



Swedish Colonial News

Volume 2, Number 6

Spring 2002

Preserving the legacy of the New Sweden Colony in America

Historic Paintings Discovered

Gustavus Hesselius: America's First Portrait Painter and the newly-discovered portraits of Pastor Erik Björk and Christina Stalcop

In the last issue of *Swedish Colonial News*, we reported the discovery by Hans Ling of Uppsala of two pairs of paintings of Ericus Björk and Christina Stalcop which may be attributable to Gustavus Hesselius.

Since that time, considerable progress has been made in establishing that one of the pairs – that found at the Nordic Museum in Stockholm – is in fact the product of Gustavus Hesselius's own hand and represents his earliest known works in America.

Permission has been granted by the Nordic Museum to publish photos of these two paintings. Because both paintings are dust covered, suffer from the loss of pigmentation and are damaged, José Ramirez – Senior Designer at Cataleno & Company – spent more than 25 hours to computer “enhance” the photo images in an effort to show how they appeared when first made in 1712-1714.

Color reproductions of these enhanced copies will be presented at a later date to Holy Trinity (Old Swedes') Church in Wilmington – the church founded by Björk in 1699.

The Nordic Museum Portraits

Hans Ling, who first discovered both pairs of paintings, made a personal inspection of all of them. One pair has been owned by the Nordic Museum since the 19th century. They were acquired by the museum from Christopher Eichhorn, a Swedish writer and art collector

Dr. Peter S. Craig

(especially of portraits) who died in 1889. Mr. Ling arranged for digital photo copies to be made of both portraits, which he sent to America for analysis.

The originals at the Nordic Museum are not signed. Björk's portrait measures 77.2 x 62.3 centimeters (30.4 x 24.5 inches). Christina's portrait measures 77.8 x 61.4 centimeters (30.6 x 24.2 inches), but part of the bottom has been folded under so that, unfolded, it would be somewhat taller.

On the reverse side of Christina's portrait are written in Swedish her name, date and place of birth and date and place of death, in blue ink. The spelling and wording indicate that this identification was written in Sweden in the first half of the 18th century, but after the death of Christina which occurred in 1720.

Similar entries are made on the reverse side of the Björk portrait except that they are written in black paint. Björk died 31 August 1740, so the description must have been written after that date.

The painting is unmistakably that of Björk when he was about 45 years old. A later portrait, painted by a Swedish artist in 1728 when

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Måns Andersson and his Mounts Descendants

When the *Kalmar Nyckel* left Göteborg on its second voyage to New Sweden in October 1639, it had among its passengers Måns Andersson, probably accompanied by his wife and at least one small child, Brita. He had been hired as a laborer at a wage of 50 Dutch guilders per year.

Arriving in New Sweden in April 1640, Måns Andersson continued to work as a laborer at this wage and, when a tobacco plantation was established at Upland in 1644, he was among those assigned to learn this type of farming.

His first wife having died, Måns Andersson remarried about 1646 to a daughter of Christopher Rettel, a 1641 immigrant who returned to Sweden in 1648 with his 14-year-old son. While in America, Rettel's wife had died and his daughters had married. Måns and his new wife established their own farm, which they called "Silleryd" (meaning herring manor) in present Delaware County. In that year, he also left the employment of the New Sweden Company and became a freeman. He and another farmer paid 80 guilders apiece for an ox. Prohibited from trading with the Indians, Måns was forced to trade with the company store or Governor Printz's private warehouse. Like most freemen, he fell into debt, which had reached almost 160 guilders by March 1648.

Disillusioned and angry about Governor Printz's harsh treatment of the freemen, Måns Andersson was one of the 22 freemen submitting a complaint to the governor on 27 July 1653, protesting his dictatorial rule and asking for more freedoms. The Governor branded this action as "mutiny," threatened to bring the force of the law upon the signers and soon returned to Sweden.

A number of the freemen decided that for their own safety they should flee New Sweden. Some went directly to Maryland. Måns Andersson chose to go to the new Dutch colony which had been established in 1651 at Fort Casimir (present New Castle). Several other dissatisfied freemen had already settled just north of the fort at Swanwick (Swan Cove). Måns Andersson and his family joined

them. He had hardly built his new log cabin when, to everyone's surprise, the ship *Eagle* arrived in May 1654, bearing a new Governor (Johan Rising) and more Swedish and Finnish settlers.

Rising captured Fort Casimir without firing a shot, renamed it Fort Trinity, and once again Måns Andersson was living under Swedish rule. Måns quickly discovered that the new governor took a more liberal and reasonable attitude toward the freemen. On 10 July 1654, Rising even offered to buy the buildings and cleared fields at "Silleryd," an offer which Måns quickly accepted. His old farm was then rented by Rising to a new freeman, Nils Mattsson.

For Måns Andersson, the return of Swedish rule was short-lived. In September 1655, Fort Casimir was recaptured by the Dutch and the mark of Måns Andersson (✱) was among those signing an oath of allegiance to Governor Stuyvesant.

Måns Andersson remained a resident of Swanwick until 1661. His experience as a tobacco grower led to his being appointed inspector of tobacco in 1656. His young children attended the Dutch school in present New Castle. However, by 1661 conditions were no longer favorable for him. He owed 156½ guilders on a mortgage to the English trader Isaac Allerton, and residents of New Castle (then called New Amstel) were dying like flies because of new diseases introduced by newcomers from the Netherlands. It was time to move again.

In 1661, Måns Andersson, his wife and six children were recorded as having immigrated to Maryland, and on 25 April 1662, a plantation was surveyed for him near the mouth of the Elk River on Sassafras Neck in Baltimore (now Cecil) County. This 150-acre plantation was named "Mountsfield." While this new land was being prepared and a new house built, Måns temporarily took up residence at Christina on the Brandywine River, in partnership with Walraven Jansen de Vos (a former Dutch soldier married to a Swedish wife). Måns planted this land for four years and then sold his share to his former Swanwick neighbor, Dr. Timen Stiddem, in 1665, and moved to "Mountsfield" in Maryland where he spent the balance of his life.

Our last glimpse of Måns Andersson is a reference to him in the diary of a Dutch traveler, Jasper Danckaerts, who reported that on 4

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The mark or "bomärke" of Måns Andersson, which he used to sign legal documents.

Governor's Message

THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

916 SOUTH SWANSON STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19147

Greetings,

Your Society has completed a very successful year with an increasing number of new or expanded initiatives.

We were honored at the 2001 Annual Meeting and Colonial Forefathers Luncheon by the presence of the Chief Justice of the United States William H. Rehnquist; Stockholm Lord Mayor and Mrs. Axel Wennerholm; the Society's Patron, Ambassador and Mrs. Jan Eliasson; Associate Patron, Consul Agneta H. Bailey and several other prominent guests.

Later in the year, the Swedish Colonial Society joined with the American Swedish Historical Museum and the University of Pennsylvania's McNeil Center to sponsor the first "New Sweden Conference." This is one of the most important activities we have undertaken recently and the goal of an annual conference is expected to be a priority in the future. The program was outstanding because of the quality of the speakers' presentations and the very hospitable conference arrangements. We appreciate the generous financial support of the American Scandinavian Foundation in helping make the conference possible.

The Society's web site <www.ColonialSwedes.org> has been a spectacular success, reaping dividends both as an educational tool and a rich resource for new membership. The *Swedish Colonial News* reached a new plateau with its first 20-page issue, justifying its reputation as the journal of record for New Sweden and the Colonists. The Society has also consolidated our archival materials at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church, where we are instituting new preservation policies.

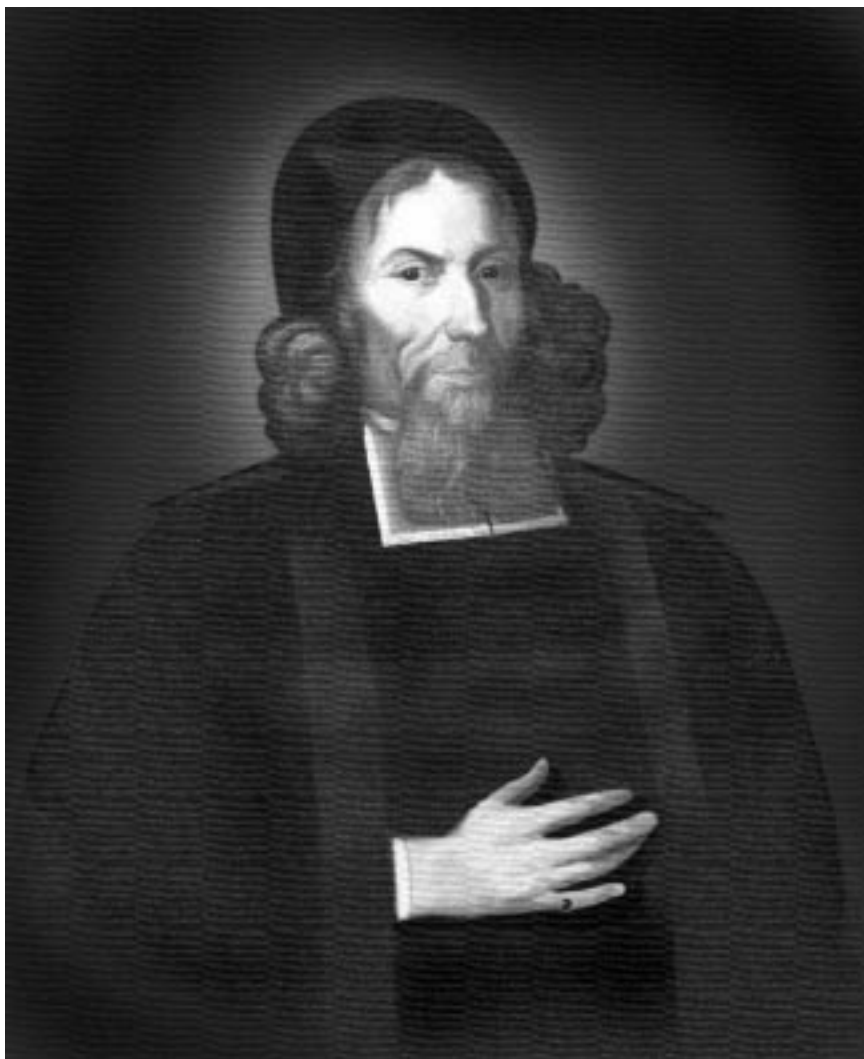
We continue our partnership with Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church in the *Gloria Dei Records Project*, translating early parish records and associated materials. Work completed to date has proven to be of great research value, as well as providing a fascinating glimpse into the events of so long ago.

These increased activities and our growing membership has placed additional demands on those who provide the Society's historical and genealogical research, creative design and production efforts, as well as general administration. We have benefited from the hard work of many individuals performing a myriad of tasks and duties essential to a vibrant organization like the Swedish Colonial Society. I thank them all.

On May 5th, Swedish Colonial Society members and their friends are the guests of Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church in Philadelphia for a Memorial Service on Anniversary Sunday. We will also salute three members for their outstanding service to our organization. It will be my pleasure to present Fellow of the Swedish Colonial Society Medals to Ronald A. Hendrickson, Esq., the Very Rev. David B. Rivers and the Rev. Dr. Kim-Eric Williams. Following the service there is a reception with lots of good food and fine fellowship.



Herbert R. Rambo



Original portrait (bottom), and the "restored" portrait of Rev. Erik Björk, as he appeared in 1712, at age 45.

Björk was 60, shows a much older man, but clearly the same man. A copy of the 1728 portrait was donated to Holy Trinity (Old Swedes') Church in 1899 by the Falun copper mine and remains at that church today. The original is kept in Björk's church in Falun.

The matching frames of the two portraits at the Nordic Museum are rather primitive and unprofessional for that time, by Swedish standards. This suggests that they had been made in America.

The apparent ages of both Christina Stalcop and Erik Björk in the two Nordic Museum portraits are consistent with the premise that they were painted in the period between 1712 and 1714, when they resided in New Castle County, Delaware. The clothes worn by both subjects are also representative of that period for a minister and his

wife in America.

The Tummelsta Portraits

Hans Ling also visited Tummelsta to examine the two other alleged portraits of Eric Björk and his wife Christina. He was accompanied by George Samourkas, a noted collector, dealer and appraiser of art and antiquities in Sweden, who had also inspected the portraits at the Nordic Museum. Samourkas has studied and worked in America and is a keen student of Gustavus Hesselius's works.

The portraits at Tummelsta were in private hands, owned by a descendant of Erik Björk and his son Tobias Björk. She possessed eight old family portraits, all of them copies, made by the same copyist around 1750.

The portrait of Björk was obviously copied from the painting now at the Nordic museum. It is of inferior quality. On the reverse side of one of the eight family portraits (that of Samuel Sernander, 1678-1748) was written, in black paint, that it was a copy made in 1751. This was written in the same handwriting as the writing on the back side of the Björk portrait at the Nordic Museum. The other copies are of the same vintage.

The alleged portrait of Christina Stalcop, also a copy, clearly was of a different person. It had no resemblance to the portrait at the Nordic Museum.

Although a 19th century descendant had attached a note on the back, stating that this was "the wife of Erik Björk (born Stalcop)," in fact the picture was of Erik Björk's second wife, Sara Elvia (1669-1725). The Tummelstra collection also included copies of the portraits of Sara Elvia's parents, Gustavus Elvius (1618-1693) and Elisabet Dalecarlia (died 1715).

Thus, while the trip to Tummelstra turned up empty-handed in finding any originals of the Björk-Stalcop paintings, it did provide one important clue, that the Björk portrait at the Nordic Museum had been in Sweden at least since 1750-1751 when it was copied. Tobias Björk, only surviving son of Erik Björk, was married in 1750. It seems probable that the 1750-1751 copies were made so that Tobias could have copies of paintings then in the possession of his only surviving sister, Sara, and that she was then in the possession of the originals now found at the Nordic Museum.

The American Evidence

The trail of evidence relating to the Björk-Stalcop portraits at the Nordic Museum now

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turns on America and the interlocking lives of three persons – Ericus Björk, first pastor of Holy Trinity Church; Gustavus Hesselius, the Swedish-born painter; and Andreas Hesselius, his brother and the second pastor of Holy Trinity Church.

Ericus Björk, born 13 January 1668 was a 29-year-old bachelor when he arrived in America in 1697 and became pastor of the Swedish congregation at Crane Hook, Delaware. Within two years he had inspired his congregation to build a new church at Christina (present Wilmington), which was consecrated in 1699. In 1702, at the age of 34, he married Christina Stalcop, then 16 years old. Their first home was a house on Red Clay Creek, on land owned by her father, Peter Stalcop. Finally, on 20 January 1710, his family moved into the “slowly-built, and now but little more than half-finished” parsonage next to the church.

Two years later, in May 1712, the Björks received three new bachelor guests at the new parsonage. All had newly-arrived from Sweden. They were Rev. Andreas Hesselius, 36, who had been sent to replace Björk at Holy Trinity Church; Rev. Abraham Lidenius, who was to be assistant minister; and Gustavus Hesselius, 30, already an accomplished portrait painter, with training in both Sweden and London, England.

Gustavus Hesselius remained as a guest of the Björks for a “few weeks” before he moved on to Philadelphia to begin his American career as a painter. It seems likely that he made the portraits now at the Nordic Museum during this period, while living with the Björk family. In Philadelphia, he rented space in the heart of the city and launched his business. In a letter to his mother in Sweden, dated 26 June 1714, he wrote that his business was brisk because “there is no other portrait painter here.”

After moving to Philadelphia, Gustavus Hesselius also made frequent trips to Christina to visit his brother Andreas. Undoubtedly he was present when his brother Andreas married Sarah Walraven at Holy Trinity Church on 3 May 1713. At that time, the Björk family vacated the parsonage and moved back to the house they had formerly occupied on Red Clay Creek.

On 14 April 1714, Gustavus Hesselius was married to Lydia Gatchell, a native of Boston, at Gloria Dei Church. Andreas Sandel, who had married Ericus Björk and Christina Stalcop in 1702, was the minister. When Lydia became pregnant with their first child, the couple



moved to Andreas Hesselius’s parsonage at Christina by 22 April 1716, when both took communion at Holy Trinity Church. The baby was born 28 July 1716 and baptized as Andreas Hesselius the next day.

The Björk family started its journey from New Castle County to Sweden on 29 June 1714. On the same day, Andreas Hesselius wrote in the Holy Trinity church book that Björk “left his own and his beloved wife’s portraits.”

It has been presumed that these portraits were a gift to the church. However, in retrospect, they seem to have been treated as a loan, with the expectation that some later Swedish pastor would bring them back to Sweden and return them to



Original portrait (bottom), and the “restored” portrait of Christina Stalcop, as she appeared in 1712, at age 28.

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December 1679, "towards evening we came to a Swede's named Mouns, where we had to be put across a creek, where we spent the night with him, and were entirely welcome. He and his wife and some of his children spoke good Dutch and conversed with us about various matters concerning the country."

Children of Måns Andersson

Not all of Måns Andersson's children have been identified, but they appear to have included at least the following:

1. **Brita Månsdotter**, apparently born in Sweden by Måns' first wife, was married at Fort Trinity in 1654 to the Swedish soldier Johan Gustafsson, progenitor of the Swedish Justis or Justice family. They moved from the New Castle area in 1656 and ultimately settled in Kingsessing on the west side of the Schuylkill River. After her husband's death, she moved to New Castle County to reside with her daughter Annika. She died there in 1723. She had eleven children, as follows:

> **Gustaf Gustafsson (Justa Justis)**, born at Fort Trinity in 1655, married Anna Morton, daughter of Mårten Mårtensson, Sr., died in Kingsessing, February 1721/2. They had nine children.

> **Måns Gustafson/Mounce Justis**, born in 1658, married Christina Andersdotter, daughter of Anders Svensson and his wife Anna, died on the Schuylkill in the Northern Liberties of Philadelphia in 1749. They had eight children.

> **Carl Gustafson/Charles Justis**, born in 1660, a tailor, married in 1703 Margaret, died in Kingsessing, by 10 Dec. 1718, when letters of administration on his estate were issued to his widow. They had six children.

> **Hans Gustafson/Hance Justis**, born in 1662, married Maria, daughter of Olle Rawson and Brita Andersdotter and initially lived on his father-in-law's plantation on Naaman's Creek. In the early 1700s he moved to the head of the Northeast River in Cecil County, where he died after 1710. He had four sons and at least one daughter - Lydia, who in 1710 married Rev. Jonas Aurén, founder of St. Mary's (Old Swedes') Church in Northeast, Maryland.

> **Annika Gustafson/Anna Justis**, born c. 1666, married [1] by 1690 Matthias Morton of Ridley township, Chester (now Delaware) County, son of Mårten Mårtensson, [2] between 1707 and 1712 the widower Jonas Walraven of New Castle County, [3] 15 June 1727, at Holy Trinity Church, the widower Charles Springer. She died in New Castle

County. She had seven children, all by her first husband.

> **Johan Gustafson/John Justis**, born c. 1668, married (name unknown), who died before 1697. He died in Philadelphia County, and was buried 3 Oct. 1716 at Christ Church, Philadelphia. One daughter.

> **Peter Gustafson/Peter Justis**, born 1670, married by 1696 Brigitta, daughter of Olle and Lydia Swanson. He died at Kingsessing and was buried 30 Aug. 1699. He was survived by one son. His widow married Jacob Van Culin.

> **Jacob Gustafson/Justis**, born 1673, died in Kingsessing, unmarried and without children, and was buried 30 August 1699 with his brother Peter.

> **Elisabeth Gustafson/Justis**, born c. 1675, married. [1] before 1696 Matthias Peterson, son of Samuel Petersson and his wife Brita of New Castle County, [2] 18 October 1720, the widower Edward Robinson. She was buried 23 Sept. 1730 at Holy Trinity Church, Wilmington. Three children, all by her first husband.

> **Sven Gustafson/Swan Justis**, born 1677, married Catharina, daughter of Peter Petersson Yocum and Judith Jonasdatter [Nilsson]. He died in Kingsessing by 9 March 1722/3 when his will was proved. Five children.

> **Anders Gustafson/Andrew Justis**, born 1681, married by 1704 Brita, daughter of Samuel Petersson and his wife Brita of New Castle County, died before 19 Aug. 1740, when his will was proved in Salem County, NJ. His wife had been buried at Holy Trinity Church on 27 June 1737. Four children.

2. **Ingeborg Månsdotter**, was born by estimation in 1647. After the move to Maryland, she married Hendrick Hendricks-son, who had arrived in New Sweden on the Eagle in 1654 as a young soldier. In 1661 he moved to Maryland and in the following years had four tracts surveyed for him on Sassafras Neck, named "Hendricks," "Hendrickson," "Hendricks Choice," and finally, in 1679, "Hendricks Addition." All adjoined or were close to "Mountsfield." Hendrickson died in the 1680s and Ingeborg then married Cornelius Clements.

Cornelius was the son of Anders Clementsson, who also first appeared in New Sweden records in 1654. He was a soldier at

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Fort Christina in 1655 and moved to Maryland by 1662 when a 400-acre plantation called "Clementson" was surveyed for him on Sassafras Neck, near "Mountsfield." Andrew Clementsson died in 1687, and Cornelius, his third son, inherited 75 acres of his father's lands. Cornelius Clements outlived his wife and died in 1715.

By her two husbands, Ingeborg had three children:

> **Catharine Hendrickson**, married by 1693 Thomas Severson, eldest son of Marcus Sigfridsson, a Finn who had arrived on the Delaware in 1656 on the Mercurius and moved to Sassafras Neck by 1658 when "Marksfield," 50 acres, was surveyed for him. Thomas and Catharine became owners of "Hendricks" and "Hendrickson," and had seven children before Thomas Severson died in 1718. His wife survived him.

> **Christopher Hendrickson** married by 1700 Mary Kelton [English]. He inherited 200 acres, his father's "Hendricks Choice" and "Hendricks Addition," and later acquired other lands in the area. He had five children and died in 1725.

> **Abraham Clements**, baptized in August 1697, died unmarried in 1717.

3. **Christopher Månsson**, born c. 1652, became known in his adulthood as Christopher Mounts, or sometimes as Christopher Anderson. He married twice. His first wife (name unknown) was the eldest child of Casparus Herman and his first wife, Susanna Huyberts [both Dutch]. She died by 1695, when Christopher married Martha, the second wife and widow of Nicholas Dorrell. Christopher inherited his father's "Mountsfield" plantation and also, by reason of his first marriage, had tenure of his first wife's inheritance, 400 acres in "St. Johns Manor" on the west side of Elk River until her children reached adulthood. Christopher Mounts died intestate in 1710. His widow Martha died at "Mountsfield" in 1738.

By his two marriages, Christopher Mounts had eight children:

> **Charles Mounts**, who inherited 200 acres of "St. Johns Manor," sold that land in 1712 and died unmarried in 1713.

> **Casparus Mounts**, who also died unmarried in 1713.

> **Elizabeth Mounts**, who married Andrew Rosenquist c. 1711. On 14 March 1714/5 they sold the other 200 acres of "St. Johns Manor."

> **Sarah Mounts**, born 7 April 1696, had

one daughter, Martha, by her first husband, James Smithson, and married [2] Cornelius Tobey.

> **Mary Mounts**, born 6 Sept. 1698, married John Beedle in 1716.

> **Ann Mounts**, born 9 Jan. 1702/3, married Robert Mercer in 1727.

> **Martha Mounts**, born 16 March 1704/5, married William Mercer, brother of Robert Mercer.

> **Christopher Mounts**, born 18 October 1708, died unmarried in 1738.

4. **Lars Månsson/Lawrence Mounts**, born c. 1660, died by 2 August 1697 when his estate was inventoried in Cecil County, Maryland. His widow Sarah (parents unknown) administered his meager estate. If they had children, none has been identified.

5. **Charles Månsson**, better known during his lifetime as Charles Anderson, was born c. 1664 in Delaware. He married around 1700 (name of wife unknown) and established his home at first at the head of the Northeast River, close to Hans Justis and Andrew Friend, both also Swedes. By 1712, he was actively engaged in Indian trading with Andrew Friend. Around 1720, he moved to Monocacy Creek, near the Potomac River. As an Indian trader, he was called upon by the Maryland government in 1722 and 1725 to bring Shawnee chiefs from present Oldtown, Maryland, to his house for peace negotiations. In 1734 land was surveyed for him on the Potomac River in Frederick County, Virginia (now Berkeley County, WV).

He turned this land over to his son, Joseph Mounts, and moved on to Oldtown, Maryland, where he lived for the remainder of his life. In 1740, at the age of 75, he signed an affidavit for use in the Pennsylvania-Maryland boundary dispute. He died shortly thereafter.

Of Charles Anderson's family, the only proven member was his son **Joseph Mounts**, who was born about 1700 and married Catharine Williams, by whom he had three sons (Providence, Joseph and William Mounts) who perpetuated the surname Mounts for succeeding generations.

6. **Maria Månsdotter**, born c. 1676, married Matthias Matthiason, only son and heir of Hendrick Matthiasson, a Finn, who had been sent to New Sweden in 1641 as punishment for a minor crime. In 1648, he was made a freeman and frequently used Freeman as a surname. He

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NEW DISCOVERIES

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the Björks. Rev. Andreas Sandel returned to Sweden in 1719 and presided over Christina Stalcop's funeral on 12 April 1720. Andreas Hesselius returned to Sweden in 1724.

Subsequent to 1714, there was no mention of the two paintings in Holy Trinity Church records. When Israel Acrelius arrived in 1749, he asked for an inventory of church possessions at the time of the death of Peter Tranberg a year before. He was told "that what was left by him was of so little value that it was not worth while to require any account of it."



Self-portrait of Gustavus Hesselius and his wife Lydia Gatchell, painted about 1740. Both portraits are in the collection of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

The American record thus establishes that (1) Gustavus Hesselius was the first and only portrait painter in the area during the period 1712-1714; (2) that he resided with the Björk family for a "few weeks" on his first arrival; and (3) that when the Björk family left in 1714, they left portraits of Ericus Björk and his wife Christina Stalcop under the care of Andreas Hesselius. That Gustavus was the creator of these portraits seems self-evident. There was no one else who could have made them.



FOREFATHERS

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also signed the complaint against Governor Printz in 1653, but did not flee New Sweden. However, after marrying Elisabeth (parents not identified), he moved to the Sassafras River in 1658 and settled on a 100-acre plantation on Sassafras Neck called "Mathiason." Upon his death in 1687, this was inherited by his son Matthias Matthiason.

Matthias Matthiason alias Freeman operated an "ordinary" (inn) on his land, which became the first courthouse in Cecil County. In 1699 and 1700, he also traveled to Delaware and worked for two days helping to build Holy Trinity Church. He was suretor for Christopher Mounts, administrator of the estate of Nicholas Dorrell, and when Matthias died in 1702, Christopher Mounts was suretor for his sister Maria, executrix of Matthias' estate. Maria married [2] Otho Othoson [Dutch] in 1704. She died after 1715. Her children, all by her first

marriage, were:

> **Mary Matthiason**, born 2 April 1690, married John Kämpe, son of Lars Pålsson Kämpe of New Sweden. In 1717 they moved to Gloucester County, New Jersey, to join John's brother, Paul Kämpe, who had moved there a few years before.

> **Elisabeth Matthiasson**, born c. 1694, not further traced.

> **Matthias Matthiasson, Jr.**, baptized 20 August 1699, inherited his father's "Mathiason" plantation. He died in 1733 and his widow Mary died in 1740. They had four children, one of whom (Matthias Matthiasson III) became a mariner and was living in Biddeford, Devonshire, England, when he and his wife, Ann sold the last remnant of the home plantation in 1752.

New Sweden Conference a Success

On Saturday, November 17th the American Swedish Historical Museum hosted a day-long conference on New Sweden. The event was sponsored by the Swedish Colonial Society, the McNeil Center for Early American Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, as well as by the Museum. It marked the resumption of the conferences held in 1988 to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the founding of the New Sweden Colony. It is intended to become an annual affair. Some of the attendees at the Museum had not been seen since 1988. Others have been faithful participants in the various Swedish and Finnish organizations in the Mid-Atlantic region. Newcomers to the field or to us, such as Dutch descendants who came down from New York, were quickly absorbed into the chattering coffee klatches, feeling very much at home before the first lecture began.

There was standing room only as Peter S. Craig began the keynote presentation. Dr. Craig is the historian and genealogist of the Swedish Colonial Society. As we expected, his talk was chock-a-block full of facts that the 25 million descendants of the "Ancient Sweeds" should learn by heart.

Dr. Lorraine Williams of the New Jersey Historical Museum discussed the role of the Swedes as interpreters of their Native American neighbors. Those of us who attended her lecture in 1988 remember the fabulous turkey feather headdress and other artifacts that ended up in Sweden as a result of the Indian trade.

Dr. Charles Gehring, the foremost authority on the New Netherlands, discussed the competition between the Dutch and Swedes for control of the Delaware River. Did anyone remember that the Delaware used to freeze and that the Indians walked across?

During the discussion period, Erik Tornquist shared his thoughts about Governor Johan Printz. That prompted David Lewis to come up front and do a brief re-enactment of Gov. Printz, even minus his pillowed costume. A bemused Governor Herb Rambo waited for the moment to announce the lunch break. Soon, 128 scholars were spilling out onto the front steps to enjoy the warm sun or were gathering at tables provided by the thoughtful staff.

The afternoon was devoted to three young scholars. We heard about the revolt of the "Long Finn," religious competition, and the contrasting views of the Swedes and the Indians about the natural world.

Christina W. Lassen

Dr. Kim-Eric Williams, Assistant Editor and Translator for the *Gloria Dei Records Project*, closed the conference with a presentation about what still needs to be translated and what archeological sites need to be identified in the continuing exploration of New Sweden.

The next conference will include a number of scholars from Sweden who have been invited to make presentations, working closely with the Museum's talented director Richard Waldron.



St. Paul's celebrates 300 Years

Most people know about "The Rocks" and Fort Christina in Wilmington and the site of Governor Printz's headquarters at Tinicum, but the third most important Swedish site in the Delaware Valley often goes unnoticed. It is Upland (now Chester), originally granted to Pastor Johan Campanius for his parsonage and the church glebe land and used in 1644 as one of New Sweden's tobacco plantations. Campanius gave the name of his home province, Uppland to the area and began his many journeys to Native American settlements from this place. In 1648, Pastor Lars Lock replaced Campanius and lived there until his death in 1688. Meanwhile, parts of the original glebe land were granted to other early settlers, including Jürgen Keen and his son-in-law James Sandelands.

Today, part of the glebe site is known as the Old Swedish Burial Ground, at Welsh Street and Market on the south side of Third Street. It is an industrial area and the most prominent marker is a nine-foot monolith above the grave of John Morton, the signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Yet 300 years ago there was considerable excitement as the first St. Paul's Church was

Original 1703 building at the site of the Swedish burial ground.



built at the same site. While the last remnant of the glebe land had been sold by the vestries of Wicaco and Crane Hook (1693), this site did contain graves and there had been a tradition of Swedish worship there in the past. It so happened that Anna Keen, daughter of Jürgen Keen had married a wealthy merchant, James Sandelands. When he died and was buried in the Swedish burial ground, the family arranged for a sandstone tablet (6' x 6' 4") to be carved in England and placed over his grave. What then happened is explained in a report to the English Society for the Propagation of the Gospel from 1714:

"... 'twas agreed on amongst his relations that his grave, as also that of his kindred and family who were or might be buried there should be distinguished & set a part from the rest of the burying ground by an enclosure or wall of Stone. This design was no sooner formed & noised abroad but 'twas happily suggested by a projecting fellow in Town, that if it seemed good to Mr. Sandeland's relations, the intended stone wall about the place of his internment might be with some what more charges carried up & formed into a chapel or Church. This new motion was well liked by the said relations & encouraged by every body in the neighborhood...but they that put life into this proposal were Jasper Yeates, Merchant in Chester, and James Sandelands, Son to the above named Mr. Sandelands, the latter of which two gentlemen, besides other gifts, gave some land to enlarge the Church yard, but the former, to wit, Mr. Yeates,...must be allowed to be the main promoter of St. Paul's upon Delaware."

As a matter of fact, the Swedes of Upland were not happy with the sale of the glebe land.

The church at Tinicum had deteriorated and the burial ground there was endangered by the Delaware River. It was too far to go to either Wicaco or Crane Hook. Thus already in 1699, Jasper Yeates had objected to the sale to the Quaker David Lloyd, petitioning that the "said green is really Church land, and appropriated by a donation to that use forever."

While Penn ruled against Yeates in 1701, Lloyd did convey back part of the glebe land in 1703 and with Sandeland's donation there was sufficient space for both a church and burials.

In July 1702 the foundations were laid for

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a brick building, 49 feet long by 26 feet wide. It contained 24 pews, divided into four parts by two aisles. The roof was oak and the chancel was paved with brick, as were the aisles. The first service was held on January 24, 1703, the day before the Conversion of St. Paul. The Rev. John Talbot, a missionary from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, preached the sermon and named the congregation. It was the first Anglican parish in Chester County.

Already in 1701, the Rev. Evan Evans, the distinguished Welsh pastor at Christ Church, (Philadelphia), had visited Chester and had established a mission that he visited every three weeks. The congregation was composed of many of the descendants of the original Swedish settlers, with names such as Culin, Justis, Grantham, Friend, Longacre and, of course, Sandelands and Yeates. The same 1714 report states; "*The Swedes that are dissatisfied (with the sale of the glebe land) are mostly Members of our Congregation, and go nowhere else.*"

The first permanent rector was the Rev. Henry Nichols who arrived in 1704, but the later history is replete with vacancies that were often supplied by the Lutheran priests at Gloria Dei and Holy Trinity. Indeed, the congregation was closed during the Revolution, and

while a founder of the Diocese of Pennsylvania in 1785, the church had only seven communicants in 1818.

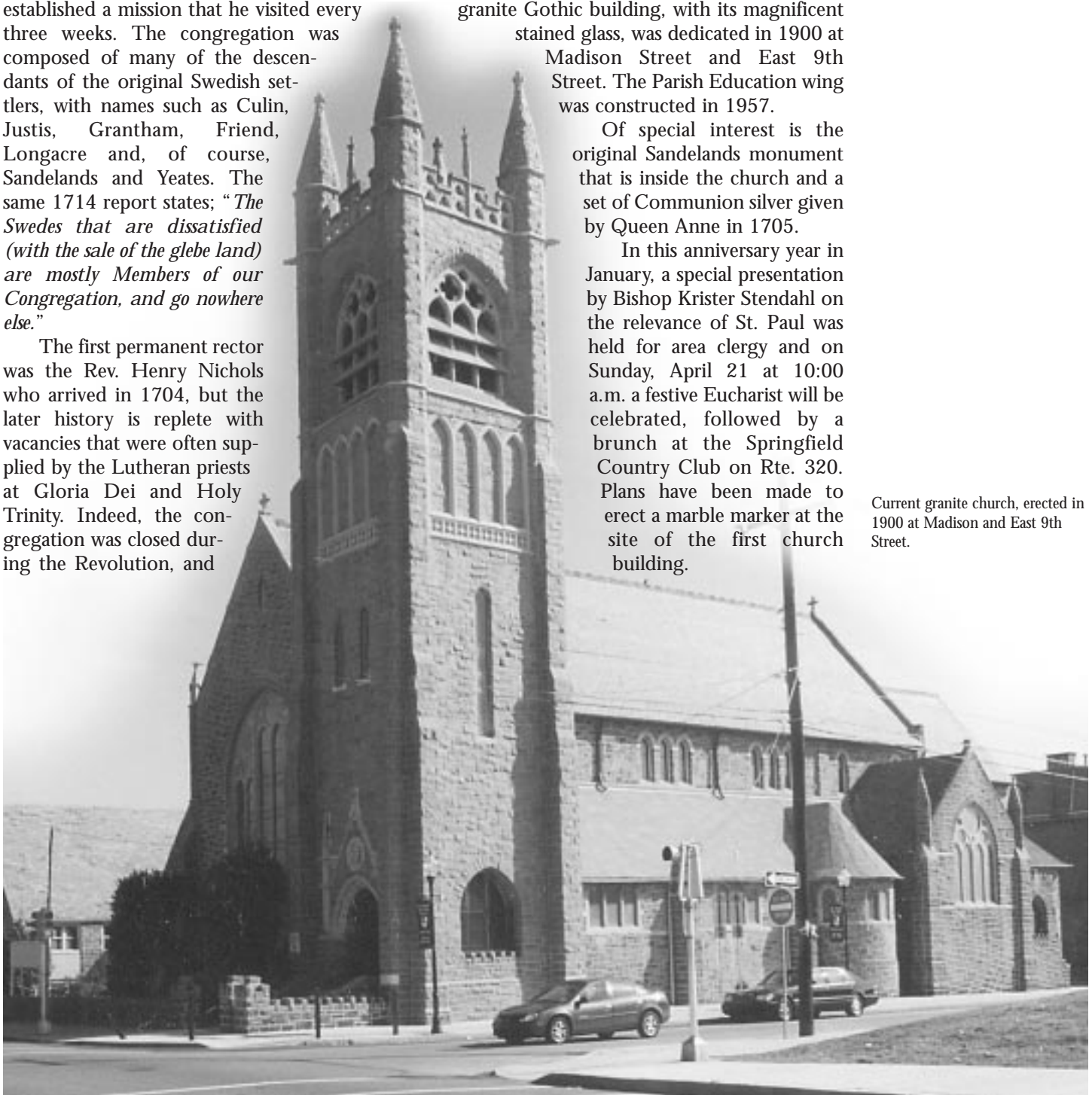
Yet a rebirth took place and by 1850 a new church was dedicated across the street from the old building, which was dismantled. The new building was designed by the noted Thomas U. Walter, who would design the dome for the Capitol in Washington, DC.

In 1873 the church was enlarged for a seating capacity of 550. The present Baltimore granite Gothic building, with its magnificent stained glass, was dedicated in 1900 at Madison Street and East 9th Street. The Parish Education wing was constructed in 1957.

Of special interest is the original Sandelands monument that is inside the church and a set of Communion silver given by Queen Anne in 1705.

In this anniversary year in January, a special presentation by Bishop Krister Stendahl on the relevance of St. Paul was held for area clergy and on Sunday, April 21 at 10:00 a.m. a festive Eucharist will be celebrated, followed by a brunch at the Springfield Country Club on Rte. 320. Plans have been made to erect a marble marker at the site of the first church building.

Current granite church, erected in 1900 at Madison and East 9th Street.



CHRISTINA W. LASSEN

Forefather Members

OF THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

The following list of Forefather Members of the Swedish Colonial Society is current as of 31 March 2002. If any corrections are necessary, please submit them to the SCS Historian and Genealogist, Dr. Peter S. Craig, 3406 Macomb St., NW, Washington DC 20016.

Most Forefather Members have two or more (sometimes 10 or more) colonial immigrant ancestors from Sweden. Such persons are listed under the Forefather of their own choice.

Jöns Andersson

Hans Gustav Ling, Uppsala, Sweden

Måns Andersson (Mounts)

Jerry L. Brimberry, Lilburn GA

Christina W. Lassen, Greenville DE

Peter Andersson (Longacre)

Howard Raymond Longacre, Ephrata PA

Raymond H. Longacre, Ephrata PA

Anders Bengtsson (Bankson)

Gail S. Bunch, Monroe LA

Martha Bankson Lyle, Pace FL

David E. Milam, Toney AL

Lars Thomasson Bjur (Boore)

Elizabeth B. Beers, Wyndmoor PA

Elizabeth M. Cecil, Philadelphia PA

James W. Marvin, Jr., Wyncote PA

Robert F. Marvin, Wynnewood PA

Sara Frances Marvin, Wyncote PA

Verna Marvin, Gladwyne PA

William F. Marvin, Wayne PA

Sinnick Broer (Sinnickson)

Frances S. Baynes, Bow NH

Charlotte H. B. Dallett, Taconic CT

Michael S. Maiden, Ocean Grove NJ

Antoinette W. Sorensen, Tacoma WA

Judith Arlt Walker, Landenberg PA

Otto Ernest Cock (Cox)

Janet Robinson Beerits, Alna ME

David R. Ross, Bryn Mawr PA

Peter Larsson Cock (Cox)

John B. Tepe, Greenville DE

Anders Larsson Dalbo

Sandra D. Asher, Platte City MO

Aleasa J. Hogate, Pennsville NJ

Anders Jonsson Ekoren (Jones)

William L. Hires, Penn Valley PA

Johan Ericksson

F. Leif Eareckson, Annapolis MD

Nils Larsson Frände (Friend)

James A. Friend, Edison NJ

Thomas A. Friend, Edison NJ

Majorie Jackson, Warren OH

Johan Grelsson (Archer)

R. Michael Borland, Colora MD

Sven Gunnarsson (Swanson)

Andrew Clayton, Raymond IL

Barbara H. Clayton, Raymond IL

Dennis J. Cunniff, Cedar Grove NJ

Elise K. Eberle, Albuquerque NM

Eugenia S. W. Eberle, Springfield IL

Frederick R. Eberle, Albuquerque NM

John W. Eberle, Springfield IL

Richard P. Eberle, Albuquerque NM

Allyson R. E. Lomax, St. Paul MN

Audrey R. Lomax, St. Paul MN

Emily P. Lomax, St. Paul MN

Ruth E. McCullough, Williamsburg, VA

Philip F. Otto, San Francisco CA

W. Andrew Sisson, Somerville MA

Barbara Ann Turk, Blanding UT

Johan Gustafsson (Justis)

Jan Widtfeldt Hawkes, Orem UT

John Walton Justice, Chattanooga TN

Janet Justice Papke, Sylva NC

Anne W. Ream, Palo Verdi Estates CA

Steve Widtfeldt, Fort Worth TX

Måns Jönsson Halton

Joyce R. L. Stevenson, Mullica Hill NJ

Anders Hansson (Hanson)

Gary L. Ball-Kilbourne, Fargo ND

Matts Hansson (Mattson)

Lawrence Mattson, Macedon NY

Andrea Mattson Posner, Washington DC

Israel Åkesson Helm

Eldon L. Angelo, Puyalop WA

Anna E. Bauer, Haddonfield NJ

Mary Tomlinson Bauer, Haddonfield NJ

Marie Bates Boisuert, West Chester PA

Elizabeth T. Scholl, Mullica Hill NJ

Martha B. Striedich, Gradyville PA

Johan Hendricksson

Ronald A. Hendrickson, Moorestown NJ

Matthias Claesson Holstein

Barry R. Holstein, Amherst MA

Perry F. Holstein, Raleigh NC

Peter Jochimsson (Yocum)

Gerald H. Barr, Warminster PA

Y. Bernita Bundy, Barnesville OH

Peter S. Craig, Washington DC

Virginia Yocum Fraser, Seal Beach CA

David L. Greth, Bucyrus OH

June Yocum Greth, Shillington PA

Louana G. Johnson, Duluth MN

Ellen Ohnmacht, North River NY

Doris H. Parsons, San Jacinto CA

Dorothy Lee Smith, Surprise AZ

Ralph H. Walker, Mansfield, TX

Katherine Williams, Toppenish WA

Henry W. Yocom, Philadelphia PA

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Stanley A. Yocom, Lancaster PA
 Frederick W. Yocum, Jr., Baltimore MD
 Howard C. Yocum, Aston PA
 James Allan Yocum, Blue Bell PA
 James R. Yocum, Tacoma WA
 Keith C. Yocum, Middletown DE
 Keith C. Yocum, Jr., Middletown DE
 Lauren E. Yocum, Middletown DE

Anders Jöransson (Anderson)

David R. Anderson, Newark DE
 Joseph A. Anderson, Smyrna DE
 Barbara T. Harrell, San Antonio TX
 Cornelia Anderson Pappas, Dover DE

Jürgen Kühn (Keen)

Bonnie Hillman, Seattle WA
 Dawn A. Hillman, Los Angeles CA
 Heather L. Hillman, Brookline MA
 Kendra Jean Hillman, Aspen CO
 Tatnall Lea Hillman, Aspen CO
 Paul J. Holsen II, Ft. Myers FL
 George M. Jenkins, Radnor PA
 Gordon L. Keen, Jr., Strafford PA
 Stuart Craig Keen, Jr., Venice FL
 Patricia T. Marshall, Milford DE
 Margaret Scott, Devon PA
 Susan P. Thompson, Ft. Washington PA
 William Thompson, Ft. Washington PA
 Dortha W. 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. Likins, Cañon City CO
 Bobby G. Lykins, Manchester TN
 Frances Snyder Ramirez, Tampa FL
 Audrey Ligget Snyder, Tampa FL
 Joan Ligget Snyder, Tampa FL
 J. Marc Wheat, Arlington VA

Paul Larsson Corvhorn (Paulson)

William B. Neal, Claymont DE

Marcus Laurensen (Huling)

Carla V. Chamberlain, Schellsburg PA

Rev. Lars Carlsson Lock

Matthew Lee Grannell, Dover PA
 C. Donald Jess, Lancaster PA
 Susan Winters, W. Palm Beach FL

Måns Svensson Lom

Kay Jordan Campbell, Coffeyville KS
 Virginia Hulings Hill, Oakmont PA
 Gary Jordan, Täby, Sweden
 Anne L. Kerr, Everett PA

Hans Månsson (Steelman)

Gloria R. Hoppe, Big Sandy TX
 Emma Mathews, Hamilton NJ
 James F. Steelman, Mays Landing NJ
 Jeffrey B. Steelman, Boothwyn PA
 Rev. Robert B. Steelman, Bridgeton NJ
 Robert H. Steelman, New York NY
 William D. Steelman, Moraga CA
 William G. White, Deptford NJ

Knut Mårtensson (Morton)

William R. Stevenson, Vero Beach FL

Mårten Mårtensson (Morton)

Charles M. Allmond III, Wilmington DE
 Mildred Meredith, Solsberry IL
 Donald C. Ward, Sr., Boyerstown PA
 William Ward IV, Toughkenamon PA

Pål Jönsson Mullica (Poulson)

Ralph E. Poulson, Jr., Worthington OH

Jonas Nilsson (Jones)

Carol Harmon, Traverse City MI
 Doris S. Hopkins, Dataw Island SC
 Carol B. Kehler, Broomall PA
 Elizabeth A. McFarland, Haverford PA
 Esther Ann McFarland, Haverford PA
 George C. McFarland, Jr., Haverford PA
 George C. McFarland III, Haverford PA
 Megan D. McFarland, Haverford PA
 John G. Taylor, Jr., Wallingford PA

Hans Olleson

Stuart Henri Yost, Philadelphia PA

Samuel Petersson (Peterson)

C. Matthew Peterson, Bountiful UT

Governor Johan Printz

Dorothea B. Clymer, Placentia CA

Peter Gunnarsson Rambo

James F. Bankston, Everman TX
 Marianna J. Barneyback, Canton MO
 Judy Baxter, Haverford PA
 Anne Marie Brancati, Wilmington DE
 Cynthia Vold Forde, Hempstead TX
 Jane S. Frees, Spring City PA
 Sharon Holmberg, Wallingford CT
 Mary Ann Horning, Wilmington DE
 Scott W. Jordan, Albuquerque NM
 Jane R. Lohmeyer, Coatesville PA
 ElaRuth McCullough, Nacogdoches TX
 Mary Beth McDermott, Wilmington DE
 Freda Jo Bankston Porter, Arlington TX
 Glenn Rambo, Wyomissing PA
 Herbert R. Rambo, Berlin NJ
 John Gunnar Rambo, Bowie MD
 J.H.T. Rambo, New York NY
 Michael R. Rambo, Winston Salem NC
 Jean Carson Roll, Easton MD

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FOREFATHER MEMBERS

from page 13

Jeannette S. Vollmer, Wynnewood PA
Jeffrey S. Waddell, Portsmouth RI
Virginia Waddell, Wyomissing PA
Ronald A. Wilson, Norfolk VA
William R. Wilson, Norfolk VA

Rev. Andreas Rudman

Katharine A. E. Campbell, Malvern PA

Johan Thorsson Scoggin

John W. Gareis, Lancaster PA

Sven Skute

Julie Jensen Bryan, Philadelphia, PA

John J. Hagan, Lawrenceville NJ

Ellan W. S. Thorson, Annapolis MD

Charles Springer

Annabel C. Audet, Sacramento CA

Eileen D. O'Brien, Baltimore MD

E. William Ross, Villanova PA

Gary E. Young, Centreville MD

Måns Petersson Stake (Peterson)

Kenneth S. Peterson, Levittown PA

Robert B. Peterson, Mullica Hill NJ

John Andersson Stalcop

Janet S. Rontz, Albuquerque NM

Janice M. Snead, Meadowview VA

Larry S. Stallcup, Virginia Beach VA

Timen Stiddem (Stidham)

Frances O. Allmond, Wilmington, DE

Noria I. Gerig, Bangkok, Thailand

Frances H. Lewis, Deland FL
Margaret R. Nesbitt, Mesa AZ
Linda Singleton, Noblesville IN
Richard L. Steadham, Woodbridge VA
Felicia P. Stidham, Washington DC
Jack Stidham, Morristown, TN
William O. Stidham, Washington MI
Walter David Stock, Philadelphia PA

Olof Stille (Stilley)

Margaret Sooy Bridwell, Berwyn PA
Ruthellen Davis, Newtown Square PA
Nancy B. Foster, Cincinnati OH
Denis P. Higgenbotham, Fairhope AL
Robert F. Higgenbotham, Fairhope AL
Mildred W. Hollander, Ames IA
James A. Kimble, Holland OH
Jill W. Van Horne, Horse Shoe NC
Edward M. Ward, Ocean City NJ
Adelaide Weidknecht, Manahawkin NJ
Kim-Eric Williams, W. Chester PA
Marjorie E. Williams, W. Chester PA

Johan Van Culen (Culin)

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

Berks County 250th Anniversary



Zofia & Herb Rambo (left), Fred Nicolosi, Glenn & Nancy Rambo

Berks launched a yearlong celebration of its 250th anniversary as a Pennsylvania County with a "Grand Assembly" honoring the first settlers who were Swedes, and the predominant

Germanic colonial influence of the region. Delegations representing Sweden and Germany were the honored guests during a weeklong series of events.

The Swedish delegation was led by Cabinet Minister the Hon. Britta Lejon and included representation from the Swedish Embassy, the Swedish American Chamber of Commerce and the Swedish Colonial Society.

The Berks County 250th Committee did an exceptional job with the arrangements as the delegations made a whirlwind of visits and events in several of the 65 municipalities. Several thousand turned out for a "Welcome to Berks County" Reception held at the Reading Museum.

At a Memorial Service held at St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church, Douglassville, Governor and Mrs. Herbert R. Rambo, Councillor Alfred J. Nicolosi and Forefather members Mr. & Mrs. Glenn D. Rambo, presented a Memorial Wreath honoring Berks first Swedish settlers.

Julmiddag at Merion Cricket Club

December 2, 2001



(Top left) Erwin and Britt Apell (standing) with Mrs. George (Esther) McFarland (left) and Katarina Sheronas; (below) Jim and Doriney Seagers; (large) Olof Sundin reading Hans Christian Andersen's *Little Match Girl*;



(next line from left) ????? ?????; Aleasa Hogate; ????? ????? (left) with Holly Joyce St. John; Jack Tepe; ????? ?????;



(next line from left) Lucia Holly Joyce St. John (nee Smith) with star boys Stephen, David and Andrew Smith; Zofia and Herb Rambo; ????? ????? (left) with ????? ????? and ????? ?????;

(next line from left) Kim-Eric Williams (left), Marjorie E. Williams and Sandra G. Van Amburg; Ron Hendrickson and Mary Ann Horning.



Sundin photo by Mary Ann Horning.
All other photos by Britt Apell.



In Memoriam

Dr. Benkt R. Wennberg, Governor of the Swedish Colonial Society from 1984 to 1986, died December 11, 2001 at the age of 81.

A Life Member of the Swedish Colonial Society, Dr. Wennberg joined the society in 1973 and, in addition to his two years as Governor, was very active in SCS affairs, particularly as Chairman of the Publications Committee. He alarmed some members of the Council when he circulated a questionnaire to members of the Society, asking for their suggestions on ways to further the goals of SCS and improve its outreach. This led to the revival of the Forefather membership program and the creation of the *Swedish Colonial News*,



Benkt R. Wennberg
1920-2001

first published in 1990 under the editorship of Beth Linnerson-Daly.

A tall (6½ feet) and stately man, Benkt commanded universal respect from those who worked with him, both for his humor and the seriousness of his purpose. He not only contributed to the success of the *Swedish Colonial News* but also undertook important translation tasks, including his 1991 translation of Dr. Amandus Johnson's article, "Stenarna Tala" [The Stones Speak], a contemporary account of the 1937 archaeological excavations at Governor Printz Park on Tinicum Island. This excavation proved that Printzhof was, indeed, located where Carl Lindborg's statue of Printz stands – contradicting contrary claims by the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission.

Benkt Wennberg, a native of Nyköping, Sweden, joined the Swedish Red Cross Medical Corps at the outbreak of World War II. Later, at Carlberg, he was commissioned 2nd lieutenant in the Signal Corps, became company commander and, during 11 years of service in the Swedish Army, was involved in campaigns throughout Scandinavia. In March 1948, he met Dorothy Guenther from Paoli, Pennsylvania, while both were studying at the University of Uppsala. In 1950, Benkt came to the United States to teach at Augustana College during the summer and, on September 9, 1950, they were married.

Following the wedding, they went to Sweden, where Benkt received his Fil. kand. degree six months later.

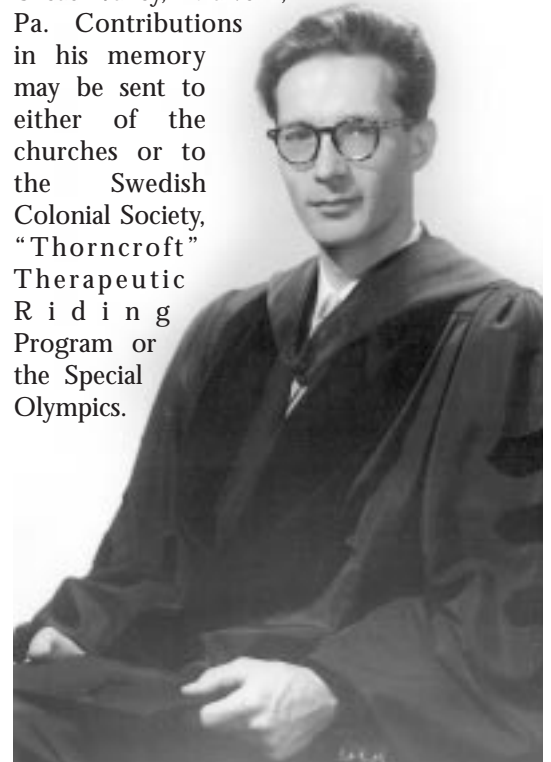
After returning to Paoli, Benkt enrolled in a graduate program at Bryn Mawr and received his master's degree in 1953. He continued his studies in medieval French literature at the University of Pennsylvania and received his Ph.D. in 1956. This led to a 36-year career in teaching which began at the University of Gainesville in Florida (1956-1962) and ended at Drexel University in Philadelphia (1981-1992).

He also served his community diligently as lay minister, chalice, or vestryman for his church, in choruses, local theater, Great Book discussion groups, Boy Scouts, therapeutic horseback riding, and the Special Olympics. He was actively involved in activities at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church, where he officiated at Julotta services during the 1980s, reading from his family's 17th century Swedish Bible.

Dr. Wennberg is survived by his wife Dorothy, three children, two grandchildren and a host of admirers who were touched by his life. He also is survived by a sister and other relatives living in Sweden.

Memorial services were held December 15 at All Hallows Episcopal Church, Wyncote, Pa. Interment was at St. Peter's Church in the Great Valley, Malvern, Pa. Contributions

in his memory may be sent to either of the churches or to the Swedish Colonial Society, "Thorncroft" Therapeutic Riding Program or the Special Olympics.



A New Roof for the Mouns Jones House

The oldest structure in Berks County, Pennsylvania is the 1716 stone home of Måns Jonasson, commonly called Mouns Jones. The Swedes who were displaced by Penn for the erection of the City of Philadelphia were partially compensated by a grant of land up the Schuylkill River and became the first European settlers in Amity Township. Mouns Jones' father had arrived in New Sweden as a soldier with Governor Printz in 1643. He became a freeman and established a farm at Kingsessing (West Philadelphia). His son moved to Amity Township in 1704.

His house is located in what is now called the village of Old Morlatton in Douglassville. It was restored some years ago but its roof now is badly decayed and needs to be replaced. The Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission has awarded the



Historic Preservation of Berks County a matching grant of \$16,500 to restore the wood shingle roof. To receive these funds, the Historic Trust must first raise a similar \$16,500. Any and all contributions are welcome and checks are tax-deductible. Kindly send them to: The Historic Preservation Trust of Berks County, P.O. Box 245, Douglassville, PA 19518.

New Sweden Books

Books about New Sweden for your personal or family history library may be purchased on the internet at amazon.com, abebooks.com, bookfinder.com, ColonialSwedes.org and other sites. Books may also be purchased at the gift shops at the American Swedish Historical Museum, 1900 Pattison Ave., Philadelphia, and at the Hendrickson House at Holy Trinity (Old Swedes') Church, 505 Church St., Wilmington. Various other used book dealers carry the original publications by Amandus Johnson. Dr. Craig's best-selling books, *The 1693 Census of the Swedes on the Delaware* (\$40) and *The 1671 Census of the Delaware* (\$25) may be purchased directly from him at 3406 Macomb St., NW, Washington DC 20016. A local store in the Delaware Valley at Rosemont is: MacManus, 12 Water Street, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010 (610) 520-7273.

New Books

George Ambrose, *The Log Cabins of New Sweden*, softbound, 76 pages, including illustrations, bibliography and index. This booklet, recently published by the New Sweden Centre, describes the construction process of early Swedish/Finnish log cabins, including the worm fence, and contains descriptions of a dozen log cabin sites associated with New Sweden settlers. Price \$10. Order from New Sweden Centre, 819 East Seventh St., Wilmington DE 19801.

Margaret B. Scoggins, *Scoggins Family: An American Saga, 1640-2002*, hardbound, 306 pages, including bibliography and every name index. Building on Dr. Peter Craig's research on the early Scoggin descendants of Johan Thorsson Schaggen of New Sweden, the author traces a branch of this family as it moved via York County, PA, into Virginia and across Tennessee. Price \$28, postpaid. Order from the author, P.O. Box 473, Poplar Bluff, MO 63902.

In Memoriam

Commander John Ramee USN (Ret.) died on December 23, 2001 at a Veterans Hospital in Maine. He was born on 4 December 1911. He was a Councillor of the Society, a member of the Publications Committee and long-time Captain of the Color Guard. A Memorial Service will be held for him at the Chapel of the Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD on May 13, 2002.

Bertil H. Lantz, of Rosemont, PA, a former member of the Society and the owner of the Viking Inn in Ardmore, died on January

22, 2002 at the age of 82. Mr. Lantz operated his landmark restaurant for 35 years which was noted for its "motorized" Swedish smorgasbord. He emigrated from Sweden in 1946 and assisted with many social events for the Society either at his restaurant or at the Overbrook Golf Club, of which he was a member. He was awarded a medal from the Consul-General of Sweden at the time of the visit of King Carl XVI Gustaf in 1976 in recognition of his work to improve Swedish-US relations.

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.Colonial Swedes.org](http://www.ColonialSwedes.org)>. The annual membership fee for an individual is \$25. An annual family membership, which includes two adults and minor children, is \$30. Lifetime membership is available for \$300.

Patrons, Officers & Councillors

High Patron

His Majesty Carl XVI Gustaf,
King of Sweden

Patron

His Excellency Jan Eliasson,
Ambassador of Sweden

Deputy Patron

The Honorable Olle Wästberg,
Consul General of Sweden

Associate Patron

The Honorable
Agneta Hägglund Bailey,
Consul of Sweden

Honorary Governors

William B. Neal
John C. Cameron, Esq.
Wallace F. Richter
Dr. Erik G.M. Törnqvist
Herbert Gullberg
Conrad Wilson

Deputy Governor - Emeritus

Mrs. George C. McFarland

Governor

Herbert R. Rambo

Senior Deputy Governor

Ronald A. Hendrickson, Esq.

Junior Deputy Governor

Jayne S. Huntington

Secretary - Treasurer

Very Rev. David B. Rivers

Recording Secretary

Aleasa J. Hogate

Registrar

Doriney Seagers

Captain of the Color Guard

Kenneth S. Peterson

Chaplain - Archivist

Rev. Dr. Kim-Eric Williams

Counselor

Gordon S. Keen, Esq.

Historian

Dr. Peter S. Craig

Councillors

Frances O. Allmond
David R. Anderson
Britt M. Apell
Marie B. Boisuert
Sally Bridwell
Julie Jensen Bryan
DeAnn Clancy
Beth Linnerson Daly
Brian Daly
Lennart Hagegård
Mary Ann B. Horning
Christina W. Lassen
David E. Lewis
Marianne E. Mackenzie
Alfred J. Nicolosi
Sandra S. Pfaff
Ellen T. Rye
James D. Seagers
Earl E. Seppälä
Katarina Sheronas
Gunnil Sjöberg
Linda R. Smith
Susan B. Spackman
Richard L. Steadham
Richard L. Waldron

Membership

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 St., NW, Washington, DC 20016.

The following new Forefather Members have been approved during the seven months ending 1 April 2002:

David Edward Milam, Toney AL, descended from Anders Bengtsson via his son Andrew Bankson of Potquessing Creek, Pennsylvania, and his son Lawrence Bankston of North Carolina.

Dorothy Lee Smith, Surprise AZ, descended from Peter Jochimsson via his son Peter Petersson Yocum of Aronameck, Kingsessing, and his son Charles Yocum.

Ruth Ellen McCullough, Williamsburg VA, descended from Sven Gunnarsson via his daughter Gertrude who married Jonas Nilsson and their son Måns Jonasson of Berks County, PA.

W. Andrew Sisson, Somerville MA, and **Philip F. Otto**, San Francisco CA, both descended from Sven Gunnarsson via his daughter Gertrude who married Jonas Nilsson and their daughter Judith who married Peter Petersson Yocum.

Mary Ruth McDermott and **Anne Marie Brancati**, both of Wilmington DE, descended from Peter Gunnarsson Rambo via his son John Rambo and Peter Rambo.

Robert P. Peterson, Mullica Hill NJ, descended from Måns Petersson Stake via his son Peter Peterson of Maurice River, NJ.

Andrea Mattson Posner, Washington DC, descended from Matts Hansson via his son Peter Mattson of Gloucester County, NJ.

Frederick R. Eberle and his daughter **Elise K. Eberle**, Albuquerque NM, descended from Sven Gunnarsson via his son Andrew Swanson and Christopher Swanson of Wicaco, Philadelphia.

Richard P. Eberle, Albuquerque NM, descended from the same.

Allyson R. E. Lomax, St. Paul MN, and her daughters **Emily** and **Audrey Lomax**, descended from the same.

John W. Eberle, Springfield IL, descended from the same.

Adelaide S. Weidknecht, Manahawkin NJ, descended from Olof Stille via his daughter Ella, who married Hans Månsson, and their son Jöns Steelman of Great Egg Harbor, NJ.

Jill W. Van Horne, Horse Shoe NC, descended from the same.

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBER

The Scandinavian Heritage Association, Minot ND

FAMILY MEMBERS

Sigurd S. Johnson Family, Mount Laurel NJ

Mary Beth McDermott Family, Wilmington DE

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Dianna A. Glynn, Cincinnati OH

Budd Hallberg, Gettysburg PA

Francis M. Hult, Philadelphia PA

Robert C. Jackle, Westminster MD

Charles William Middleton, Norristown PA

Harrison G. Moore, IV, Houston TX

Alfred J. Nicolosi, Penns Grove NJ

Philip Frederick Otto, San Francisco CA

George Peterson III, Bernardsville NJ

Meredith Rambo, Marietta GA

Margaret A. Reich, Lititz PA

Dorothy L. Smith, Surprise AZ

Dennis A. Steelman, Absecon NJ

Wayne Andrew Sisson, Somerville, NJ

Charles F. Yocum, Ann Arbor MI

Upcoming Events

- April 21,** Sunday, 10:00 a.m., 300th Anniversary Worship, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Madison & 9th Sts., Chester. (610) 872-0394.
- April 28,** Saturday, Ninth Annual Champagne Brunch to benefit the Kalmar Nyckel replica ship at "Big Bend" on the Brandywine River. Call (302) 429-7447.
- April 30,** Tuesday, Valborgsmässoafton at American Swedish Historical Museum.
- May 5,** Sunday, Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church Anniversary celebration followed by a light lunch. Call (215) 389-1513.
- June 9,** Sunday, Midsommar Fest at American Swedish Historical Museum.
- June 14-23,** Nine-day tour of Sweden; some space still available. Call Jim Seagers at (610) 918-0943 or World Wide Consolidated Travel at (800) 258-9928.
- Sept. 28-29,** Saturday-Sunday, Mouns Jones Country Fair, Berks County 250th Anniversary, Douglassville, Pa at Old Morlatton Village. Call (610) 385-3431.
- Sept. 29,** Sunday, Delaware Swedish Colonial Society, Kallbord at Greenbank Mill.
- Oct. 12,** Saturday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Friends of the Swedish Cabin Colonial Craft Day, at 9 Creek Rd., Drexel Hill. Call (610) 449-3577.
- Dec. 1,** Sunday, 11:30 a.m. Julmiddag.

Swedish Colonial News

The Swedish Colonial Society
916 South Swanson Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19147-4332
www.ColonialSwedes.org

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