



Swedish Colonial News

Volume 3, Number 5

Fall/Winter 2006

Preserving the legacy of the Royal New Sweden Colony in America

House of Sweden Opens New Embassy of Sweden is a Washington Landmark



Ola Salo, lead singer of the Swedish rock band "The Ark," performs during the opening of the House of Sweden.

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A large crowd was on hand to inaugurate Sweden's new home in America, the House of Sweden. "House of Sweden is much more than an embassy. It is a place for Sweden and Europe to meet America to exchange ideas and promote dialogue. This gives us a great opportunity to carry on public diplomacy and project our modern and dynamic Sweden," said Gunnar Lund, Sweden's Ambassador to the United States. The King and Queen

of Sweden and many other dignitaries were on hand for the opening ceremonies. With a K Street location on Washington Harbor, Sweden has one of the best addresses in Washington, DC. House of Sweden emanates a warm Nordic glow from its backlit glass facade with patterns of pressed wood. It is a beacon of openness, transparency and hope to the future.

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Nils Andersson and His Lykins Descendants

The freeman Nils Andersson, his wife and at least four children were aboard the Eagle when that ship left Gothenburg for New Sweden on the 2nd of February 1654. From the burial records of two surviving daughters, we learn that he came from Nya Kopparberget in Ljusnarsberg parish, Örebro län, Sweden.

Nils Andersson may never have seen the new land. He probably was one of many who died at sea. When the new freemen were gathered at Tinicum Island to sign pledges of allegiance to Governor Johan Risingh, Nils Andersson's widow signed for the family.

The widow (name unknown) soon remarried. Her second husband was Mats Hansson from Borgå, Finland, one of the leading freemen of the colony who had arrived in New Sweden in 1641 and served on Governor Risingh's council.

In order to provide a home for his new family, Mats Hansson became the first settler on Minquas Island, an island to the north of Tinicum Island, later surveyed as 468 acres. By 1660, Mats Hansson had given half of this island to his new son-in-law, Anders Svensson Bonde, who had married Anna Nilsson. The island would later bear his name and became known as Boon's Island. On 18 May 1663, Governor Petrus Stuyvesant granted patents to Mats Hansson and Anders Svensson Bonde for their halves of Minquas Island.

After the surrender of New Sweden to the Dutch in 1655, Mats Hansson from Borgå became one of the justices of the Upland Court and served in that capacity until at least 1663. Upon his death, his remaining half of Minquas Island went to his second son-in-law, Otto Ernest Cock, who received an English patent confirming his ownership on 7 May 1672.

The two youngest children of Nils Andersson were Peter Nilsson and Michel Nilsson. They ultimately settled in the woods of Shackamaxon and adopted the surname of Lyckan, meaning "a glen or clearing in the woods," which was descriptive of their plantations. Neither Peter nor Michel could write. They signed documents with a "P" or an "M." Among literate Swedes their surname was spelled Laijkan, Laican, Leikan and Laikan. In deeds and wills, the English scribes used the spelling of Lakian, Lykell, Lyckan, Lykan, Likin, Lycon, Loykan, Laycon, Leycon and Laicon. Their descendants also have similar variations to the surname.

The four known children of Nils Andersson from Nya Kopparberget are:

1. **Anna Nilsson**, born in Nya Kopparberget about 1637, married Anders Svensson Bonde c. 1657 and lived her entire adult life on Minquas (later Boon's Island), where she died in 1713. She had ten children – Sven, Peter, Hans,

Catharina, Nils, Olle, Margareta, Brigitta, Anders and Ambora. (See "Anders Svensson Bonde and His Boon Family," *Swedish Colonial News*, Vol. 1, No. 14, Fall 1996).

2. **Christina Nilsson**, born in Nya Kopparberget c. 1639, married **Otto Ernest Cock** [originally spelled Koch], a Holsteiner, c. 1670, who was given half of Boon's (former Minquas) Island. She died there in 1709. Her husband served as a justice on the Upland Court, 1671-1683, and also was a warden of the log church at Wicaco. He died in 1720. Christina, who was buried 3 July 1709, had three children who lived to adulthood and married:

> **Valentine Cock**, born c. 1672, was married in 1697 to Margaret Swanson, daughter of Anders and Anna Svensson. After her death, he married 2nd Elisabeth, widow of Christiern Jöransson of the Wilmington congregation. He died at Boon's Island in 1725, survived by four known sons: Andrew Cock, born c. 1700, married Catharina Hoffman, widow of Andrew Rambo of NJ, and died in 1770 at Boon's Island; Otto Cock, born c. 1704, married Maria Lock and died at Repaupo Creek in New Jersey by 1750; Gunnar Cock, born c. 1708, married Christina Hendrickson in 1734 and died in Gloucester County NJ in 1759; Peter Cock, born c. 1710, married Beata Lock and died in Gloucester County NJ c. 1760.

> **Zacharias Cock**, born in 1674, married Christina Stille, daughter of John and Gertrude Stille, on 24 Jan. 1705. His father gave him a 210-acre plantation on the east side of Cobb's Creek in Kingsessing, which remained his home until his death in 1740. He had two sons: John, who died unmarried, and Arthur (Otto), the eldest, who had sons William and Zacharias.

> **Elizabeth Cock**, born c. 1676, married Matthias Nitzilius by 1696. The couple were granted land on Cobb's Creek by her father, which they thought to be 200 acres, but the Quaker government granted 100 acres of it to Richard Tucker, which was the cause of considerable protest among the Swedes. Elisabeth predeceased her husband, who died in 1724, survived by Christina, who married Conrad Niedermark; Otto (a.k.a. Arthur) who married widow Maria Lenderman [Swedish]; Catharina; Maria; Elisabeth who married Daniel Van Culin; Dorothy; and Margaret.

3. **Peter Nilsson Lyckan**, probably born in Nya Kopparberget c. 1641, was married by estimation in 1663. In 1671 he lived with his young family on the Printztorp plantation, owned by Armegard Printz at the mouth of Upland Creek. Within a few years, Peter had moved with his brother Michel and Gunnar Rambo to Shackamaxon. Ultimately, in 1691, he received a patent for this land, 468½ acres.

Peter Lyckan also acquired 200 acres nearby which he called "Poor Island." He wrote his will on 21 January

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Colonial Records of the Swedish Churches in Pennsylvania

The Swedish Colonial Society is proud to announce the published release of the first two volumes of the highly anticipated “Colonial Records of the Swedish Churches in Pennsylvania.” Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig and Dr. Kim-Eric Williams, are the Editor and Assistant Editor, respectively, of this publication series. Volume 1 is entitled “The Log Churches at Tinicum Island and Wicaco 1646-1696,” and Volume 2 is entitled “The Rudman Years 1697-1702.”

The release of these publications marks a significant milestone in arduous efforts that extended over a decade. The genesis of this undertaking occurred in 1995, when the then Pastor of Gloria Dei Church, Reverend David Rivers shared with Swedish Colonial Society Historian Dr. Peter S. Craig, the historic records of Gloria Dei Church that were handwritten in Swedish and bound in 1905. These church records appeared to be a treasure trove of information not only in regards to Gloria Dei, but also concerning New Sweden and colonial America. The original plan was to have the effort completed in the year 2000 in recognition of the Tercentenary celebration of the founding of Gloria Dei. Funds were raised by generous donations allowing for the work to commence shortly thereafter.

As the project progressed, a number of parties, both in the United States and in Sweden became involved. Of special note was the contribution of professors Stellan Dahlgren and Hans Norman of the History Department at Uppsala University. Their proficient research into Swedish archives produced additional imperative material that more than doubled the original scope of the project. Information from other collections also came to light at this time further broadening the range of the effort. Professor Gunlog Für of Vaxjö University was of particular assistance in helping to translate material in Sweden.

The translation effort was extremely fortunate to have the active participation of Assistant Editor Dr. Kim Eric Williams. An intricate explanation of translation nuances is too detailed for this report, but suffice to say the translation work was challenging and tedious. Not only Swedish, but Latin and at times, even Lenape, had to be translated into English. The 17th century Swedish language is also almost incomparable to modern day Swedish. Different letters, word meanings, phrasing, etc., were all part of the challenge of the translation work. Deciphering hand written script, often times over 350 years old, from various authors, whose literacy levels varied greatly, on paper that was often tattered or damaged all contributed to painstakingly slow progress on translation tasks. A knowledge of the culture of the Church of Sweden was also essential to understanding a source author’s context, direction and intent of his writings. A niche skill, within a niche skill, within a niche skill, was the kind of talent that was needed to do this unique work, and Reverend Kim-Eric Williams was the ideal person to accomplish it.

After all source material was compiled, and translation work completed, organizing this vast volume of text in an informative and readable form was the job of Editor Dr. Peter S. Craig. An



account on editing passages such as these is also too intricate for this report, but it should be known that this task was also a cumbersome one. Footnoting, footnote referencing, indexing, establishing an organizational continuity, removing repetitive material, all while trying to be as authentic to the original authors as possible, were all a part of editing the extensive source material.

At this juncture, the “Colonial Records of the Swedish Churches in Pennsylvania” is estimated to be at least six volumes. This series is not only important for an understanding of the New Sweden colony and the Swedish churches and clergy who served the colonists, but it is an important historical reference source for those who wish to study the origins of European settlement in America. See page 20 for information on how to order Volumes 1 and 2.



1691/2, naming his brother Michel and his brother-in-law Otto Ernest Cock as executors. The will left 180 acres apiece to his two unmarried sons and £20 apiece to his three unmarried daughters when they reached the age of 21. He died at Shackamaxon shortly thereafter. The name of his wife has not yet been discovered.

Peter's surviving children were:

> **Nils Laican**, born c. 1664, married Maria Gästenberg c. 1687. She was a daughter of Olle Nilsson alias Gästenberg. During his father's lifetime he had been given 300 acres, including "Poor Island." In 1711 he also purchased a corn grist mill on Red Clay Creek in New Castle County, 294 acres, half of which he gave to his daughter Christina after she married Justa Justis, Jr., of Kingsessing, and the other half of which was sold after his death to his daughter Brita when she married John Seeds of New Castle County. Nils Laican was an active member of Gloria Dei until his death on 4 December 1721. He was survived by seven daughters: Christina, who married Justa Justis, Jr.; Gertrude, who married Edward Hatfield in 1714; Anna, who married John Rambo, Jr., son of John Rambo and Brigitta Cock of Gloucester County, NJ; Elisabeth, who married (1) Fred Geörge by 1718 and (2) Måns Jonasson Keen in 1722; Brita, who married (1) John Seeds in 1722 and (2) Thomas Milner; Susannah (not traced); and Maria, who married Hans Ericsson Keen.

> **Anders Laican**, born c. 1666, was married by 1695 to Anna [parents not identified]. In 1699 he sold his land at Shackamaxon and moved to Matsunk (Swedesford) on the Schuylkill on land that he rented from Måns Cock. By 1709 he had moved upriver to Manatawney (present Douglassville) to share land owned by his brother-in-law Måns Jones. He bought this land in 1721. He sold the same to his son-in-law Benjamin Boone in 1733. He died at Manatawney before 1740, survived by his wife Anna. They had one son, Peter Lycon, born c. 1706, who married Sarah Jones, daughter of Jonas Jones and Anne Seymour of Kingsessing and became the progenitor of the Lykins families of present West Virginia. They also had daughters Christina, who married Israel Robeson, a grandson of Israel Helm; Brita, who married pastor Samuel Hesselius; Anna, who never married but had a daughter; Susanna, who married the Quaker Benjamin Boone; Maria, who married Anders Ringberg, an immigrant from Sweden; and Phoebe, who married John Jones, son of Jonas Jones and Anne Seymour of Kingsessing.

> **Hans Laican**, born in 1668, married Gertrude Johansdotter, daughter of Johan Classon c. 1695. In 1697, he sold his land at Shackamaxon and acquired 160 acres at Pennypack in Lower Dublin Township, Philadelphia, which remained his home until his death on 19 September 1751. The land was then sold to pay off the mortgage. He had five sons and two known daughters. John Lycan, the eldest,

married Elizabeth (surname unknown) and moved to Burlington County; the last report on him was the fact that he escaped from the Burlington County jail in March 1742. Peter Lycan, born in 1699, married Brita Jones in 1719, and lived for several years in Moorland township, Philadelphia, before moving to Frederick County, Virginia, where he died in 1753. Hans Lycan, Jr., remained at Pennypack and was twice married, dying in 1761. Nicholas Lycan remained with his father until the home plantation was sold and then moved to Burlington County, NJ, where he died in 1766. Andrew Lycan, the youngest son, married Jane Cahoon at Christ Church in 1730 and then moved to the Pennsylvania frontier, where he was killed by Indians in Lykens Valley, Fermanagh township, Cumberland County in 1756.

> **Ingeborg Laican**, born c. 1670 married Måns Jonasson [Mounce Jones], son of Jonas Nilsson, about 1690. The couple became the first Swedish settlers at Manatawney (Douglassville) in Berks County. Their children included: Margaret, born 1691, who married Marcus Huling; Peter, born 1693, who married Elisabeth [parents unknown]; Christina, born 1696; Jonas, born 1698, who married Maria Knecht; Andrew, born c. 1700, who married Dorothy Goucher; and Magdalena, who married Andrew Bird.

> Three other daughters, all unmarried, were also mentioned in Peter Laican's will: **Anna**, **Mallee [Magdalena]** and **Brita**. They have not been traced.

4. **Michel Nilsson Laican**, born c. 1644 in Sweden, married Helena Lom in 1670. She was the daughter of Måns Svensson Lom and step-daughter of Lars Andersson Collinus of Moyamensing. Michel moved with his brother Peter to Shackamaxon, which remained his home until 1699, when he sold his lands and moved to a plantation on Woodbury Creek in Gloucester County. Although he had been named a church warden at Gloria Dei Church in 1701, he was instrumental in establishing the new Swedish church on Raccoon Creek in 1702. He was buried on 17 April 1704. He was survived by ten children:

> **Catharina Laican**, born 1671, married Laurence Huling of Gloucester County NJ c. 1695. They had two children before Lawrence's death in 1700: Laurence Huling, Jr. (1697-1748), who married Diana Helm and remained in New Jersey, and Michael Huling (1699-1781) who married twice and became a successful shipwright in Philadelphia.

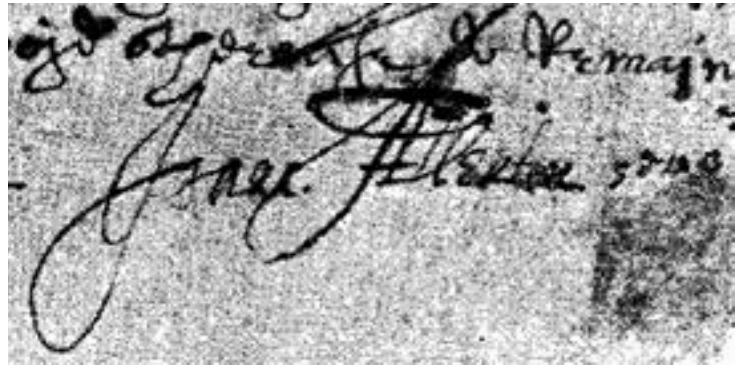
> **Anna Laican**, born 21 Aug. 1673, married John Gunnarsson Rambo c. 1695. They moved to Matsunk (Swedesford) in Upper Merion Township with his father, Gunnar Rambo. She died by 1725 after bearing seven children: Peter, Måns, Gabriel, Michael, Anna, Helena and Ezekiel. Her husband remarried, had four additional children and died in Upper Merion in February 1746.

(continued next page)

Through a Pilgrim's Eyes Isaac Allerton and New Sweden

During the 1640s and 1650s, an extraordinary mariner, merchant, and diplomat – Mayflower passenger Isaac Allerton – linked the New Sweden colony to the dynamic, mercurial trans-Atlantic trade of the mid-seventeenth century. He purchased beaver pelts from the Swedes and Finns along the Delaware; kept those colonists supplied with food, tools, and clothing in times of scarcity; served as an English observer to a special court called by Governor Johan Printz (the first international tribunal in North America); shipped tobacco to Sweden; and hosted a “summit conference” between officials of the New Sweden and New Haven colonies in a successful effort to avert a war between the New England and Swedish colonies. Allerton’s fortunes rose and fell with those of New Sweden, so his story reveals much about the colony’s brief but tumultuous history.

A little background information will show how Allerton came to work closely with Swedes, Finns, the Dutch, the English, the French, and Native Americans. His life began in Suffolk, a county on England’s North Sea coast, in 1586, according to a deposition of September 26, 1639 and a July 9, 1651 treaty signed by New Netherland Director-General Petrus Stuyvesant and five Native American chiefs living along the Delaware River. A Dutch record of Allerton’s betrothal from Leiden, Holland, dated November 4, 1611, referred to him as a “young man of London,” where he had worked as a tailor. Allerton took up the tailor’s trade when he moved to the Netherlands; a Leiden affidavit of June 18, 1618 described a sumptuous cloak he made for Nicholas Claverly, an English manufacturer of clay tobacco pipes – which also identifies Allerton’s first known involvement with the tobacco trade, a trade he would later ply in New Sweden. The years Allerton spent in



WITH PERMISSION FROM DREW BARTLEY

The signature of Isaac Allerton, Sr. on a bond he signed on November 27, 1653. He signed this bond during the First Anglo-Dutch War, when Massachusetts Bay Colony authorities compelled him to post a 200 Pound bond that he stood to forfeit if he was discovered smuggling banned goods from Boston to the Dutch in New Netherland, or to the French. Nothing in this bond barred him from trading with the Swedes, however.

Leiden – roughly 1609 to 1620 – must have brought him into contact with Swedish, German, and Baltic merchants, soldiers, and sailors. On November 13, 1621, Allerton’s sister Sarah married a man from the Baltic coast, Godbert Godbertson (or Godbertsen), at a time when Sweden dominated the Baltic.

While acting as First Assistant to New Plimouth Governor William Bradford during the first eleven years of the colony, Allerton crossed the Atlantic on at least four occasions (perhaps more), secured land for New Plimouth along the Kennebeck River in Maine, renegotiated colonial debt with London merchants, transported additional Separatist

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FOREFATHERS from page 4

> **Gertrude Laican**, born 16 Dec. 1675, married Peter Ericsson Cock c. 1702 and died in Gloucester County c. 1721, survived by seven children: Emanuel, Catharina, Helena, Anna, Maria, Peter and Måns. Her husband remarried, had five more children and died in Gloucester County in July 1747.

> **Nils Laican**, born 20 Feb. 1677, married Susannah Casparsdotter Fish at Gloria Dei Church on 11 November 1702. He died as Nicholas Lycon in Deptford Township, Gloucester County, NJ, in March 1733. He had no surviving children.

> **Måns Laican**, born 10 March 1679, married Maria Jones, daughter of John Jones and Catharina Lock, c. 1720. They had daughters Catharina and Helena before he died in Deptford Township in January 1728.

> **Anders Laican**, born 11 March 1682, never married. He died as Andrew Lycon in Deptford Township in March 1733.

> **Christina Laican**, born 15 Feb. 1684, married Elias Casparsson Fish by 1703. They lived in Upper Greenwich Township, Gloucester County. She was

bearing children as late as January 1727. It is not known when she died, but it appears that she and several of her children died in the smallpox epidemic of 1728.

> **Michael Laican**, born 11 Oct. 1686, married Annicka Fredricksdotter Hoffman c. 1709. They had at least ten children, including three sons who survived childhood: Michael, Frederick and Ezekiel. The father disappears from recorded history after 1740. Frederick (1715-1770) moved back across the Delaware to live at Calcon Hook in Lower Darby Township.

> **Helena Laican**, born 29 Dec. 1689, married Casper Fish, Jr., of Waterford Township, Gloucester County. She predeceased her husband, whose will of 21 October 1748 named sons Michael, John, Isaac and Elias and daughters Rebecca, Mary and Helena.

> **Zacharias Laican**, born 26 Dec. 1696, never married. He died in Deptford Township at the end of March 1733.



Colonial

A number of 17th century colonial sailing vessels docked in New Sweden recently. Our English friends navigated the *Godspeed* from their Virginia colony, our Dutch brethren sailed *de Halve Maen* from New Netherland, and our own *Kalmar Nyckel* spent time in port; all exchanging goods and goodwill.....



Clockwise from top left: 1) A cabin boy prepares food at the stove below deck on de Halve Maen. 2) The Kalmar Nyckel docked at Fort Christina. 3) A Gunner below deck on de Halve Maen. 4&5) Stern views of the Kalmar Nyckel and de Halve Maen.

Mari-times



Clockwise from left: 1) *de Halve Maen* anchored on the Minquas Kill in front of Fort Christina. 2) The *Godspeed* docked on the South River at Wicaco. 3) The open deck of the *Godspeed*. 4) An English sailor inspecting rope on the *Godspeed*.

....On the 1st of November we set sail from the Gothenburg castle at 12 o'clock and came on the 14th to the Spanish Sea, in the morning around 4 o'clock. On the 21st, at noon, we sailed past Portugal. On the 26th we sailed past the Barbary coast of Turkey [present Morocco], which was on our left side, a wide, flat and very beautiful land. We saw two high forts there at the shore.

On the 28th of November, we came into the sea which is called Brazaten, where everything stands for the same wind, the Eastern Wind. We had then traveled half way to America, eight hundred [Swedish] miles, and there were still 800 left. With the same wind, we passed the Canary Islands, which lay on our right hand to the north. In [this ocean] there are two passages, one which continuously blows from the east and the other with steady west-winds. When one wants to travel to America one goes to the [lower] passage, but when one sails from there one goes on the western [upper one]. There is not any storm or bad weather to be afraid of, but one sails steadily with two sheets all the way to the Caribbean.

- From the first entry in the “*Colonial Records of the Swedish Churches in Pennsylvania.*” This excerpt is dated **16 August 1642**, and is taken from Pastor Campanius’s account of his voyage from Sweden to the New World.

(Pilgrim) settlers from Leiden to New Plimouth while the Thirty Years War raged in Europe, and provisioned Massachusetts Bay Company's settlers in their time of greatest need. Allerton fell out with New Plimouth Governor William Bradford in 1631 as a result of serious differences over the fur-trade, the vessel *White Angel*, and colony debt, but he continued in his coastal trade. In the years that followed, Allerton founded the Marblehead, Massachusetts cod-fishing industry; wove a web of inter-colonial trade in fur, tobacco, wampum shell-beads, tools, and cloth; and became one of New Amsterdam's wealthiest merchants. Allerton purchased a house on Broadway, an East River warehouse, a Manhattan wharf, land in Virginia, and one of the finest homes in New Haven.

As an inter-colonial merchant, Allerton strove to act as a friend to all and an enemy to none. Along the Delaware River, Allerton used his New Netherland connections to avoid conflicts with Dutch soldiers and commissaries, while he simultaneously emphasized his English origins and New Haven residence in his dealings with the Swedes, who saw the Dutch as a threat to their independence.

On July 10, 1643, New Sweden's new governor, Johan Printz, tried New Haven fur-trader George Lambertson for trespassing in the Swedish colony and interfering with its fur-trade. Lambertson's conviction and hefty fine of a "double-duty" tax of twelve pounds sterling alarmed New England's merchant and political elites. In response to Massachusetts Bay Governor John Winthrop's September 18, 1643 letter complaining of George Lambertson's arrest and fine, Governor Printz convened America's first international tribunal. In early 1644, Governor Printz asked Allerton to serve as an impartial English observer in an international commission, along with Swedes, Finns, Dutchmen, and another Englishman.

On January 16, 1644, Governor Printz responded to Governor Winthrop's September 18, 1643 by writing him a letter in Latin, to describe how he had convened an international tribunal to review the Lambertson controversy. Governor Printz began by apologizing for his rusty Latin, noting that, "I have more often, for the last 27 years, had the musket and the pistol in my hands than Tacitus and Cicero." He then described how his tribunal's members had heard evidence "taken upon oath in the presence of: Capitaine [Captain] Christian Boy, Governor John Printz, Comis [Treasury-Agent] Hendrick Huggen, Capitaine [Nathaniel] Turner, Capitaine Mons Clinge, Master Isaac Allerton, Wachtmeister [Captain of the Watch] Gregory Von Dyck, [and] Secretary Carl Janssen." To demonstrate the fairness of Lambertson's 1643 trial, Governor Printz recorded the questions he had asked of witnesses and the answers that he had received:

"Q[uestion] 1. The Governor asked the English [present], if he had done any injustice to them. Thereupon they answered, 'No.'

"Q[uestion] 2. The Governor asked, if he had driven the English from here and wished to drive them from their chattels and plantations. They answered, 'No.'

"Q[uestion] 3. The Governor asked, if he had compelled them [by force of] arms to swear [allegiance] to the Crown of Sweden. They answered, 'No.'

"Q[uestion] 4. The Governor asked, if he had spoken any evil of the English nation or had scorned them. They answered, 'No.'

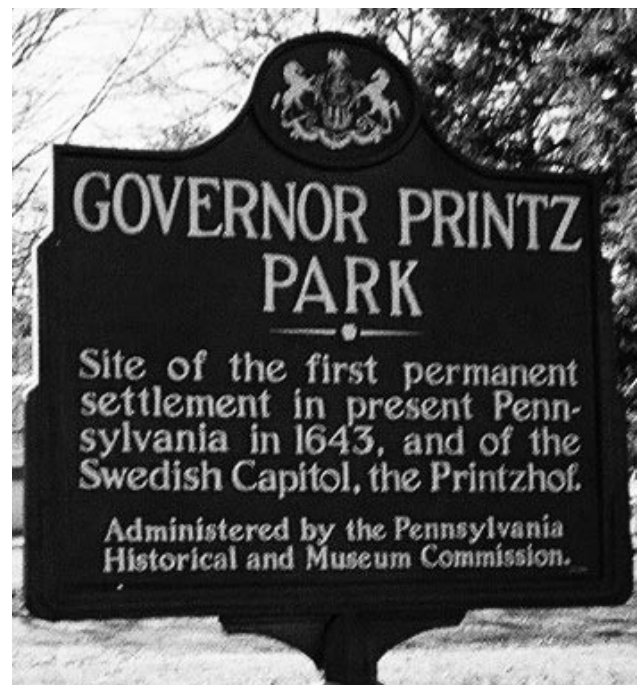
The tribunal established that Lambertson had traded on the Delaware River without permission, that he had tried to bribe Native

Americans with firearms, and that his July 1643 trial had been fair. Although some New Englanders viewed the trial as a whitewash, the international nature of its membership reduced tensions between the New Sweden and New England colonies. On March 21, 1644, Governor John Winthrop wrote to Governor Printz to express the hope that New Haven and New Sweden would conduct their affairs "with utmost peace and accord" in the future.

Allerton's early years in the Netherlands, with its brisk international trade and its federal system of competing provinces that cooperated on important issues, along with his later years in the contending colonies of New England, had prepared him to navigate the treacherous shoals of Delaware River commerce. Although the leading elites of New Sweden, New Netherland, Maryland, and the New England colonies disagreed about the Delaware, Allerton recognized their common interests and encouraged them to avoid a costly, bloody inter-colonial war.

During the next fifteen years, Allerton remained one of the most prominent merchant-mariners on the Delaware. He usually appeared every spring and autumn, often to sell his goods on credit after receiving a partial payment of beaver pelts. In June of 1644, he sold 11,346 pounds of tobacco to the Swedes in return for beaver, which allowed the Swedes to re-ship that tobacco to Gothenburg aboard the vessel *Fama*, which sailed back to Sweden in June of 1644. Allerton returned to New Sweden in the spring of 1645 to collect unpaid accounts and sell trade goods; that autumn, he returned again, and delivered 14 bushels of seed-barley for 42 florins and a pair of millstones for 130 florins.

In June of 1647, during a debt-collection lawsuit in a New Amsterdam court, Allerton testified that "about a month ago he was at the South [River, i.e., the Delaware] and heard the Honorable Governor residing there for the Crown of Sweden say he had



New Sweden court proceedings occurred on Tinicum Island at Printzhof during the rule of Governor Printz.

fully paid [Dutchman] Jan Wilcox for goods he had received from Wilcox..." Allerton returned to New Sweden in October, where he sold more goods and collected 3,800 florins on old accounts. On August 24, 1649, Director-General Petrus Stuyvesant instructed his Vice Director on the Delaware, Andries Hudde, to grant a safe-conduct for Mr. Allerton to trade on the river, despite recent Dutch rivalry with the Swedes along that river.

When Sweden could not re-supply its distant colonists with trade goods, Isaac Allerton filled the gap. The Indians near New Sweden had been friendly to the Swedes, but began selling beaver to the Dutch because the Swedes had so few goods to trade. Governor Printz turned to Allerton to redress the imbalance. In December of 1650, he sent Lieutenant Elias Gyllengren to New Amsterdam to buy goods that cost 158½ "good winter beavers." Gyllengren signed a promissory note payable to Augustyn Herrmann, a "merchant residing at the Manhatans" for "diverse commodities," and Allerton guaranteed payment. On May 12, 1651, Herrmann gave Allerton a power of attorney to collect pelts along the Delaware to recover Governor Printz's unpaid debt on behalf of the colony.

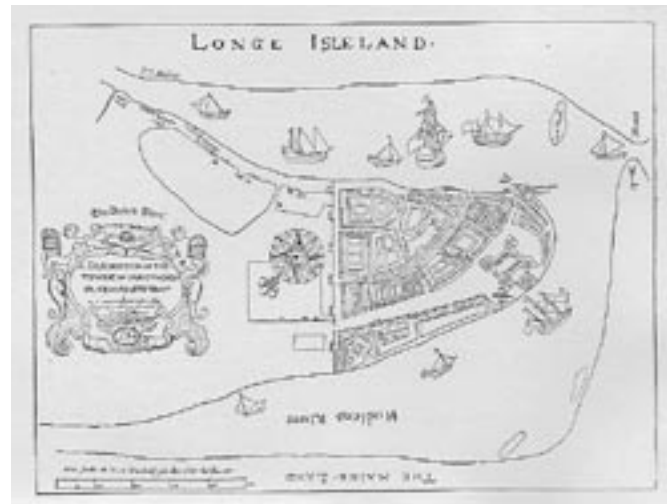
When Allerton traveled to the Delaware River on June 17, 1654 to conduct his usual trade, he discovered that the ship *Örn* (Eagle) had recently arrived from Sweden. Allerton sailed away (probably north to his New Amsterdam warehouse, but possibly south to Virginia), filled his vessel with choice Virginia tobacco, and returned to New Sweden. Recently-arrived Governor Johan Rising wrote that, "on the 28th we began to bargain with Mr. Allerton on the tobacco which he had brought with him, and he asked us not to have let him made the costly journey in vain. He first asked for ten stivers per lispund, but we drove the price down to nine stivers per lispund...He offered, however, to give us half of the tobacco on credit until the next cargo should arrive for us. Now if he could receive payment for only half, he wished to take the risk at sea and on the market. If we received less than sixteen stivers for each lispund in Sweden, he would compensate that and draw it from his claim....we considered the matter a few days." Governor Rising then made a partial payment from goods in the colony's warehouse, and Allerton extended credit for the balance until 1655. The *Örn* returned to Sweden bearing Allerton's tobacco and Governor Rising's letter explaining that, "I have got a quantity of Virginia tobacco on credit from an Englishman, Mr. Allerton, on the condition that it be paid for at the next arrival of cargo, but at a high price; wherefore I...humbly request that...I might be allowed to bring the above-mentioned tobacco into Gothenburg free of duty and freight, since many would be encouraged thereby to risk their ship[s] and goods for the increase of trade in the river..." By 1655, Governor Rising and other Swedish settlers dependent on Allerton's goods for their survival owed Allerton a huge sum -- 12,000 florins.

Allerton thus had a financial interest in persuading his fellow New Englanders not to proceed with their plans to invade the Delaware River Valley in mid-1655. When war seemed imminent, he arranged a summit conference between New Haven Vice Governor Stephen Goodyear and New Sweden Factor (Treasurer) Hendrick von Elswick at Allerton's New Amsterdam home. Goodyear began that April 28-30, 1655 summit by arguing that the Swedish colony was a private venture not backed by any government. But Allerton verified that he had personally seen Swedish governors Printz's and Rising's commissions and confirmed that the colony had the support of the Swedish crown. Allerton therefore urged the New Haveners to resolve their differences with New Sweden through diplomacy rather than invasion. After Vice Governor Goodyear returned home, New Haveners shelved their invasion idea, thus avoiding a messy,

three-way war with the Dutch and Swedes over the Delaware. Allerton returned to the Delaware the next month, in May of 1655 to collect bills. He remained there with his skipper Michael Trayntor to sell Governor Rising a hogshead of fine French wine, one hundred pounds of butter, several gallons of vinegar, some brewing hops, and other trade goods.

When war arrived in the Delaware Valley in September of 1655, it came about because of Dutch, rather than New Haven, ambitions. On September 5, 1655, Stuyvesant led the warship *de Waegh*, six other vessels, and many soldiers to New Sweden. Governor Rising surrendered on September 15. The war was not yet over, however. That same day, at dawn, six hundred Minquas (Susquehannock) Native American allies of New Sweden retaliated by raiding Stuyvesant's capitol at Manhattan. Contemporary Dutch records reflect that the Natives began at Allerton's warehouse, where they burst the lock, beat the servants, and "show[ed] great insolence to Mr. Allerton." Allerton, who was then 69 years old, must have feared for his life. Possibly speaking to the Natives in their own language, Allerton must have described himself as a long-time friend to the Swedes; he may have mentioned the role he played in the New Sweden/New Haven summit in April, when his parlay had averted war. In any event, the Native warriors did not kill, kidnap, or further harm Allerton, as they later did with other Dutch settlers. They fled when a Dutch ship commanded by one of Allerton's business associates, Captain Edmund Scarborough of Virginia, brought its guns to bear upon them.

In March of 1656, while Allerton was trying to collect his debts from the Swedish colonists still living on the Delaware,



Allerton's New Amsterdam warehouse was on the East River, north of the wall, (near the present day Brooklyn Bridge), as shown in this 1660 "Duke's Plan" map.

Allerton reported the arrival of the Swedish vessel *Mercurius* and close to one hundred colonists to Director-General Stuyvesant on March 18/19, 1656. Allerton delivered a letter from New Netherland's recently-appointed Vice Director and commander on the Delaware River, Jan Paul Jacquet, who described the *Mercurius'* unexpected arrival, along with the petition of New Sweden's former Assistant Governor Johan Papegoja, who pleaded with Stuyvesant to let the exhausted voyagers settle within the former Swedish colony. Stuyvesant denied that request. The Swedes' Native American allies soon took the matter into their own hands by commandeering the *Mercurius*

and sailing it up-river to Tinicum Island, where Swedish and Finnish colonists disembarked and later made new homes in the New World.

Allerton remained active along the Delaware, and came to own a house in New Amstel, a new Dutch colony along the Delaware that later came to be known as New Castle. On April 6, 1657, Allerton rendered another service to the Swedes: he complained to Director-General Stuyvesant of Jacquet's abuse of his position at New Amstel. Fourteen days later, Stuyvesant removed Vice-Director Jacquet from office, arrested him, and ordered him to stand trial in New Amsterdam.

Stuyvesant's conquest of New Sweden, the looting of Governor Johan's Rising's warehouse by Dutch troops, the return of many Swedes to their homeland and the flight of others to Maryland kept Allerton from collecting much of the debt that had resulted from his sales of tools, clothes, trade goods and tobacco in the 1640s and 1650s. From New Amstel to New Amsterdam to New Haven, Allerton spent his last years prosecuting and defending debt-collection lawsuits. After a life of energy, endeavor, and enterprise, Allerton died in New Haven in February of 1659. But he left an impressive legacy in New Sweden, for his trading voyages had helped its colonists survive those lean years when no supply ships came from the home country.

Notes: Records of Allerton's trade, the New Sweden/New Haven peace summit at Allerton's house, and the removal of Vice-Director Jacquet can be found, *inter alia*, in Dr. Amandus Johnson's two-volume, 1911 work, *The Swedish Settlements on the Delaware, 1638-1664*; the 1974 reprints of Arnold J. F. Van Laer's books, *New York Historical Manuscripts Dutch: Vol. II, Register of the Provincial Secretary, 1642-1647* and *Volume III, Register of the Provincial Secretary, 1638-1660*; New Netherland Institute Dr. Charles T. Gehring's 1981 book, *New York Historical Manuscripts: Dutch, vol. XVIII, Delaware Papers (Dutch Period), A Collection of Documents Pertaining to the Regulation of the Affairs on the South River of New Netherland, 1648-1660*; and Lora Altine Underhill's 1934 genealogical work, *Descendants of Edward Small of New England and the Allied Families with Tracings of English Ancestry*. Records of Allerton's June 1654 trading venture in New Sweden appear in the June 28 and July 3, 1654 entries in Governor Rising's *Journal*, Rising's *Report of 1654*, and Peter Lindeström's *Report to Sweden's Commercial College* dated July 9, 1654, as published in Stellan Dahlgren and Hans Norman's 1988 book, *The Rise and Fall of New Sweden: Governor Johan Rising's Journal, 1654-1655, in its Historical Context*.

The author, David A. Furlow, can be contacted at Thompson & Knight, LLP, at 713-653-8653, or at david.furlow@tklaw.com. David's wife, Lisa Pennington, is a descendant of Isaac Allerton. David and Lisa would be happy to receive any further information and insights about Isaac Allerton, the people who traded with him; and the time in which he lived.



New Sweden Beer !!!

Galatea is proud to announce the introduction of their new lager "New Sweden". A map of New Sweden appears on the can background, and a brief description of the 1638 voyage of the *Kalmar Nyckel* and *Fogel Grip* are also included on the product. Beneath the three Swedish Crowns appear the words "Colonial Society" just above the New Sweden logo. The öl is a stronger beverage, brewed in pre-prohibition American traditions. It is available in System Bolaget stores in Sweden. For more information visit www.galatea.com.

EVENTS

Ramboäpplena



PFAFF PHOTOGRAPHY

Peter Gunnarson Rambo (Honorary Governor Herb Rambo), Carl Linné (Hans Öddo), Registrar Doriney Seagers, Councilor Sandra Pfaff, and Swedish Ambassador Gunnar Lund, while standing beside a recently planted Rambo apple tree at the American Swedish Historical Museum, enjoy the "fruits of their labor" with Rambo apple pie kindly prepared by Doriney.

The Ramboäpplena project moves forward as the Tercentenary celebration of the life of Carl Linné fast approaches in 2007. Linné is arguably Sweden's most famous scientist. Known as "The Prince of Flowers," Linné introduced a classification naming convention for all living things that is still in use today.

Peter Gunnarson Rambo was one of a number of colonial Swedes who brought seedlings and livestock with them on their voyage to the New World. The popular Rambo apple derives its name from this colonist's family.

Through the leadership of Honorary Governor Herbert R. Rambo, the Ramboäpplena project symbolically recognizes the contribution to America made by New Sweden colonists, while simultaneously acknowledging Sweden's strong historical connection to botany and all of natural history. Rambo apple tree plantings have recently taken place at the American Swedish Historical Museum in Philadelphia and the Lower Swedish Cabin on Darby creek. Additional plantings are planned at various sites in America and Sweden in the near future.

FOR INFORMATION

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Historic Bibles Uncovered

Holy Books Offer Glimpses into Family Histories

Three historic Bibles with links to the Swedish colonial era have recently been discovered and brought to the attention of the Swedish Colonial Society. Various individuals discovered these rare Bibles at separate times and from different locations. All three Bibles have interesting tales.

The oldest of these Bibles was printed in the Swedish language, in Stockholm, in 1738. Honorary Governor Ronald A. Hendrickson acquired the book through an auction. The handwritten text within the Bible indicates its original owner, and also provides some commentary offered by family members. Governor Kim-Eric Williams was kind enough to translate the handwritten 18th century Swedish handwriting. The format of the Bible also provides insight into 18th century Lutheran worship protocols.



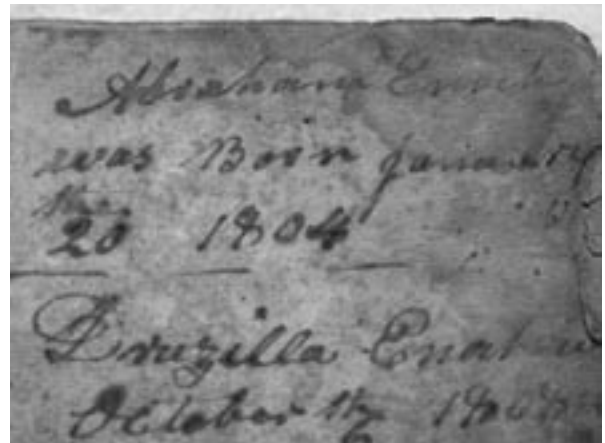
The first page of Nils Andersson's Bible

The original owner of the Bible was a Nils Andersson, who was born in the village of Glyttinge, Östergötland, very near the city of Linköping. Some of the handwriting in the Bible says, "Nils Andersson born in Kärna Parish and Glitinge (Glyttinge) village 1751 on the 18th November whose Parents, the upright, honest and of good understanding, Anders Larsson with his honest and God-fearing wife, Maria Nilsdotter have bought this Bible as a Baptismal witness gift." In a later page, the family handwriting continues - "Erik Andersson is a witness to this Bible being handed over in the year 1798. The year 1765 on the 8th of November I, Erik Andersson was born in Glitinge village in Kärna parish. May I not be happy that my name is written on the pages of the Book of Life where all things pass away. I see heaven and a heavenly joy with my name, which is forgotten here, but is preserved up in the highest." This comprehensive Bible was a prized family possession for in that era few people had expendable income to buy such a luxury item.

The condition and format of the bible is of particular note. It is bound in a worn leather jacket, but the leather belt and buckle enabling secure closure are missing. The durable paper is in excellent condition considering its age. It has the complete Old Testament, Apocrypha, and New Testament. Both Martin Luther and Olavus Petri kept the Apocrypha, although these 14 "Inter-testamental" books were not usually included in English versions. All of the Bible lessons for High Mass are included for every Sunday and holiday in a one year repeating cycle. Thus if the family could not attend church they could read the appropriate scripture lesson. In addition there is an extended Dictionary of Biblical terms, Christian theology and virtues (112 pages), an Introduction to the Old Testament, a Dictionary of Biblical names, short summaries of all Biblical books, a Biblical Chronology showing the differences between Lutheran and Calvinistic scholars, and a Table of Weights and Measures. The New Testament has an Introduction and also a parallel "harmony" that shows where events and narratives are located in each of the four gospels. In fact, this Bible was a complete resource in Christian education for a family.

The second Bible was found by Electrician Michael Hoskins in a trash dump on Route 41 in Danville, Virginia. Mr. Hoskins discovered the 188-year-old King James Bible among four discarded boxes of books while dropping off garbage. The sheepskin-covered Bible was printed by

Cramer & Spear in Pittsburgh in 1818, and according to Mr. Hoskins, is one of less than six copies in existence. This "trash to treasure" story was covered by many national media outlets, including "USA Today" and "Good Morning America." The Bible belonged to the Enoch family, and the earliest handwritten recorded date in the book is the birth of Isaac Enoch who was born on January 25th, 1775. Isaac Enoch was the great-great-grandson of Garrat Enochson, of Dutch descent, who arrived in New Netherland sometime prior to 1670. Garrat Enochson married the daughter of a colonial Swede and the family became members of Gloria Dei church. Isaac Enoch's grandfather, Henry Enoch Sr., once surveyed land for George Washington and had the future First President as a dinner guest. Subsequent early 19th century births to the Enoch family are also listed in the Bible. A complete profile on the Enochson family appeared in the Swedish Colonial News (Volume 3, Number 3, Fall 2005) and is currently available on our website www.colonialswedes.org.



This top of page entry in the Enoch Bible sites the birth of Abraham Enoch

A third Bible with connections to the Swedish colonial era was obtained by Gregory Justice of Petosky, Michigan. The Justice family are descendants of colonial Swede Johan Gustafsson. Gustafsson came to New Sweden in 1643 aboard the *Swan*. He eventually married Brita Månsdotter, the daughter of Måns Andersson. A profile of the Gustafsson family is also available at the Society website.

This Bible was printed by a Philadelphia publisher in 1853. The handwritten entries recording births, marriages and deaths commence with Jacob Justice in 1752 and continue through Catherine Justice, daughter of Sven and Ann Justice in 1855. There are also handwritten references to Trinity Church contained in the book. Sorrowfully, Gregory Justice died suddenly of a heart attack on June 26, 2006.

These Holy Books provide a unique insight into the history of the common citizenry in their respective eras. They served as the vehicle for family recorded history and were passed on from generation to generation. These Bibles, and the handwriting contained within, reemphasize the important role religiosity played in daily life. A strong belief in the goodwill of God, and of a life in the "ever after," was a predominant aspect in helping individuals face struggling times and uncertain futures.

Note: Governor Kim-Eric Williams contributed to this article.

Axel von Fersen och Yorktown

Svenska

Den 19 oktober är det 225 år sedan de engelska trupperna i Yorktown kapitulerade efter 20 dagars belägring. Även om ingen insåg det då, kom denna händelse att visa sig bli avgörande för Englands beslut under det följande årets fredförhandlingar med Frankrike och Holland att ge upp sina amerikanska kolonier.

Mer än 200 svenska officerare deltog som frivilliga på alla sidor i detta världsomspännande kolonialkrig. Sverige hade haft fred i ett kvarts sekel och en ny generation officerare hade vuxit upp utan krigserfarenhet. De unga militärerna hoppades få övning och samtidigt lära sig de senaste nyheterna. I rapporter hem berättade de vad de sett och lärt. De skrev även brev till varandra och berättade om sina iakttagelser i de olika arméerna, fast de ibland möttes som fiender på slagfältet.

Då det speciellt gällde Amerika hade kung Gustav III också en politisk avsikt med att låta svenskar delta i kriget på den fransk-amerikanska sidan. Genom att stödja Frankrike hoppades han kunna få en ersättning för den svenska kolonin Nya Sverige i Amerika. Det lyckades också så att Sverige vid fredslutet fick ön Sankt Barthelemy i Västindien.

Gustav III tycks även ha haft vissa sympatier för amerikanernas försök att grunda ett samhälle på frihet, jämlikhet och broderskap. Sverige blev det första landet efter Frankrike att diplomatiskt erkänna USA. Det var också i Sverige som det för första gången utomlands sköts salut för stjärnbaneret. Benjamin Franklin utsågs till USA:s förste ambassadör i Stockholm, även om han aldrig kom att tillträda posten.

Gustav III tog dock samtidigt bestämt avstånd från tanken på att göra USA till en demokrati. Det verkar som om han hoppades att amerikanerna till slut skulle ta sitt förnuft till fånga. Bl.a. talades det om möjligheten att utse George Washington till diktator.

En av de svenskar som deltog i striderna i Amerika var den 27-årige löjtnanten greve Axel von Fersen. Det tycks ha funnits flera anledningar till att han sökte sig till den franska armén just i Nordamerika.

- Han ville få krigserfarenhet för sin karriär i den svenska krigsmakten. Det lyckades så till vida att han med tiden blev general.

- Han ville också bli överste i den franska armén. Det lyckades han med tack vara stöd från drottningen Marie-Antoinette.

- Han ville komma så långt bort som möjligt från Paris, där han bott de senaste åren. Hans situation vid Versailles hade blivit ohållbar sedan han och drottningen blivit förälskade i varandra. I sina brev hem skrev han upprepade gånger att han hoppades att kriget i Amerika skulle bli mycket långvarigt. "Jag fruktar bara freden och jag hoppas att den inte kommer än," skrev han exempelvis efter erövringen av Yorktown. På Rhode Island

English

October 19th marks the 225th anniversary of the British troops surrendering at Yorktown following a 20 day siege. Even though no one realized it back then, this event would prove decisive for the English decision to give up their American colonies during the following year's peace negotiations with France and Holland.

More than 200 Swedish officers volunteered on all sides in this world-spanning colonial war. Sweden had enjoyed a quarter of a century of peace and a new generation of officers had grown up without any war experience. The young soldiers were hoping to get practice, and at the same time learn the latest news. In reports sent home they wrote about what they had seen and learned. They also wrote each other to tell about their observations in the different armies even though they sometimes would face each other as enemies on the battlefield.

When it came to America King Gustav III also had political intentions with letting Swedish soldiers take part in the war on the French-American side. By supporting France he was hoping to get some compensation for the loss of the Swedish colony New Sweden in America. He got his wish when Sweden received the West Indian island of Saint Barthélemy by the end of the peace negotiations.

It seems Gustav III also had certain sympathy for the American attempt to found a society based on freedom, equality and brotherhood. Sweden became the first country, after France, to recognize America diplomatically. Sweden was also the first country outside the United States to salute the star spangled banner. Benjamin Franklin

was appointed the first U.S. ambassador in Stockholm, but he never took office. Gustav III did not, however, like the idea of turning the USA into a democracy. It seems that he was hoping that the Americans would come to terms. There was some talk about making George Washington dictator.

One of the Swedes taking part in the American battles was 27-year old Lieutenant Count Axel von Fersen. There were probably several reasons for him to join the French army in North America.

- He wanted to get battle experience for his career in the Swedish armed forces. This was a success since he became a General.

- He also wanted to become a Colonel in the French army. This too was achieved due to support from Queen Marie-Antoinette.

- He wanted to get as far away from Paris as possible. He had been living there for the past years and his situation at Versailles had become impossible since he and the Queen had fallen in love with each other. In his letters home he wrote many times that he hoped that the war in America would go on for a long time. "I fear but peace, and I hope it will not come yet" he wrote after the conquering of Yorktown. In Rhode Island he socialized plenty with the Hunter family in 1780. In the Hunter family was a "young girl of eighteen



Axel von Fersen 1755-1810

umgicks han 1780 i familjen Hunter med “en ung flicka på arton år, vacker, älskvärd, glad, en mycket god musiker. Jag går dit varje kväll. Jag tycker mycket om henne, men utan att detta leder till några konsekvenser.” I Wilmington, där hertigen de Lauzun en tid hade sitt högkvarter, umgicks han 1782 med Mary Vining på ett sätt som fick Marie-Antoinette att skriva till Thomas Jefferson och fråga vem hon var. Inte heller den kontakten ledde dock till några konsekvenser. von Fersen förblev ogift efter ett modigt men misslyckat försök att rädda Marie-Anoinette från giljotinen.

- von Fersen tycks också ha haft ett genuint intresse för det amerikanska samhällsexperimentet. Efter sitt första möte med George Washington beskriver han honom på detta sätt: “Hans vackra och majestätiska hållning, men på samma gång vänlig och ärlig, motsvarar fullständigt hans moraliska kvaliteter. Han ger intryck av hjälte. Han är mycket kylig, talar litet, men artigt och rättframt. Han har ett uttryck av sorgsenhet över sin person, som inte missklär honom och som gör honom mer intressant.” Men med tiden svalnade von Fersens känlor för Amerika. I ett av sina sista brev därifrån skrev han att amerikanerna “lärt oss att varken älska eller uppskatta dem.”

- Till sist hade von Fersen också ett hemligt uppdrag från Gustav III, att samla information och sondera möjligheterna för Sverige att få tillbaka Nya Sverige eller något likvärdigt område. I det sammanhanget kan det nämnas att man i Sverige redan 1782 hade ett förslag om att öppna handel på Wilmington, där den svenske köpmannen Borritz var verksam.

Axel von Fersen deltog i belägningsen av Yorktown som adjutant åt den franske generalen Rochambeau. I ett brev hem till fadern skildrar han händelseförloppet. Brevet är skrivet som en formell rapport. Det enda mer personliga är att han - som alltid i breven till fadern - ber om pengar. Han behöver ha fem hästar, en åt sin betjänt, två åt sina båda ridknektar och två åt sig själv. Han har för fadern tidigt framhållit att hans liv hänger på om fadern kan ge honom pengar till en snabb häst. Nu behöver han köpa en ny häst. “Jag har förlorat en häst under belägringen. Han fick benet bortslitet av en kula vid slutet av löpgraven. Jag satt inte på den. Det var alltid två av herr de Rochambeaus adjutanter i löpgraven. Vi tillbringade tjugofyra timmar där. Vi är sex, så det upprepadades var tredje dag”

I övrigt lyder redogörelsen för belägringen:

“Direkt efter vår ankomst till Williamsburg arbetade man med att ta iland fältartilleriet och utrustningen. Allt var klart den 28 och armén marscherade för att innesluta York, där lord Cornwallis var. Han ockuperade York, som ligger på vänstra stranden. Floden är en mille bred, det vill säga en tredjedel av en fransk lieue. Vi inledde vår omslutning samma dag, men amerikanerna kunde inte fullborda sin förrän följande dag. De hade ett träsk att passera. Bron hade blivit förstörd och de misslyckades att göra en annan.

Den 29 blev inneslutningen klar och vi arbetade med att lasta av vårt

years, beautiful, lovable, happy and a very skilled musician. I go there every night. I like her a lot, but without it leading to any consequences”. In Wilmington, where Duke de Lauzun had his temporary headquarters he, in 1782, socialized with Mary Vining in a way that prompted Marie-Antoinette to write Thomas Jefferson and ask him who she was. That socializing did not lead to any consequences either, and von Fersen remained unmarried after a brave but failed attempt to rescue Marie-Antoinette from the guillotine.

- von Fersen seems to have had a genuine interest in the American society experiment. After his first meeting with George Washington he describes him like this: “His beautiful and majestic posture and at the same time friendly and honest ways completely live up to his moral qualities. He gives the impression of a hero. He is very cold, speaks little, but always politely and straight forward. He has a sad expression surrounding his person which is not unbecoming and which makes him all the more interesting”. But with time von Fersen’s feelings for America cooled. In his last letter from there he wrote that the Americans “have taught us neither to love nor appreciate them”.

- In the end von Fersen also had a secret mission given by Gustav III, to gather information and probe the possibilities for Sweden to regain New Sweden or some other territory like it. In this context it can be mentioned that there already in 1782 was a proposal in Sweden about opening trade with Wilmington, where the Swedish merchant Borritz was active.

Axel von Fersen took part in the siege of Yorktown as a aide for the French general Rochambeau. In a letter sent home to his father he describes the events. The letter is written like a formal report. The only personal note is, as always in letters to his father, that he asks for more money. He needs five horses; one for his servant, two for his two grooms and two for himself. Earlier he had made it clear that his life depended on him getting money from his father to buy a fast horse. Now he needs to buy a new horse:”I have lost a horse during the siege. It got it’s leg torn off by a bullet at the end of the trench. I was not sitting on it. There was always two of Sir de Rochambeau’s aides in the trench. We spent twenty four hours there. There are six of us, so it was repeated every three days”.

For the rest his account of the seige goes:

“As soon as we arrived in Williamsburg people started bringing ashore the field artillery and the gear. Everything was finished by the 28th and the army moved to enclose York, where Lord Cornwallis was. He occupied York, which is on the left bank. The river is a mille wide, that is to say a third of a French lieue. We started our enclosing that same day, but the Americans could’t accomplish theirs until the next day since they had a swamp to pass. The bridge had been destroyed and they failed in building another one.

On the 29th the enclosure was finished and we worked with the unloading of our siege artillery and manufacturing the amount of fascines, long



Lord Cornwallis (center) surrenders his sword to General Washington (on horseback) while von Fersen (right, in feathered cap) observes.

belägringsartilleri och tillverka den för belägringen nödvändiga mängden faskiner, långfaskiner, risgårdar och skanskorgar.

Den 30 utrymde fienden sina främre utanverk och drog sig tillbaks till platsens kärna. Dessa utanverk bestod av två stora redutter och en batteriplats för två kanonpjäser, vilka var skilda från staden genom en stor ravin, som var 400 famnar bred. Vi tog ställning där och det underlättade mycket våra arbeten genom att göra det lättare för oss att etablera vår första parallell på andra sidan ravinen. Om det var ett misstag som gjordes av lord Cornwallis, är det ursäktligt, ty han hade uttryckliga order av generalen Clinton att sluta sig inne i kärnan av platsen och ett löfte att han (Clinton) skulle komma till hans undsättning.

Den 6 oktober, klockan åtta på kvällen, öppnade vi tranchén 300 famnar från befästningsverken. Högern stödde sig på floden, vänstern på en stor ravin som stupar vinkelrätt mot staden, längs en tredjedel av den högra delen av befästningsverken, och slutligen går ända till floden till höger om staden. Vår tranché sträckte sig 700 famnar. Den försvarades av 4 redutter med palissader och 5 batteriplatser. Terrängen, som är mycket genomskuren av små raviner, underlättade mycket vårt framträngande och gjorde att vi kunde nå vår tranché i skydd, utan att vara tvungna att göra någon löpgrav. På vår vänstra sida hade vi öppnat en annan tranché, stödd till vänster på floden och till höger på en skog. Vi hade där en batteriplats med 4 mörsare, 2 grantkastare och 2 24-pjäser, som sköt mot floden och gjorde kommunikationen från York till Gloucester föga säker och i hög grad störde linjekeppen som var på floden. Fienden sköt inte mycket under natten.

De följande dagarna arbetade man med att fullborda tranchén, sätta palissad vid redutterna och göra i ordning batteriplatserna. De sköt alla 10 under dagarna. Vi hade 41 eldvapen och lika många kannoner som mörsare och granatkastare. Vårt artilleri fungerade underbart. Beskaffenheten på verken, som var sand, tillät inte vår kanon, som var väl riktad, att göra all den effekt som den skulle ha gjort i en annan terräng, men vi inhämtade genom desertörerna att våra kulor hade den bästa effekt och att antalet döda och sårade växte beaktansvärt. De belägrade sköt litet. De hade inte annat än små pjäser. Deras starkaste på 18. De hade inte annat än mörsare på 6 eller 8 tum. Våra var på 12 tum. På dagen kastade de mycket bomber och splittrgranater. På natten upprättade de rörliga batterier. På dagen drog de vanligen tillbaka kanonerna och placerade dem bakom bröstvärn.

Natten mellan den 11 och 12 öppnade man den andra parallellen på 120 famnar, till vänster stödd, liksom den första, på samma ravin, till höger på en redutt. Vi kunde inte dra ut parallellen ända till floden på grund av två redutter, tillhörande engelsmännen, vilka var inom halvt skotthåll, framåt på vår högra sida. Det beslöts att man skulle anfälla dem för att sedan fullborda parallellen.

Den 14, klockan 8 på kvällen, anföll 400 grenadjärer eller jägare, understödda av 1.000 man, redutten och tog den med värjan i hand. Det var 160 man där, hälften engelsmän, hälften tyskar. Man fick inte mer än 34 fångar och 3 officerare. Amerikanerna tog den andra redutten. Man arbetade hela natten med att fortsätta tranchén och den 15 på morgonen hade man den helt täckt. Engelsmännen överöste oss med bomber under natten och hela dagen.

fascines, dry twigs and gabions necessary for the siege.

On the 30th the enemy left their outer fortifications and fell back to the inner core of the place. These fortifications were comprised of two large redoubts and a battery place for two cannons which were separated from the city by a ravine 2.300 feet wide. We settled there and it made our work to establish a first parallel on the other side of the ravine all the more easy. If it was a mistake made by Lord Cornwallis he may be excused, for he was under direct orders from General Clinton to retreat to the core, and a promise that he (Clinton) would come to the rescue.

On October 6th, at eight o'clock at night we opened the tranché 1.700 feet from the fortifications. The right was supported by the river and the left by a ravine that plummeted straight down towards the city along a third of the right part of the fortifications and eventually goes all the way to the river to the right of the city. Our tranché was 4.000 feet. It was guarded by 4 redoubts with palisades and 5 battery places. The terrain, which is plenty sliced by small ravines, made it easier for us in that we could advance and reach our tranché without having to build trenches. On our left flank we had opened another tranché, supported to the left by the river and to the right by a forest. There we had a battery of 4 mortars, 2 grenade-throwers and 2 24-pieces that shot against the river and made the communications between York and Gloucester highly risky and greatly disturbed the battleships sailing the river. The enemy did not fire much during the night.

The following days people worked with completing the tranché, put palisades by the redoubts and made the battery places ready. They shot all 10 during the days. We had 41 firearms and as many cannons as mortars and grenade-throwers. Our artillery was working beautifully. The nature of our battery ramps, which were made from sand, did not let our well aimed cannon reach the potential and efficiency to do all the effect they could had the terrain been a bit different. But we gathered from the deserters that our cannonballs had a very good effect and that the number of dead and injured was increasing most noticeably. The besieged fired little. They had nothing more than small pieces. Their strongest was 18. They had no more than 6 or 8-inch mortars. Ours were 12 inches. Daytime they threw lots of bombs and grenades filled with shrapnel. At night they put up movable batteries. During the day they usually retreated the cannons and placed them behind the breastworks.

On the night between the 11th and the 12th the second parallel of 700 feet was opened. To the left, like the first one, it was supported by the same ravine and to the right by a redoubt. We could not stretch the parallel all the way to the river because of two redoubts belonging to the English, whom were within a half range to our front right. The decision was made to attack them in order to then finish the parallel.

On the 14th, at eight o'clock at night, 400 grenade-throwing soldiers, supported by 1.000 men, attacked the fortification and took it with sword in hand. It held 160 men, half of them English and the other half German. We got no more than 34 prisoners and 3 officers. The Americans took the other fortification. Work went on all night to finish the tranché and on the morning of the 15th it was completed. The English showered us with bombs the entire night and day.

Den 16 var våra batteriplatser slut och man arbetade med att sätta pjäserna i ställning. På morgonen, klockan fem, gjorde de ett utfall med 600 man som trängde in i en batteriplats och förnaglade 4 kanonpjäser. De blev omedelbart tillbakaträngda, men vi fick ett tjugotal man dödade eller sårade. De tog 17 fångar bland vilka var en officer. Våra soldater, som var extremt utmattade sedan beläringens inledning, hade somnat och blivit överraskade.

Den 17 skickade man en parlamentär och lord Cornwallis bad om kapitulation.

Man var upptagen hela den 18 med att sätta ihop artiklarna och den 19 blev kapitulationen undertecknad och trupperna lade ned vapnen. Det fanns inte mer på platsen än 10 kulor och en bomb. Vi hade i vår andra parallell 6 batteriplatser och 60 eldvapen, som skulle ha skjutit den 17, och den 18 eller den 19 hade vi hoppats vara i stånd att storma.

...
Vi har i York tagit 7.600 man, varav 2.000 sjuka och 400 sårade, 400 vackra dragonhästar och 174 eldvapen, varav 74 av brons. Flertalet av dessa eldvapen är små mörsare på 4 till 6 tum. Där finns ett fyrtiotal skepp av vilka de flesta är sänkta eller skadade. Det fanns ett linjeskepp med 50 kanoner, som vårt vänstra batteri beskjutit, avfyrande glödgade kulor. Det har brunnit.

Vår armé bestod av 8.000 man och amerikanerna hade nästan samma numerär, totalt 15 till 16.000 man. Vi hade 274 dödade eller sårade och 10 officerare.”

Axel von Fersen lämnade Nordamerika i november 1782. Hans sista bekymmer var hästarna. Ingen ville betala vad han ansåg dem vara värda. Till slut beslöt han att ta med dem till Västindien.

I USA hade von Fersen fått Cincinnatus-ordern. Gustav III förbjöd honom att bära den. En svensk officer kunde inte bära en utmärkelse från en revolutionär regering som gjort uppror mot sin laglige kung, ansåg han. Men han var ändå nöjd med von Fersens insatser.

On the 16th our battery ramps were worn out and there was work on putting the pieces in order. On the morning, at five o'clock, the enemy charged with 600 men who penetrated a battery and took 4 cannons. They were immediately forced back, but we had about twenty men dead or wounded.. They took 17 prisoners of which one was an officer. Our soldiers, being extremely tired since the start of the siege, had fallen asleep and been caught off guard.

On the 17th a negotiator was sent and Lord Cornwallis asked to surrender.

The 18th was spent working on the terms and on the 19th the surrender was signed and the troops laid down their weapons. They had no more than 10 cannonballs and a bomb. We had, in our second parallel, 6 battery ramps and 60 firearms that would have fired on the 17th, and by the 18th or 19th we had hoped to be able to charge.

...
We have, in York, seized 7.600 men of whom 2.000 are sick and 400 wounded. 400 beautiful horses and 174 firearms of which 74 were made of brass. The majority of these firearms are small mortars ranging from 4 to 6 inches. There are about 40 ships, most of them sunk or damaged. There is one Ship of the Line with 50 cannons, which our battery had attacked with red-hot cannonballs. It had caught on fire.

Our army was consisting of 8.000 men and the Americans had almost the same number, a total of about 15 to 16,000 men. We had 274 dead or injured and 10 officers”

Axel von Fersen left North America in November of 1782. His last problem was the horses. No one wanted to pay what he considered them being worth. In the end he decided to take them with him to the West Indies.

In the USA von Fersen had been awarded with the Order of Cincinnatus. Gustav III forbid him to wear it. A Swedish officer could not wear a sign of distinction from a revolutionary government which had rebelled against it's legal king, he thought. But still he was satisfied with von Fersens's efforts.



Ljungs Slott in Östergötland was founded in the 17th century. In 1729 the manor was bought by Hans von Fersen, grandfather of Axel von Fersen of Yorktown fame. von Fersen inherited the estate after his father's death.

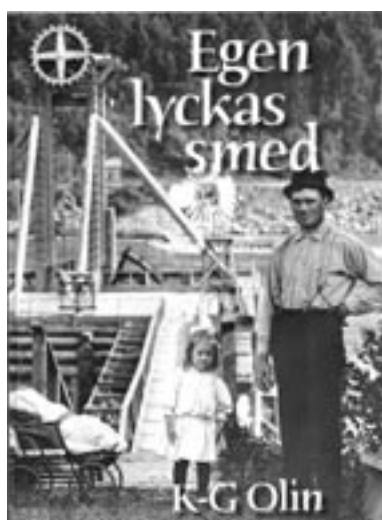
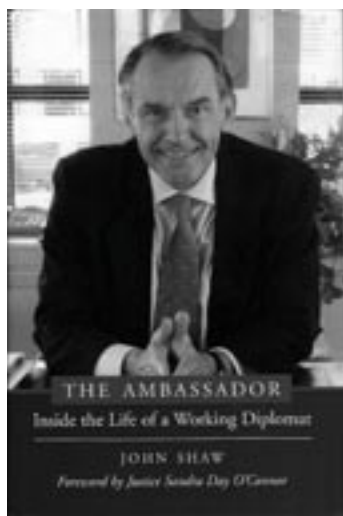
Salute to Sweden Waterfront Festival

House of Sweden

Washington, DC - October 22nd, 2006



Clockwise Top Right: House of Sweden; Singer/Songwriter Anna Ternheim; "Little Key" paddles Potomac; Our Lenape friends; Colonial Swedes; King Carl & Queen Silvia confer with Governor Williams; Sterling High School Choir in soldier costume; Chief of Mission Caroline Vincini.



Insändare.

Tänkt och tyckt
av Gunnar Lund.

Bokerian

Washington Diplomat reporter John Shaw has authored an enjoyable novel with an inside view into the daily activities of Sweden's former ambassador to the United States, Jan Eliasson. The author was given privileged access to the work of Ambassador Eliasson for two years, including his final one as an ambassador.

Mr. Eliasson has had a distinguished diplomatic career and became a well known face in Washington's diplomatic circles. He had diplomatic postings in Bonn, Salisbury, Zimbabwe and was the first Secretary in the Swedish Embassy in Washington in the 1970s. He served as Sweden's United States Ambassador from 2000 to 2005, and went on to become the President of the United Nations General Assembly. He recently served as the Foreign Minister of Sweden.

During his tenure, Ambassador Eliasson made it a priority to support the Swedish American cultural community throughout the United States. Jan is also a student of history and an Emeritus Patron of the Swedish Colonial Society. He has supported numerous Society initiatives and has attended many of our past functions. "The Ambassador: Inside the Life of a Working Diplomat" contains photographs and accounts of the Ambassador's visits to the Delaware Valley.

"The Ambassador: Inside the Life of a Working Diplomat" is pleasurable reading and offers a unique perspective of not only diplomatic work, but also of Sweden's multidimensional intrinsic relationship to the United States. This book is available at most bookstores and at amazon.com.

Noted Finnish author K-G Olin has released a series of exceptional novels concerning Finnish and Swedish emigration to the Americas. All of Olin's works are finely crafted pieces of art. The author combines an engaging literary narrative with rare photographs, lithographs, maps and historic artwork to produce books that will be valued for generations.

While utilizing his genealogical skills, Olin integrates personal stories and ancestry with the historic events involving Scandinavian exploration and emigration to the Americas.

"*Egen lyckas smed*" is a well researched novel primarily concerned with Finnish emigration to northwest America. An extensive listing of immigrants is included. "*Öden och äventyr*", (Fate and Adventure), is a handsome work regarding Scandinavian exploration of Latin America. "*Våra första västindienfarare*" is about the Swedish/Finnish experience in the West Indies, and "*Våra första amerikafarare*" concerns New Sweden on the Delaware.

Olin's novels are all written in Swedish. Special "3 for 2" pricing is available on the latter three mentioned books. They are available at **Ab Olimex Oy**, Storgatan 17/27, FIN-68600 Jakobstad, Finland. For more information, K-G Olin can be reached at Olin@multi.fi.

The current Ambassador of Sweden to the United States, Gunnar Lund, has released an entertaining collection of notes and letters to various publications authored over the years titled "*Insändare. Tänkt och tyckt*" (Letters to the Editor. Thoughts and Reflections.).

This paperback book is a light and entertaining read, providing an insight into the current Ambassador's personality and way of thinking. His letters are upbeat, positive, often humorous, and always insightful. Lund is rarely critical of any piece he responds to. Rather he typically offers additional information and buoyant anecdotes that the readership of the respective publications would enjoy and find informative.

Letters such as "*Släktband*" offer an enjoyable insight into relatives and family communication. "*Västra Karlstad*" presents Lund's viewpoint on the western region of Sweden. The Ambassador even penned some of his thoughts in regards to the colonial Swedish ancestry of the residents of the White House.

"*Insändare. Tänkt och tyckt*" is written entirely in Swedish. A translation into another language would undoubtedly adulterate the personal writing style of the author. The book is available at **Bokerian AB**, Box 1, 663-21 Skoghall, Karlstad Sweden. It can also be ordered online through www.bokerian.se.

Membership

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NEW FOREFATHER 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

Larry R. Cornell, Aurora, OH, descended from Peter Gunnarsson Rambo through his son, Gunnar Rambo, and the latter's son, John Rambo, of Upper Merion Township in present Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

Marie A. Cornell, Aurora, OH, descended from Peter Gunnarsson Rambo through his son, Gunnar Rambo, and the latter's son, John Rambo, of Upper Merion Township in present Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

David Roger Dolbow, Murfreesboro, TN, descended from Anders Larsson Dalbo, through his son, Olof Dalbo, and the latter's son, Anders Dalbo, of Penn's Neck, Salem County, New Jersey.

Walley G. Francis, Syracuse, NY, descended from Mårten Mårtensson, Jr., and the latter's son, John Morton of Ammansland, Ridley Township, Chester (now Delaware) County, Pennsylvania and hence forward, via John Morton (signer of the Declaration of Independence).

Richard Friend, Centerville, VA, descended from Nils Larsson Frände through his son, John Friend, and the latter's son, Nicholas Friend, of Allegany County, Maryland.

Keith D. Rambo, Lady Lake, FL, descended from Peter Gunnarsson Rambo through his son, Peter Rambo, and the latter's son, Swan Rambo, of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

Marianne Sandels, Uppsala, Sweden, descended from Peter Gunnarsson Rambo through his daughter, Catharina Rambo, wife of Peter Mattsson alias Dalbo, and her daughter, Maria Mattson, wife of Pastor Andreas Sandel, second pastor of Gloria Dei Church in Philadelphia.

Earl G. Stannard, III, Audubon, NJ, descended from Hans Månsson through his son, James Steelman, and the latter's son, James Steelman, Jr., of Great Egg Harbor, old Gloucester County, New Jersey.

William A. West, Kansas City, MO, descended from Peter Gunnarsson Rambo through his son, John Rambo, and the latter's son, Peter Rambo, of Gloucester County, New Jersey.

New Members Welcomed

The Swedish Colonial Society welcomes new members. No Swedish relative or ancestry is required - only an interest in colonial history. Contact our Registrar: Doriney Seagers, 371 Devon Way, West Chester, PA 19380 or visit us online at: www.ColonialSwedes.org. The annual membership for an individual is \$30. An annual family membership, which includes two adults and minor children, is \$35. Lifetime membership is available for \$400.

Membership Benefits

The Swedish Colonial Society is an educational non-profit organization. In addition to our biannual *Swedish Colonial News*, membership dues help to support our web site, our growing archival collection, our annual *New Sweden History Conference* and a number of special publication and social activities related to Swedish immigrant history. Members are also offered discounts on Swedish Colonial Society publications and are invited to functions such as our annual Forefather's Luncheon. We invite you to become a part of our growing society and are appreciative of your support.

Editor's Corner

- A correction from our prior issue, Vol. 3, No. 4 Spring/Summer 2006: Page 15, second column, second paragraph should read - "30. Daniel Andersson from Lekvattnet farm, Fryksdal parish, secured a Dutch patent on 200 acres on Appoquinimink Creek, which he sold to Sinnick Broer (#29) by 1671. He apparently died soon thereafter. His widow Annika Hendricksdotter and her son Hendrick Danielsson, born in America, moved to Penn's Neck in Salem County by 1679."
- We have a new look. Due to postal sorter ink being absorbed on the cover of previous issues, we decided to change our paper stock to a less absorbant grade. We hope this change will better preserve the integrity of our publication as it travels through the US Postal Service. Let us know how you like our new look, as well as any other comments regarding the publication at our website (www.colonialswedes.org). Feedback from our readership is always welcome and helps us to improve the publication.
- Less than 3% of our publication mailings are returned due to an address change, or some other type of delivery circumstance. The most common reason for non-delivery is "Addressee Temporarily Away". In such a case, second and third attempts are made at delivery. If you have not recieved your publicaion, please contact us. Our membership is important to us. Also, if you have a change of address, please be so kind to notify us.
- Tack så mycket to Tommy Bergsköld of Mälardalen University in Västerås. Tommy translated the von Fersen article into English and has helped us in many other ways.
- The Colonial Swede Calendar and updates are available by email. Persons wishing to be added to the email list should send an email to HerbertRambo@ColonialSwedes.org

In Memoriam

The Swedish Colonial Society lost a long-time friend and researcher on March 8, 2006, with the death of **Richard A. Enochs**, aged 72, at Indianapolis, Indiana. An avid genealogical scholar, Mr. Enochs teamed up with SCS Historian Peter S. Craig for over 20 years in researching hard-to-find Swedes who had migrated down the Old Wagon Road in the 18th century to Maryland, Virginia and the Carolinas. Mr. Enochs was himself a descendant of Gerrit Enoch of Kingsessing and Nils Larsson Frände of Upland (now Chester). Mr. Enochs published numerous genealogical books and articles and was active with both the Indiana Genealogical Society and the Indiana Historical Society. He is survived by his wife Lynne S. Enochs, sons Mark and Scott, a daughter Tracy and a granddaughter.

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Sandra S. Pfaff and Ronald A. Hendrickson being awarded *The Order of the Polar Star* by Ambassador Gunnar Lund.

PEAFF PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography contributed by David Emmi, Ronald A. Hendrickson, James D. Seagers, II, Fred Pfaff, Claes Thorson and David A. Furlow.

If you have an article for publication consideration in the Swedish Colonial News mail it to the newsletter address or email to www.colonialswedes.org.

Upcoming Events

- to Dec. 3** Sweden In Silver and Gold. Exhibit of Swedish silver and gold crafted art. House of Sweden, 901 30th Street NW, Washington DC. Information 202-270-8284.
- Dec. 8-9-10** Lucia at Gloria Dei Church. Information 215-389-1513.
- Dec. 9** Saturday, Lucia and Julmorknad. American Swedish Historical Museum, 1900 Pattison Avenue, Philadelphia. Information 215-389-1776.
- Dec. 13** Christmas Concert with the Swedish Museum Singers. American Swedish Historical Museum. Information 215-389-1776
- Feb. 15** Opening of Exhibit: "Come into a New World, Linnaeus and America." American Swedish Historical Museum. Information 215-389-1776.
- Mar. 25** Sunday, Forefathers Luncheon, and Annual Meeting honoring Carl Linneaus at Longwood Gardens, Grand Ballroom, Kennett Square, PA, with the Delaware Swedish Colonial Society.

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