginia

NEW FOREFAETHER MEMBERS
Active members of the Swedish Colonial Society may apply for recognition as “Forefather Members” if they can prove descent from Swedish colonists arriving in the United States prior to the Treaty of Paris, marking the close of the Revolutionary War, in 1783. Application forms may be obtained from the SCS website www.ColonialSwedes.org or from Dr. Peter S. Craig, 3406 Macomb Street, NW, Washington, DC 20016

Joan Paver Gleibs, Plano, Texas, descended from Peter Jochimsson through his son, Peter Petersson Yocum, and his son, Andrew Yocum, of Aronameck in Kingsessing in present West Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Timothy W. Lockley, New Castle, Pennsylvania, descended from Olof Stille through his daughter, Ella, who married Hans Månsson, and their son, James Hanson Steelman, of Great Egg Harbor, New Jersey.

Frederick Robeson Miller, Lafayette Hill, Pennsylvania, descended from Israel Åkesson Helm through his daughter, Maria, who married Andrew Robeson, and their son, Jonathan Robeson, of Upper Dublin Township, Philadelphia.

Rolf Sandels, Stockholm, Sweden, descended from Peter Gunnarsson Rambo and Brita Mattsdotter through their daughter, Catharine Rambo, who married Peter Mattsson and their daughter, Maria Mattsson, who married Andreas Sandel (Gloria Dei’s pastor 1702-1719) of Philadelphia and Hedemora, Sweden.

Frank Walraven, Indianapolis, Indiana, descended from Walraven Jansen de Vos and Christina Ollesdotter through their son, Hendrick Walraven, and his son, Peter Walraven, of St. Georges Hundred, New Castle County, Delaware.

NEW MEMBERS
Doriney Seagers

Max Dooley New Editor

Max Dooley accepted the duties of Editor of the Swedish Colonial News with this Spring 2008 issue. Max considers himself Swedish by “association,” having been a long time parishioner of Trinity Episcopal Parish, and worshiping at Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church. He recently retired as president of the Old Swedes Foundation, but continues as a Board member. He is also a Swedish Colonial Society Councillor, and Delaware Swedish Colonial Society member.

Max, from the small west Texas town of Ranger, is a graduate of the University of Texas College of Pharmacy, where he met his wife. His professional career was in hospital pharmacy, which brought him to Delaware as corporate director of pharmacy and the opening of Christiana Hospital.

Three of five Dooley children have been married in Holy Trinity and one granddaughter was baptized there. Those family ties plus his keen interest in New Sweden Colony events and the role the Church has played in state and national history have kept him busy in his “retirement.”

He looks forward to this new editorial challenge and seeks your ideas, comments and support.
In Memoriam

Anders J. Ericson


Anders was a well-educated man who loved people, the outdoors, good food and challenges. He left behind his loving wife Ann-Cathrine Wasmuth Ericson and two beautiful daughters, Hannah and Isabelle, as well as his favorite playmate, Smilla, the bouncy black dog that took him for walks around Washington and the local parks.

John C. Warner

John C. Warner, age 98, died January 21, 2008, at his home in Pennsville, NJ. The son of the late John A. & Caroline May (Sinnickson) Warner, he was a graduate of Salem High School and received a B.S. in electrical engineering from Drexel University. John retired as an engineer from DuPont Chambers Works in 1975 after 42 years of service.

John was appointed by the Governor of New Jersey a public member of the New Sweden Commemorative Commission with responsibility to plan, promote and coordinate in 1988 the 350th anniversary of the arrival of the Swedes in America. He was a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, the Wheaton Village Glass Club where he collected paper weights, and he was instrumental in publishing All This and Something More, the multicultural autobiography of Rachel Davis DuBois.
SCS Centennial Weekend Planned for October 2009

“The Swedish Colonial Society will observe its 100th Anniversary during 2009 with a celebration of the 371 years of history, heritage and culture that are the foundation for the bonds between Sweden and America in the 21st century,” according to Governor Kim-Eric Williams.

There will be events throughout the observance, but highlight of the year will be a four-day Centennial Weekend, October 22-25, 2009, when members of the Society and friends are invited to Philadelphia for activities including a special Centennial Concert of classical Swedish music by the world famous Philadelphia Chamber Orchestra; private escorted motor coach travel with VIP motorcade for official events in Wilmington, Delaware and Swedesboro, New Jersey; a visit to the American Swedish Historical Museum for the Spirit of Wallenberg presentation; private tour of the exhibit *New Sweden in the 21st Century* and premiere of the accompanying picture book of the same title; Holy Eucharist at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes) Church and gala Centennial Dinner at the Union League. There will be organized and self-guided tours of historic sights in Philadelphia and New Sweden area. All events and the schedule are tentative until finalized with Stockholm.

“The Society is developing a complete package with hotel accommodations at the Marriott Renaissance Philadelphia Hotel Airport (AAA rated four diamonds) at a special room rate of $130.00 per night plus tax, with free on-site parking and free airport shuttle. SCS members and friends can participate in all or some of the Centennial events,” according to Junior Deputy Governor, Margaret S. Bridwell, chairperson of the Centennial Members Arrangement Committee.

In celebration of the Society’s Centennial, the Swedish Council of America is expected to host its bi-annual “Conference on Swedish America” in Philadelphia, October 22-24, 2009 and the SCA’s national board of directors will also be in town for the weekend. SCA is the umbrella organization for nearly 400 Swedish-American organizations throughout the United States and Canada.

Governor Williams noted, “SCS Centennial Weekend is a once-in-a-lifetime experience and we are expecting SCA members and their friends to come “home” from all parts of America, Canada and Sweden.” For inquiries, please contact herbertrambo@colonialswedes.org.