



# Swedish Colonial News

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Preserving the legacy of the Royal New Sweden Colony in America

Dr. Amandus Johnson (Originally published in "Allsvensk Samling" March 1938. Translated by Benkt Wennberg.)

## "The Stones Speak (Stenarna Tala)"

Noteworthy Findings from the Digs on Tinicum Island



*New Sweden Governor Johan Printz inspects a gift of maize from the Native Lenape at Tinicum*

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Thirty years ago very few citizens, even those living in New Sweden's pioneer district, Philadelphia and Wilmington, knew that they were of Swedish stock or cared, on the whole, to trace back their descent. So we had the idea to found a Swedish historical society that we called The Swedish Colonial Society. Through the Swedish consul in Philadelphia, Marcel A. Viti, and Sweden's Envoy at

Washington, H. Lagercrantz, we succeeded in persuading the King of Sweden, Gustaf V, to become High Patron of the Society, and with that the success of the Society was assured. Within two years we had more than 175 members, among them many of the most distinguished families of Philadelphia and its environs.

*(Continued on page 8).*

## Anders Andersson the Finn and his Descendents

When the ships *Fama* and *Swan* arrived at Fort Christina early in the afternoon of 13 February 1643, most eyes were focused on the new Governor, Johan Printz, and his family. Also on board, however, was Anders Andersson the Finn, his wife and small children. Anders the Finn, formerly a soldier at Fort Älvsborg in Sweden, had been banished to New Sweden as punishment for some undisclosed crime.

By 1644 Anders the Finn had become a freeman, having served out his sentence. Like several other Finns he resided in an area known as Finland, located west of Upland (now Chester) Creek. Here, in the woods, he planted his rye – an essential food for his family. By March 1648, however, he was in debt to the New Sweden Company and Governor Printz for 231:10 guilders, the biggest part (160 guilders) being for an ox. Governor Printz therefore had him hauled into court and seized Anders' woods as payment for this debt. This deprived Anders of ground on which to raise his rye and forced Anders to beg and sometimes steal grain from others in order to sustain his family.

When a petition, drafted in July 1653 by pastor Lars Lock, was circulated to complain against Printz's treatment of the freemen, Anders Andersson had his name added to the list of complainers. Governor Printz characterized this petition as a "mutiny," and responded on 1 August 1653 by claiming that the court judgment against Anders the Finn was a legal judgment and therefore beyond criticism. In September 1653, Printz left the colony and returned to Sweden.

### Jacob Jongh's Trunk

The arrival of a new governor, Johan Risingh, in 1654 also changed Anders the Finn's fortunes. His woods were restored to him. But his legal problems were not over. In 1661 he rented a room to Jacob Jongh from Gothenburg, former assistant commissary for New Sweden but now an Indian trader for Willem Beeckman, Governor Stuyvesant's deputy on the South (Delaware) River. In mid-September Jongh eloped with Catharine, the wife of pastor Lars Lock. Beeckman rushed to Anders' house to seek the goods that had been entrusted to Jongh and found that somebody had broken into Jongh's trunk. Initially, Beeckman accused Anders the Finn of this deed, but it later developed that the minister himself had broken into the trunk, looking for evidence of his wife's misdeeds. Jacob Jongh was not to be found. (He had fled to the Bronx River near New Amsterdam, only to return to the Philadelphia area in 1677 when he became sexton and schoolmaster for the new log church at Wicaco.). Beeckman ended up bringing an action against Lars Carlsson Lock, who was forced to pay for the missing goods.

### Evert Hendricksson the Finn

In the spring of 1663, Anders the Finn became one of the principal accusers against Evert Hendricksson the Finn, another resident of Upland Creek. Anders complained that "Evert Hendricksson the Finn daily commits acts of insolence before his, the deponent's, door by beating, shouting and other disorderly acts, and if nothing is done about it, he will have to leave the

village in order to live in peace." Others testified that Evert the Finn regularly met with Anders the Finn's wife at the house of Pål Petersson, another Finn. As a result of these and other charges, the Upland Court decided to ban Evert the Finn from living anywhere within the court's jurisdiction. Evert the Finn then moved to Crane Hook, where Governor d'Hinojossa promised that he and other Finns could live without molestation.

Notwithstanding the deportation of Evert the Finn, Anders decided that he would move, too. After the English captured the Delaware from the Dutch in 1664, Anders the Finn moved his family to join the families of Sinnick Broer the Finn and Walraven Jansen de Vos (a former Dutch soldier, married to a Finn) at Deer Point on the north side of Christina Creek. They claimed an area of 450 morgens (900 acres) and a patent for this land was issued on 1 September 1669. A month later Anders and his neighbors on Christina Creek were also given liberty to erect a mill on Anders the Finn's Creek (also known as Little Falls Creek) at Deer Point. The area later became known as Richardson Park and is now part of Wilmington.

The last recorded act of Anders the Finn was a deed dated 1 September 1673 by which Anders Andersson and Christina Gulbrand his wife conveyed his 300 acres of land to their two sons, Justa Anderson and John Anderson with the caveat that Anders was "to have the corn when ripe and to live in the house during his pleasure." He probably died shortly thereafter. His widow survived him by many years. She probably lived with her youngest daughter, Brita.

Four children of Anders Andersson and his wife Christina Gulbrand have been identified:

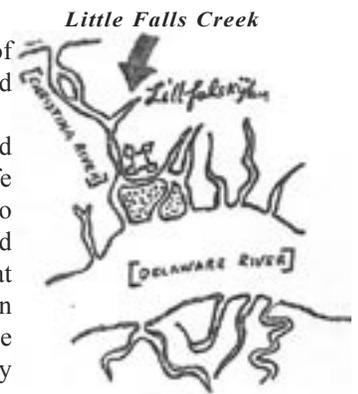
**Anna Andersdotter**, born in Sweden, married Nils Larsson Frände of Upland Creek in 1656. Their house on Upland Creek, adjoining Lars Carlsson Lock, became an inn and was the favorite meeting place of the Upland Court. Her husband's adopted surname (Frände, meaning "kinsman" or "blood brother") was first used when he and Olle Rawson (see below) were granted a license to buy lands from the Indians in Gloucester County NJ and later became Anglicized to "Friend."

Nils Larsson died in 1686. Anna lived another forty years, being cared for by her son Gabriel Friend. Their children were:

> Brita Friend, born c. 1657, married by 1678 John Cock, son of Peter Larsson Cock and Margaret Lom; died after 1720 when living at St. Georges Creek, New Castle County, Delaware. Eight children.

> Anders Friend, born c. 1659, married twice; first to a daughter (name unknown) of Peter Gunnarsson Rambo, 2nd to Isabela (parents not identified); died in the 1740s at present Williamsport, Maryland. Three known children.

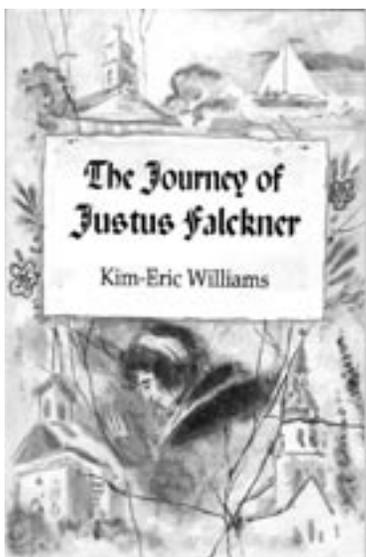
> Catharine Friend, born 1661, married Olof Dalbo, son of Anders Larsson Dalbo and his wife Elisabeth; died 19 April 1721 in Gloucester County, NJ. Nine children. (continued on page 4)



## Williams is 31st Governor of Swedish Colonial Society

Kim-Eric Williams became the thirty-first Governor of the Swedish Colonial Society at the Annual Meeting and Luncheon held on April 3 at the Brandywine Country Club in Wilmington, Delaware. This year's annual meeting was held in conjunction with the Delaware Swedish Colonial Society.

"It is a privilege to serve as the Governor of the Society at a time when it has accomplished so much and when so many exciting opportunities to expand the Society are before us, remarked Williams. " I am especially indebted to my good friend, Honorary Governor Ron Hendrickson for his collaborative and visionary direction during the last two years.



The Society has moved into the very front ranks of all historical societies in this country. I hope that we can continue to increase both our domestic and Swedish membership, proceed in securing suitable placement for our valuable and growing archival collection at the joint Mt. Airy Archives, and be the voice of the people in preserving the imperiled historic sites in the Delaware Valley. In addition, our publishing and research functions will continue to bear fruit with

several ideas for publication including the coming first volume of the Gloria Dei Records Project."

Williams lives in West Chester, Pennsylvania in the same county where his ancestor, Olof Stille, settled in 1641. He is an 11th generation descendent of a number of Colonial Swedes including Carl C. Springer and Hendrick Jacobsson. He has four children: Lovisa in Virginia, and Pia, Justin, and Sarah in Connecticut. He received an AB in Social Science from Muhlenberg College in Allentown, PA, a Master of Divinity from the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Gettysburg, PA, and a Doctor of Ministry from the Graduate Theological Foundation at Notre Dame, IN in Ecumenics. He was ordained by the Lutheran Church in America in 1969 and served congregations in New Jersey and Connecticut as well as serving as a Priest in the Church of Sweden at Täby in the Stockholm Diocese and as a staff official for the Division of World Mission and Ecumenism of the Lutheran church at Port-of-Spain, Trinidad.

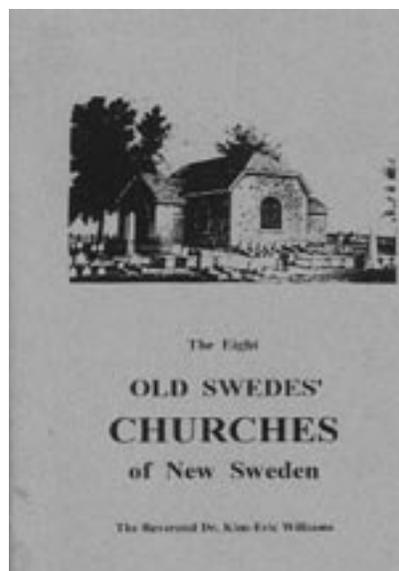
Since 2000 Williams has served as the Chaplain and Archivist of the Society, organizing and creating a Finding Guide to the collections of the Society. He also serves on the

Board of Directors of the Lutheran Archives Center at Philadelphia and edits their newsletter, *Archives Advocate*. He has also been the editor of the *Swedish Colonial News* for five years and the translator and Assistant Editor of the *Gloria Dei Records Project* for the past seven years. He is



fluent in the Swedish language and serves as the Director of Swedish Studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

Williams has been involved with a number of books, articles and presentations.



Through his work on the Board of the New Sweden Centre of Wilmington he wrote "*The Eight Old Swedes Churches of New Sweden*", and through his work with the Lutheran Archives Center, "*The Journey of Justus Falckner*", the story of the first Swedish Ordination in America. Last year he edited Hans Ling's "*Faces of New Sweden*".

He is a member of many area Swedish organizations and historical societies including the Augustana Heritage Association and the Anglican-Lutheran International Society.

## FOREFATHERS from page 2

> Maria Friend, born c. 1663, married c. 1687 Gabriel Cock, son of Peter Larsson Cock and Margaret Lom. Eight children.

> Johannes Friend, born 1666, married c. 1696 Anna, daughter of Hendrick Coleman, died 1738 at Upper Penns Neck, Salem County, NJ. Ten children.

> Susannah Friend, born c. 1670, married c. 1694 Enoch Enochsson, son of Garrett and Gertrude Enochson. Four sons.

> Sarah Friend, born c. 1672, married c. 1700 Amos Nicholas (English). Four known children

> Gabriel Friend, born c. 1674, married Maria Van Culen, daughter of Johan Van Culen and Annicka Grelsson; died after 1748. Five known children.

> Lars Friend, born c. 1676, married in 1718 to Sarah Jaquet, daughter of Paul and Maria Jaquet; died in New Jersey in 1754. Four known children.

> Barbara Friend, born c. 1678, married in 1705 to Peter Longacre, son of Anders Petersson Longacre and Magdalena Cock; died after 1739 in Kingsessing, Philadelphia County. Five known children.

**Justa Andersson** was an adult by 1670 when he joined his father in signing a letter written in haste to warn the English at New Castle of an impending attack by Seneca Indians from the north. He married, by 1676 a Dutch widow by the name of Aeltie, who was the mother of a teen-age boy named Sybrant Matthiassen Valk, then a servant for Peter Alrichs. When they took back her son into their household, constables were sent to Justa Andersson's house in New Castle to recover the boy for his master. Justa and Aeltie so verbally abused the constables that they fled in terror. Justa and Aeltie were fined 600 guilders for their behavior in the incident.

Justa Andersson had no children of his own. After selling his 150 acres at Deer Point, Justa bought the inn in New Castle. He dealt extensively in real estate, both in New Castle and elsewhere. Among his dealings was the purchase of Olof Stille's original plantation in Chester (now Delaware) County, Pa., from pastor Lars Lock. Part of this land, on Ridley Creek, was then sold to widow Anna Friend, who moved with her younger children to this location.

Justa went bankrupt and the last of his New Castle property was sold by the sheriff to pay his creditors. He then moved to Cecil County, Maryland, where he was known as Justa Anderson alias Cock. When naturalized by William Penn on 32 February 1682/3, he had been called Justa Andries de Haan. The words "de haan" mean "the rooster" in Dutch, which may have been descriptive of his personality. Justa Andersson alias Cock died some time after 12 November 1695 when he was sued in the Cecil County court.

**John Andersson**, the younger son, married by 1676 Catharina, the daughter of Hendrick Jacobsson and Gertrude his wife. He sold his 150 acres of Deer Point to Peter Jegoe. In 1681, he was granted 390 acres on the east side of Red Clay Creek, which he sold to Peter Stalcop and John Hansson Steelman in 1689. However, he never lived there. By 1681, he was living in Chester County, probably on land owned by his brother-in-law, Olle Rawson. When indicted by the Chester County court for stealing pork, Olle Rawson and Nils Larsson Frände posted bond for him. John Andersson was acquitted, but moved by 1682 to

live in "Stockholm Township," on the north side of Raccoon Creek in what became Gloucester County.

While residing in New Jersey, John was called John Anderson "the little," to distinguish him from John Andersson Strång, who was called John Andersson "the big." By June 1689, John Andersson was back in Chester County, living with his mother. Both were sued there for a debt of £2.12.6 on account. By 1693, when the church census showed seven persons in his household, John was back in New Castle County, where he was granted 300 acres between Brandywine Creek and Red Clay Creek. By this time he was known as John Anderson Cock.

John Anderson Cock gave £4 for the construction of Holy Trinity Church. He and his wife were both assigned pews in the new church in 1699. Having sold most of his land on Brandywine Creek and having given the remaining 100 acres to his son Andrew ("Andrishi") Cock, John purchased 200 acres of "Oak Hill" on Mill Creek from Anna Friend in May 1701. Quitrents on this land were not paid, because John Anderson was sick. John Anderson Cock sold this property to Charles Springer, 10 February 1702/03. He probably died shortly thereafter.

John Andersson Cock and Catharine Hendricksdotter had at least the following children:

> Andrew ("Andrishi") Cock, born c. 1678, married [1] Aeltie, widow of Zacharias Vanderculin [no children] and [2] Sarah Stidham, daughter of Adam and Catharine Stidham, c. 1708; died 8 Dec. 1749 in New Castle County. Ten children by second marriage.

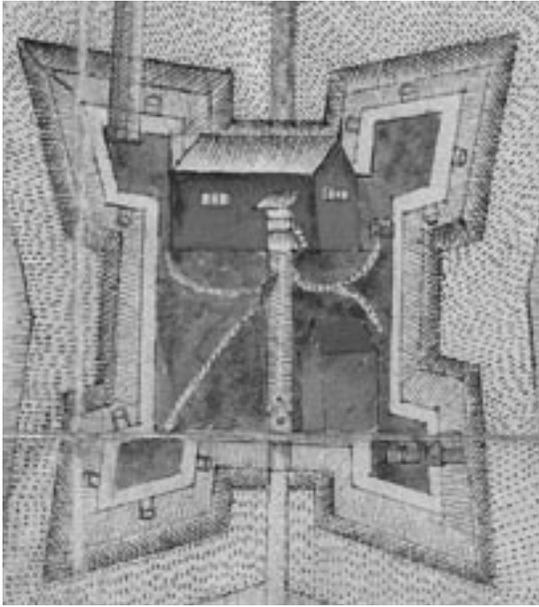
> Justa Cock, born c. 1683, married Annika (parents not identified) by 1713. Three children baptized at Holy Trinity, 1713-1720 before he moved to Nottingham in Chester County.

> William Cock, born c. 1685, married Amy Vanderculin (Dutch), daughter of Reigner Vanderculin and Margaret Ogge, c. 1714; died 1743 in New Castle County. Five known children.

> Joseph Cock, born c. 1690, married Maria (parents not identified) by 1718; disappears from New Castle County records in 1720 after baptism of two children at Holy Trinity.

> Catharina Cock, born c. 1695, married Peter Pålsson, son of Olle and Kerstin Pålsson of Fern Hook, 20 October 1720, and had ten children before her death after childbirth on 18 November 1739. Her husband remarried Maria, daughter of Johan Van Culin and Christina Pålsson and widow of Stephen Tussey c. 1742 and moved to Cecil County, where he died in 1755.

**Brita Andersdotter**, the younger daughter of Anders the Finn, was married by 1673 to **Olof Rase**, more commonly known as **Olle or Wolla Rawson** and finally as **William Rawson**. He had arrived in New Sweden as a soldier on the *Eagle* in 1654 and, together with Nils Larsson Frände had been licensed to buy land from the Indians in Gloucester County in 1668. He sold his interest in the New Jersey venture in 1675, being satisfied with his original tract of land on the west bank of the Delaware, located above and below Marcus Hook. This tract, originally granted by the Dutch before 1664 was repatented in 1676 by Governor Andros of New York to Olle Rawson and five others and estimated to be 1,000 acres. Each of the other owners moved to new locations, however, so that most of this land ended up in



From Lindestrom's 1654 Map of Fort Christina

## Fort Christina - Part II

### Conclusion of Physical Description

Peter Minuit was familiar with the construction of the Dutch forts in New Amsterdam. He seems to have employed all of that knowledge and added some innovations of his own to the design of the fort.

The main walls were constructed of logs, sharpened on one end and set in a trench and perhaps partially driven into the soil of the trench bottom. The log walls extended upwards about twelve feet above ground.

Soil was mounded up against the outside of the log walls to reinforce them against cannon fire. The primary concern was defense against attack by the Dutch; hence cannon fire; not from attack by Indians. It is probable that small logs were sharpened to a point and set into the mounded soil. This was to impede advancement over the walls by attackers. Such log spikes are not shown on either map; however they had been a normal feature of forts for many centuries.

Within a few weeks when grass and plants began to grow, the fort would have gained a natural form of camouflage. From a distance the fort would appear merely as a low mound of earth with only the flagpole extending above the mounds.

(continued on page 6)

### FOREFATHERS from page 4

the ownership of Olle Rawson.

With the creation of Pennsylvania and the influx of new settlers from Great Britain, Olle Rawson profited greatly by the sale of lands north of Marcus Hook to the newcomers. He held on to approximately 400 acres, centered around Naamans Creek. In 1685, he entered into an agreement with John Bristow to erect a gristmill on Naaman's Creek, under an obligation to grind 40 bushels of corn per year for the balance of the lives of Woola Rawson and his wife Brita.. The last record of him alive is a deed dated 25 July 1697 by which Wooley Rawson and his son Lacy Rawson sold seven acres of land with a mill and mill race thereon to Jasper Yeates.

Olle Rawson and his wife Brita had five confirmed children:

> Maria Rawson, born c. 1667, married by 1684 Hans Gustafsson (alias Justis), son of Johan Gustafsson and his wife Brigitta. Initially, they lived at Marcus Hook on lands owned by Olle Rawson, but moved after 1700 to Cecil County to live on lands owned by her brother Lawrence Rawson. In 1710 they witnessed the marriage of their daughter Lydia to Rev. Jonas Aurén. They also had four sons, John, William, Peter and Måns.

> Charles Rawson, born c. 1670, died intestate at Marcus Hook before 22 November 1708, when letters of administration were issued on his estate to his widow Mary. They had two sons and four daughters.

> Lars Rawson, also known as Lacy or Lawrence Rawson, was born c. 1672 and married into wealth when he wed Susannah Oldfield, only daughter and heiress of George Oldfield, formerly of Cecil County, Maryland, and his wife Petronella Tussey, widow of Captain John Carr. On 17 August 1703, George Oldfield, gentleman, of Chester County conveyed to Lawrence Rawson of Cecil County all of his mares, horses and land in Cecil County.

These lands soon were also occupied by Lawrence Rawson's brother-in-law Hans Justis and his cousin Anders Friend. Lawrence Rawson died in Cecil County about 1718. His widow Susannah then married John Powell, who sold most of Lawrence Rawson's former lands and chattels in 1720. Lawrence Rawson had no known children

> John Rawson, born c. 1674, married Margaret (parents not identified) and remained in the Marcus Hook area, where he owned 106 acres, inherited from his father. John's will, dated 24 September 1736 and proved 11 October 1739, named one son and four daughters, all of them still minors.

> William Rawson, born c. 1677, inherited 118 acres near Naamans Creek, but he spent most of his adult life at the Maurice River in southern New Jersey, where he acquired 1100 acres of forest land in 1718, established a sawmill in 1719, and opened a tavern in 1722. He ran into financial difficulty, however, and in 1739 William Rawson and his wife Lydia mortgaged his 118 acres in Brandywine Hundred. The mortgage was not paid and his land was sold at public auction in 1740. He died in January 1748 and was buried in the Maurice River churchyard, established by the Swedes living in that area. Benjamin Bispham was named administrator of his estate. No children of William Rawson have been identified.

> Andrew Rawson, born c. 1680, inherited 107 acres on Naaman's Creek which he sold, with his wife Gertrude, in 1728. He had already, for several years, established himself as an innholder in Chichester, Chester County. He married 2nd Sarah Bloair at Holy Trinity Church, 28 July 1730, but died within a year thereafter. He was survived by three children from his first marriage and one daughter by his second marriage, who died in her infancy.

It does not appear from Lindestrom's drawing that a fore ditch or "grave" was dug around the fort. Perhaps this was because the fort was partially sitting on rock. Also, great quantities of soil were readily available from the nearby hill. A fore ditch probably would not be of much military value due to the marshlands on the east and west sides and the riverbank on the south side. They served the same defensive purposes.

There are what appear to be three gates or portals providing access to the interior of the fort. One is on the riverside and seems to be offset a bit to the east near to the rampart. This portal is not aligned with the center pathway in the courtyard, indicating that there was not a direct passageway from the riverside into the interior courtyard area of the fort.

The second gate is on the north side and appears to be the main gate with a straight passage directly into the interior courtyard. It appears the outside earth mound and the nearby interior structure was left open in way of the gate. This would allow very large or tall objects to enter the courtyard.

The third gate appears to be a small portal added well after the fort was completed. It is in the northeast angled rampart and appears to be a simple doorway. The location of any sort of gate in a defensive rampart is unusual. This implies the door was added merely for the convenience of the garrison without a military consideration.

There is one large separate or independent building structure shown on the map inside of the fort. There are paths or walkways inside the fort leading around the ends of this building to the riverside arrowhead ramparts. The main path runs north and leads directly to this building. This building is difficult to distinguish on the drawing as it appears to be drawn in a crude perspective style while the rest of the drawing is drawn flat like a map. The roofline is placed exactly with the firing platform roofline and the doorway is aligned with the main pathway.

Several other buildings located inside the fort are mentioned when the fort was first built. These were two log buildings, one of which was a magazine and the second used as a dwelling house. The dwelling house had a fireplace and oven built in one corner constructed of bricks carried on the ships.

Several more buildings located inside the fort are mentioned in the records of 1640. Three new houses were built for the newly arrived people and two old houses were moved to the east side. A new storehouse and a barn for the newly arrived horses were also built. Whether these were separately structured buildings or whether they were new enclosures built under the firing platforms is not clear. At least two more buildings were added in 1643. After Printz's daughter, Armagot, married Johan Papegoja, a house was built for them inside the courtyard, complete with a cellar. The second building was used as a storeroom.

These buildings could have been removed from the fort when replaced by other quarters before Lindestrom made his drawing in 1654. It also could be possible that they were dismantled and used for fuel during some of the cold winters.

Two small buildings are mentioned in Rising's Journal as being located inside the fort. On September 5th, 1654 he mentions a storehouse and a packhouse being repaired. A "shed" had been moved into the fort in July of that year and placed over a cellar that Rising had ordered dug and lined with stones. Rising stated that

this building and cellar thereafter was their storehouse. Outside of the fort he mentions a bathhouse that he had ordered converted into a smokehouse by raising the roof and adding four rows of logs and making a new entry way.

Log walls about twelve feet high makes it impossible for the garrison inside to see over the walls and defend the walls from an attacking force. An elevated firing platform was needed located at a convenient height for the defenders to properly function. Also, enclosed spaces are needed for such things as administrative offices, living quarters, a place to hold church services, a prison, plus workshops and storerooms. At the minimum there was a blacksmith shop and a gunsmith's shop. Both of these shops are mentioned in the records. Several types of storerooms were required. One was needed to store the food rations for the people, another was needed for the items to be traded, still another for the items received in trade and finally a storeroom for any of the miscellaneous items needed to make to colony function smoothly. For example, Governor Rising brought parts to erect a complete sawmill. These parts were stored inside the fort.

The required living and working spaces were obtained by making the firing platform the roof of the spaces. The outer wall of these spaces was the main wall of the fort. The inter wall of these spaces served as the supports for the firing platform. The firing platform was constructed around the entire perimeter of the fort with the exception of the area of the gate on the northern side. They extended even around the angled ramparts in each corner leaving a five-sided area between the walls. The walls in this portion of fort were probably constructed of heavy logs similar to the outer walls. The space inside was then filled with soil to the height of the firing platform to provide a solid platform on which to mount the cannons of the fort.

The placement of all of the enclosed spaces around the entire outer wall of the fort provided a considerable amount of usable space inside the fort. This is several times the usable enclosed area that could have been provided had only separate buildings been erected and the perimeter areas under the firing platforms not been utilized. The pathways mentioned earlier undoubtedly passed doorways in the inner wall and hence into spaces inside.

A log palisade, or fence, was built around three sides of the fort from riverbank to riverbank about a hundred feet out from the walls. This was to be the first impediment faced by any attacking force. Any enemy within the palisade would be within easy musket range.

There is no definitive record of how Fort Christina was initially armed. The heavy armament is reported to have consisted of nine naval cannons taken from the Kalmar Nyckel. There is no indication of the sizes of these weapons made at the time they were installed; however a later account indicates they were all twelve pound guns.

Interestingly, only three corners of the fort were armed with cannons. The two corners on the riverside of the fort plus the northeast corner were outfitted with three cannons each. This accounts for all nine guns. There is no indication as to why the northwest rampart was not fitted with at least one cannon.

*(continued on next page)*

One could speculate it was believed that the perceived threat would come from the direction of the South River rather than from the land to the west

In addition to cannons, Fort Christina probably was armed with a number of lighter weapons. Some of these undoubtedly were positioned on the northeast rampart. These were a variety of brass and copper scrap-guns that served as anti-personnel weapons. Basically they were large shotguns that fired swarms of bullets. These bullets could be small lead balls, nails, and bits of glass, stones or any small solid objects. The number of smaller weapons at Fort Christina available may have varied significantly from time to time. For example, the six scrap-guns surrendered to the Dutch at Fort Trinity had been recently sent there from Fort Christina.

Twelve-pound guns indicate a bore size of 123 mm or just under 5-inches in diameter. This seems to be the most common size cannon supplied to New Sweden. The eight cannons installed at Fort Elfsborg were also twelve-pound guns.

The four guns supplied from the ship *Omen* (The Eagle) to Fort Trinity in 1654, however, were of an unusual fourteen-pound size and were probably captured with the *Omen* when she was captured from the Danes in 1644. These guns had a larger bore size. The significance is that the weapons would require different sizes of shot; that is, the cannonballs were of a larger size. A fourteen-pound cannonball cannot be fired from a twelve-pound gun, as it would not fit down the barrel. In an emergency a twelve-pound cannon ball possibly could be fired from a fourteen-pound gun but it would require a large amount of wadding. The range,

accuracy, and therefore, the effectiveness, of the guns would be greatly reduced. To a non-military person, such as Governor Risingh, this difference is slight and may not even have been recognized.

Fort Trinity apparently never had any fourteen-pound cannonballs available. The Dutch did not have any there when Risingh captured Fort Cassimir and none were later supplied. A few fourteen-pound balls were available.

Governor Risingh apparently never recognized the differences in sizes between twelve and fourteen-pound cannons. During the court martial hearings he held on Timber Island following his surrender of the colony he made a point of claiming that he weakened the defenses of Fort Christina by sending twelve-pound cannonballs to Fort Trinity to support the defenders. This claim appears to be dubious in light of a later discovery.

Many decades after the surrender in 1655 the English dismantled Fort Christina in its entirety. As the inner walls of the fort were being taken down, a large number of cannonballs were found secreted inside of them. By this evidence it appears that Governor Risingh did not send the ammunition to Fort Trinity as he had claimed. Rather, he simply hid the cannon balls from view. This would create the appearance of having attempted to support the defenders of Fort Trinity even though he did not really make such a supporting effort.

Nothing, except possibly the evidence remaining in the earth, remains of Fort Christina today.

ROYALTY

Dr. Kim-Eric Williams



Queen Christina  
1626-1689

## Queen Christina ... Again

One of history's most fascinating characters has just been honored with yet another biography. Veronica Buckley, a New Zealander, now living in Paris, has produced: *Christina, Queen of Sweden, The Restless Life of a European Eccentric* (New York: HarperCollins, 2004). If you ever wondered why Sweden had so little concern for its American colony, this book will explain what chaos reigned in the homeland with the final stages of the Thirty Years War and the willful, selfish, and brilliant antics of the Queen who wanted to rule but refused the obligations of the throne.

Buckley manages to steer a middle way between those who have idolized Christina as an intellectual imprisoned in a dreary northern backwater, yearning for the refinements of the Renaissance, and those who have seen her as a traitor and disgrace to the Kingdom in her conversion to Roman Catholicism. She was in truth something of both of these, a tragic figure who was unable to emulate Elizabeth I, but who provided for her cousin Karl X Gustaf to take her place and introduce the Palatinate Dynasty.

From her extravagant coronation in Stockholm's Storkyrkan (1644) to her dramatic abdication ten years later in Uppsala Castle, the story of her mis-rule and desire to abdicate makes a sorry tale. The matter of her undefined sexuality and her rather ugly appearance is stated with numerous witnesses unable to find the words to define her.

What is lacking is a familiarity with the Swedish sources. Buckley obviously cannot read Swedish and has only a vague notion of Stockholm. She states that Christina looked out of the Tre Kronor castle windows to the "river" and that Christina dealt with the "Senate." There is no river in Stockholm nor has there ever been an entity such as a "Senate." New Sweden gets not even a footnote but Buckley does say that Christina was willing to sell Cabo Corso, Sweden's African colony, to the English in order to increase her own purse. For her purposes New Sweden was not even worth selling.

Buckley does better on Christina's travels to France and her life in Rome, where it seems she can read the original sources. Christina's relationship with Cardinal Azzolino is detailed and her rather extravagant and progressive court life is vividly described. She held court in the Palazzo Riario, entertaining cardinals and even Corelli and Michelangelo. In international Rome she was still treated as a Queen, maintained an almost consular existence, and even involved herself in several European power maneuvers. As Rome's Number One convert she wore her crown and was finally buried in St. Peter's Basilica. One is left wondering if her conversion was not just a cultural ploy to enjoy the cosmopolitan and philosophically challenging life that she had so long sought.

Through this Society Swedish descendants of the old stock in the Philadelphia area have realized that their roots go back to the Swedes who laid the foundations of civilization in the Delaware Valley. Earlier, one had always heard that William Penn was the founder of Pennsylvania. Now it became more commonly known that these parts already were inhabited by pioneers from Sweden before William Penn was born, and even that the whole area along the Delaware was settled, and that the settlers had founded churches, schools, courts of law and everything else that belongs to a civilized society when William Penn arrived in the fall of 1682, and that the great Quaker therefore did not found the colony but only changed its name. Through the published writings of the Society all these facts acquired scientific foundations and historic proof.

But the Swedish Colonial Society has not only published scholarly works on the history of New Sweden. It has also strived to preserve the old memorials and to erect monuments and commemorative plaques. Accordingly, the Society on June 14, 1923, erected a monument to the memory of Governor Johan Printz and the first Governor's House within the borders of Pennsylvania. At that time the Society owned no land but was permitted to erect the monument on an adjacent tract owned by the Corinthian Yacht Club in Philadelphia on Tinicum Island in the Delaware River, where New Sweden's forceful governor once upon a time built his residence, Printzhof, or as it was later called, Printz Hall.

We were harboring the hope that one day we would through purchase or as a gift be in possession of the land where Printzhof once had stood, and that we, in such a case, would move the monument there and set up some kind of a memorial park. But the years passed, and it seemed impossible to enter into possession of the tract, as the purchase price was too steep and as the owner was not disposed to give it away. As far as we were concerned, there was initially no change when a wealthy American, Mr. Longstreth, about twenty years ago bought the tract in order to protect the adjoining, valuable property of the Corinthian Yacht Club, fearing that the tract would be bought for the erection of a factory or such, which of course would be inconvenient for the members of the prestigious yacht club.

Then America woke up one sunny morning in May 1927 and realized that Charles Lindbergh, of Swedish stock, had landed at the Le Bourget airport in Paris. Mr. Longstreth, seized by the general enthusiasm sweeping America, sent, the same day, the following telegram [here in its original English] to the president of our Society:

“I desire to present to The Swedish Colonial Society the Tinicum Island property. Make the consideration in the deed \$1.00, the property to be held in trust by the Society for all times, as a Memorial of Governor Printz and the Swedish colonists, and in honor of the epic flight of Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh, viking of the air.”

Of course, the Society accepted the gift with greatest gratitude, and the historical ground was finally in our possession. Through an inn, which rented its site, we had for the first years an income that was by no means paltry. Later, however, we were obliged to tear down the inn and the neighboring smaller houses. At that time it became difficult for the small Society to keep up the large grounds in such a fitting shape that they could be visited by the public at large and be useful to us and to other interested persons.

When Major Frank Melvin became President of the Society a couple of years ago, things took a new turn. The Major, who was a member of the delegation that accompanied Governor Earle on his visit to Sweden at the end of last year, is a descendant of one of New Sweden's pioneers, and from the beginning he was highly interested in the Society. We all realized that something had to be done, and through Major Melvin's energetic and untiring endeavor we succeeded in getting the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to take over the grounds to transform them into a state park. These grounds comprised an area that was later to be named Printz-Lindbergh Park.

Last year we could score a new and respectable success when our Society, because of the approaching jubilee, was awarded a grant of more than \$40,000 from the Federal Government in order to make archeological excavations on Tinicum Island on the spot where we believed that Printz had built his residence in 1643 and later rebuilt it after the fire of 1645. These digs were energetically executed last winter and summer [1937], and now the entirety of the area of interest in this connection has been thoroughly explored.

Near the shoreline we actually found, in accordance with our calculations, the foundations of the two residences that Printz built here. In this spot the spades revealed among other objects some old coins, lots of bricks of the typical Dutch shape and also bricks of the usual Swedish type of the time. All these bricks, even fragments, have been preserved, put in big boxes, and are now stored in the basement of our [American] Swedish Museum in Philadelphia, the cornerstone of which was placed by the Crown Prince of Sweden in 1926 and which he will now dedicate this 29th of June.

In addition, there were found remnants of Indian pipes and pipes of European provenance, the well-known clay pipes used by the Swedes in bartering with the Indians. Many of these objects were found ten to twelve feet below the surface. In one place were found burnt remainders of old logs, which certainly could be traced to the fire of 1645. We also found many graves during the excavations, and the headstone at a child's grave showed a “P”, thus probably a son or daughter of Printz or Papegoja. There was also a small burial vault made of bricks that surely must go back to the very earliest settlement.

Initially, as has been said, the idea had been to move the Printz Monument to this park, and we had discussed the building on these grounds of a 17th century manor to serve as a kind of museum, where Americans and Swedish descendants in general could see what such a house looked like in the days of Printz, what kind of furniture was used then, etc. These dreams will probably not be realized before the grand festivities this summer, but the park will be ready for visitors. As this is written the area has been landscaped and is ready to be seeded; a stone wall has been built along the river bank; new, wide stairs are leading directly down to the water, etc.

According to the program, the park is to be dedicated by H.R.H. Crown Prince Gustaf Adolf in the morning of June 29 this year. We will hope that this Printz Park, as it will be called, might be developed as a kind of Skansen [an open-air museum with numerous buildings, some dating to the Middle Ages, in Stockholm, Sweden] in America.

It is there we would like to display, in addition to the aforementioned manor house, a Swedish farm from the 1600's with cow barns, a *härbre* [log cabin raised from the ground], granary and hay barns and everything else that belongs to the time. Further, we plan to acquire from Finland a *pörte* [small chimney-less cottage] and a sauna, also of the 17th century type.

In the history of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Tinicum Island plays an important role, since this island, with an area of barely four [English] square miles and which nowadays is a part of the mainland, has rightfully been called the cradle of the Commonwealth, “where Pennsylvania's History began.” Printzhof can thus be considered as the basic pillar of this great, progressive state, and therefore it may be of interest to say a little of the Swedish Governor's residence. Quite a bit of the residence's history was known earlier through contemporary documents and records, but the now completed digs have considerably increased our knowledge. When I left America a month ago they had barely got through with the mapping and measuring of the foundation walls discovered. In all probability, historically trained archeologists and experts will, with these discoveries as a guide, be able to give us a fairly complete picture of what Printzhof once looked like.

The curious name, Tinicum, is like so many other place names in this region of Indian origins, although it has been distorted in the course of time. Its original form, in the language of the Lenape tribe, was *Ma-te-na-ko-ing*, which meant “at the shore of the island.”

The historical documents relate that Johan Printz, shortly after his arrival at Fort Christina, February 15, 1643, left for a round of visits throughout the colony. He wanted to get the look of the land and, in accordance with the instructions of the Swedish Crown, select an appropriate site not only for a fort that would command the Delaware River but also for his own residence. Up to this time the Governor had resided at Christina, our day's Wilmington, which was not a central location.

For his tour Printz probably used the small sloop that had been brought to the colony from Sweden and that now took him along the shores for landfalls here and there, among other places on Tinicum Island. Printz's predecessor, Hollender Ridder, had probably been at this point before and described the island to him. For several reasons this island was particularly appropriate as the site of the Governor's residence, and it seems as though Printz decided shortly after his arrival in New Sweden to build here his home and in its proximity a fort and a blockhouse for protection from potential enemies -- Indians and Dutchmen.

In all probability Printz started construction of the residence buildings on Tinicum in March. The logs had to be transported across the river from a large tract of woodland on the other side of the Delaware. This was both time-consuming and laborious, but Printz was energetic and had the capacity to inspire both respect and esteem in his workmen and subordinates so that they seemingly got very little rest, night or day. Some time during the late summer of 1643 the fort was finished, and in the fall of the same year the Governor of New Sweden could move into his residence. At the same time a small chapel was probably constructed near the fort. Various barns and a sauna were erected during the fall and winter.

Little by little the woods were cleared on Tinicum Island, and by roughly 1650 the Governor's property contained 12 hectares [ca. 30 acres] in cultivated land with more than 50 cattle, valued at

about 4,000 *riksdaler*, or at present [1938] about 95,000 *crowns*.

In the fall of 1645 an accidental fire broke out in the Nya Göteborg fort on Tinicum. The fire spread to the other buildings around it, and all structures burned down except for a barn. At the same time the river froze over, but since the ice held but would not carry, the poor people on Tinicum were incapable of reaching the mainland or get help from there. If it had not been for the barn and the seed salvaged there, all the Swedish colonists on the island might have starved or frozen to death. After a few weeks the weather fortunately turned mild again and the ice broke up so that they could once more get in touch with the mainland and secure supplies of both food and clothing.

Early in the spring of 1646 Printz began the construction of his new residence, in part on the ruins of the older one, as is evident from the [surveying] plan.

This time the construction was much easier than the first time, three years earlier, since now there were not only a greater number of workmen but also oxen, some imported from the homeland and others from New Amsterdam. Now the oxen could be used for hauling the heavy timber to the building site.

As is evident from a list at the Riksarkivet [Royal Archives] in Stockholm, Printz and his wife lost a considerable personal fortune because of the fire. The Governor's library was estimated at 200 *riksdaler*; his clothing and other personal belongings at 1,200 *riksdaler*. Mrs. Printz lost more than 1,000 *riksdaler* worth of clothing and jewelry. The household utensils of copper, pewter, etc. were appraised at more than 120 *riksdaler*, lost gold and silver coins at 600 *riksdaler*. Provisions, consisting of salted or smoked ham, fish, salted meat, butter, etc. were estimated at more than 2,000 *riksdaler*. The total value of the destroyed personal property, as stated by Printz himself, amounted to 5,520 *riksdaler 2 styver*, or in present [1938] money about 120,000 *crowns*. This was a sizable amount of money, even for a governor at that time, and despite his efforts he never received compensation for his losses.

When Printz set about to rebuild his house he used larger dimensions than the first time. As can be seen from the surveying plan of the foundation walls, the new house was more than three times larger than the old one, measuring 60 English feet 9 inches in length and 34 feet 6 inches in width, which corresponds to 18.5 x 10.5 meters.

The excavated ruins of Printzhof confirm the presently held conception of the house. It was evidently a huge two-story building, built from horizontal timbers on a stone foundation. The foundation was solid enough -- the walls of cobble stone are one meter thick. It is known that the house had glass windows and other “conveniences” of the day. The design of the building was probably that of the then existing manors of southern Sweden.

According to the notions of the time, the new residence was an impressive dwelling-house, which is also made clear from a contemporary, unfortunately very brief, description. Per Lindeström, who arrived in New Sweden in 1653 on the *Örnen* [the Eagle] mentioned in passing, in his *Geographia Americae*, Printzhof, which obviously impressed him as being stately. Lindeström writes that on the “*Tenakong*” island Governor Printz had built a church “and also a hall for himself and his  
(continued on page 12)

# Forefathers

## LUNCHEON

*Brandywine Country Club  
Wilmington, Delaware - April 3, 2005*



1. *Artist's rendition of the new Swedish Embassy opening in Washington DC in 2006.*
2. *Outgoing Governor Ron Hendrickson bequeaths Governor Insignia to current Governor Kim-Eric Williams.*
3. *Guest Speaker Claes Thorson, Press Counselor for the Swedish Embassy, presents "Sweden & The United States; A Report From the Embassy."*
4. *Earl Seppälä presents Michael Brock with an Honorary Member of the Delaware Swedish Colonial Society award for his painting of the Monument at Fort Christina.*



## House of Sweden

The new Embassy of Sweden, or House of Sweden, is scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2006. It will be located in Georgetown on one of Washington's most attractive sites, and will be the talk of the architectural world. This ideal location will have Rock Creek Park on one side of the building, and the boat clubs and cafes that line the Potomac waterfront on the other. The scenic view of Washington Harbor from the building, its balconies and rooftop terrace, is incredible. And yet it is in the heart of town, just minutes from the Kennedy Center and the Watergate. Its architecture will express a refined simplicity, at once both pragmatic and surprising. An elegant design with lots to see, perfectly suited to the property and truly doing the magnificent view justice. The building will be light and airy, with large glass segments. It will consist of five floors, with a magnificent rooftop terrace overlooking the river. The public areas on the first two floors include a lobby, exhibit hall and an ultramodern, fully equipped Event Center with conference and meeting rooms. Apartments are on the fourth and fifth floors. All have balconies and a great view, most of them overlooking the water. The Swedish embassy is on levels two and three.



5. (Left to Right); Earl Seppälä, Leigh Abraham, New Castle County Executive Chris Coons, Claes Thorson, Delaware Assistant Secretary of State Rick Geisenberger and Kim-Eric Williams at a wreath laying ceremony at the foot of the Carl Milles statue of the Kalmar Nyckel at Fort Christina.
6. Nancy Cataleno Hendrickson was recognized as an Honorary Fellow of the Swedish Colonial Society for all of her outstanding work.
7. Press Counselor for the Embassy of Sweden Claes Thorson in front of the Stalcop Cabin at Fort Christina Park in Wilmington, Delaware.

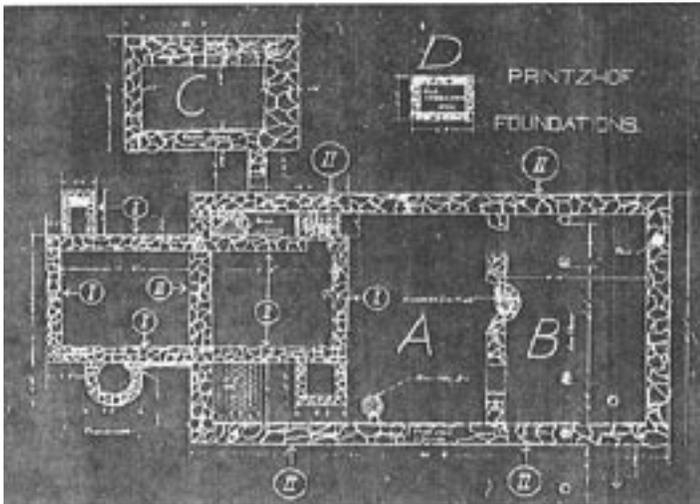


family, which is called *Printzhof*, very splendidly and well built, with a garden, summer house and other such. In this place all the foremost freemen also have their dwellings and plantations.”

The church that Lindeström mentions was built by Printz together with the new house as a replacement for the earlier chapel that had also been destroyed by the fire. This church, the first in Pennsylvania, was then in use for some 50 years. The garden Lindeström referred to can be traced in documents for several generations afterwards.

On the drawing one will notice in the upper left hand corner the outline of a small, detached building (C). That is the remains of the powder house, which, however, dates to the time of the building of the first residence. It was constructed much more solidly than the main building -- with walls measuring four feet thick (1.2 meters). Contrary to the usage of our day, the powder house of that period ought to be situated as closely to the main buildings as possible, so that the inhabitants would not risk being cut off from their supplies of ammunition at a surprise attack of the enemy. From Printz's reports we already knew that even weapons and other stores were kept in the powder house and that it blew up in the big fire of 1645. The digs literally proved the truth of the tales. We found a great amount of small shards of brick, widely spread about, together with thousands of fragments of pipes for barter and other objects. The weapons damaged to varying degrees had, of course, been carefully collected by the colonists after the catastrophe, but we nevertheless found a piece of a gun barrel.

The little square at the [top] right of the drawing is the remains of the well (D), which for convenience as well as for the risk of war had to be located in close proximity to the main building.



The surveying plan of *Printzhof's* excavated foundation walls provides a clear picture of the building plan for the older Governor's house, which burned down in 1645, and the newer and larger one that was in part built on the older residence's foundation. The foundation walls of the older house are marked I, the ones of the newer house are marked II. The partition wall that separates the house into two parts, A and B, contains the remains of an enormous open fireplace. The round projection on the left denotes a bake oven. The small circles on the right are poles, in all probability remains of an original palisade. C is the powder house, with walls four feet thick; D is the well.

Printz left New Sweden in early October 1653. Before returning to the homeland, he left the government of the colony to Johan Papegoja, married to his daughter Armegott and living at Fort Christina. The governor's successor, Johan Rising, arrived in New Sweden in May 1654. He first settled at Christina and later built his own residence 1½ Swedish miles north of there. Johan Papegoja sailed back to Sweden on the *Örnen* on official business and Armegott -- who seems to have kept her family name Printz even when married -- moved into *Printzhof* with her two sons and took over the running of the estate.

When the Dutch attacked New Sweden, many of the Swedes moved their personal property and even their cattle to Tinicum Island, believing their belongings would there be safe from the enemy. But after Stuyvesant captured Fort Christina, the Dutch soldiers proceeded to Tinicum, where they looted all they could seize. A rigging meant for a newly constructed ship had been hidden in the church by the Swedes, but the Dutch dragged even that away. Mrs. Armegott complained that all her personal estate had been stolen and claimed indemnity from the Dutch governor, in vain, however.

The Dutch invasion did not prevent Papegoja's wife from remaining on her father's estate, but she sent her sons with Johan Rising to the homeland, where they grew up and became officers in the Swedish Navy. About 1662 Mrs. Armegott sold *Printzhof* to a Dutchman, called de la Grange, for an amount of 6,000 florins, or about 60,000 crowns in today's [1938] money. Part of the purchase price was paid in cash, and the remainder was due to be paid in two installments. Afterwards, in 1663, Armegott Printz returned home to Sweden on a Dutch ship, via England and Holland.

Mrs. Amegott waited for a couple of years, but no money came from America. In the meantime her father had died, and now de la Grange did not want to pay the rest of the purchase price, pretending that Mrs. Armegott would first have to bring forward powers of attorney from all her sisters who were joint heirs.

At that point Armegott decided to do something about it and go to America in order to settle the transaction with de la Grange and get her money. Provided with all necessary documents, she voyaged to the Delaware, where she arrived, presumably in 1666. By then, however, the matter had become even more complicated. The estate had been sold again, de la Grange had died, and in addition the English had taken the area from the Dutch.

A less energetic woman would likely have lost all hope at that stage and returned home, but it was not of Armegott's mind to give up a matter when she knew she was in her rights. She then started one of the most notable legal proceedings in the history of the colonization of America, namely, she sued the heirs of de la Grange, the son and the widow, not only for the return of *Printzhof* but also for compensatory damages for losses suffered. The magisterial Swedish woman, who was a worthy daughter of the powerful Johan Printz, was her own lawyer, and although she knew very little English, she managed with the help of interpreters. She won the case in lower court, but the case went to a court of higher instance. Witnesses were to be called from Holland, the defendants put up all kinds of demurrers, and tried to drag out the proceedings, thereby wearing out Mrs. Armegott, but she held out, and in the fall of 1673, that is, six to seven years after her return to America, judgment was delivered in her favor.

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The Governor of New York enjoined upon de la Grange's son to surrender the estate to Armegott and pay her compensation for her expenses.

Armegott could thus finally move back to her old home, but she sold it again to a fellow countryman, Otto Cock, one of the most prominent members of New Sweden, and returned to Sweden, where she died in 1695.

Printzhof became a gathering point for the Swedes for a couple of generations to come. A Dutchman, named Sluyter, who traveled in this neighborhood in 1679 has left a description of the estate. It is known that he also made a drawing of the house, but unfortunately it has not been found. The Dutch traveler reports that the church was still standing in those days and that the Indians often came there when they had something to negotiate with the whites, a state of affairs both the Dutch and the English regarded with jaundiced eyes. They knew full well that the Swedes could still be considered as dangerous competitors for power in this area, especially as the Indians considered the Swedes -- in contrast to the other Europeans -- as their friends.

Printz's estate had many owners over the years and it was still there at the beginning of the 1800's. It has been said that the building burned down about 1812-14, but it is odd that the old pastor Nils Collin, who visited the island several times 1790-1820 and preached there, has not left a description of the estate or mentioned it at all. Other pastors, among them Matthias Hultgren, who reported in his journals much earlier visits to the island, have neither, as far as I have been able to ascertain, written a single word about this amazing house, which, however, must have been the largest in the area.

As earlier mentioned, the last word of researchers about Printzhof has certainly not been said. We have on purpose restored the foundation to its earlier untouched condition exactly as it was seen by us at the dig so that our guests from Sweden and America at the jubilee will have the same opportunity to see what remains of Printz's once so proud residence, an outpost of the power of Sweden in the new world. In all their simplicity, these stones speak an impressive language of past greatness.

*[Comments by the editor of Allsvensk Samling]*

After Dr. Johnson's return to America, *Allsvensk Samling* has had the opportunity to have the drawing of the surveying plan critically examined by one of our country's foremost experts on the subject, Dr. Erik Lundberg, antiquarian in Stockholm.

Dr. Lundberg points out that one cannot draw definite conclusions from the plan unless the remains of the foundation walls are studied in situ. It seems, however, that Dr. Johnson's theory about the two different house foundations is correct. It is striking that after the fire the building has been reconstructed according to the plan used before, although on a larger scale. The arrangement [of the house] corresponds completely to the manor style of the homeland during the first half of the 17th century and even earlier.

In the first house (foundation walls I) the entrance was on the upper right. According to the prevalent type there was a small partitioned-off room inside the entrance hall, while the rest of the first floor was occupied by a so-called folkstuga [hall]. At the other end of the house there usually was a small room and the kitchen. That agrees with what we have here, since the round projection on the lower [left] obviously denotes the bake oven. It is possible that at the reconstruction, for practical reasons, this kitchen department was rebuilt, in which case the total length of the house would have been over 80 ft.

The square projection opposite the bake oven may have been the foundation for the outside stairs to the second floor. There must certainly have been facilities to get to the second floor via a ladder and a trap-door within the house in case of siege. The square on the lower right may have been the privy of the period, which due to the risk of war preferably was situated in direct connection with the house as in the forts of the time.

The residence Printz had built on the burned-down ruins (foundation walls II) is designed according to a plan identical to that used for the old house, with the exception that the entrance now seems to have been positioned directly opposite, that is, in the lower left hand corner, where the floor of the entrance, to judge from the drawing, seems to have been tile-covered. Exactly opposite [the entrance] one always finds the kitchen, where the remains of a corner of the stove/fireplace evidently has been found as expected. The large hall A runs to the masonrywork partition wall with the open fire place. Area B most likely was partitioned off in the middle for a bedroom, supposedly for the master of Printzhof, and a small room.

With his knowledge of the customs of the Nordic manors of the time, Dr. Lundberg holds it likely that there was a larger festival or assembly hall upstairs. There the Governor would thus receive delegations of Indians and others, conduct trials, etc.

As distinguished from Dr. Johnson, Dr. Lundberg finds it difficult to believe that Printzhof was completely built with horizontal timbers. Instead, the thick foundation walls indicate that the whole lower floor was built of stone, whereas the upper story used logs. It is not difficult to imagine approximately how Printzhof must have looked as the builder, naturally enough, seems to have followed exactly what was customary in the homeland. The design for building 17th century manors was well known, and the Bergsmansgården from about 1650 at Skansen is a typical example of the layout. With the exception of a festival hall added to the Bergsmansgården, this house is planned exactly as was Printzhof. Even the contemporary fittings and furnishings of Bergsmansgården are undoubtedly to a high degree reminiscent of what the Governor's House contained, although Printz may have had to rest content with somewhat more primitive possessions.

The two rows of poles of which traces have been found (the rings within the B area) are of great interest to Dr. Lundberg. They cannot have had any connection with the newer house but must have existed before the fire, since two remains of poles have been found beneath the foundation walls of the new house -- if the surveying plan is correct. A rather obvious explanation is to suppose that the poles were part of a fortification system. One can imagine that the two rows of poles supported a deck with an outer, sturdily log-built breastwork, protecting the soldiers yet also providing them with good opportunities to fire from an elevated position -- eventually through loopholes -- at an approaching enemy. It is possible that the masonry circle in section A (remains of a pillar?) has a connection with this palisade. Continued digs might bring to light additional traces of poles around Printzhof on the sides where enemy attacks could be expected, says Dr. Lundberg.

It goes without saying that scholars in Sweden are particularly interested that as much as possible is made known about Printzhof, showing how Swedish style has been transferred to America. Therefore it is important that the materials examined are scientifically studied by specialists familiar with Swedish building procedures of the period.

# Forefather Members of the Swedish Colonial Society

## **Jöns Anderson**

Hans Gustav Ling, Uppsala Sweden

## **Måns Andersson (Mounce)**

Jerry L. Brimberry, Liburn, GA  
Cindy Creighton, Amarillo, TX  
Christina W. Lassen, Greenville, DE  
Nina J. Strahm, Terre Haute, IN

## **Peter Andersson (Longacre)**

Howard Raymond Longacre, Ephrata, PA  
Raymond H. Longacre, Ephrata, PA  
Bickley A. Rivera, Land o' Lakes, FL

## **Anders Bengtsson (Bankson)**

Jill M. Abraham, Olney, MD  
Gail S. Bunch, Monroe, LA  
Martha Bankson Lyle, Pace, FL  
Katie L. Pryor, Laurel, MS  
David E. Milam, Toney, AL  
Martha Bankston Shershin, Laurel, MS  
Barbara Wescott, Moreno Valley, CA

## **Lars Thomasson Bjur (Boore)**

Elizabeth B. Beers, Baltimore, MD  
Elizabeth M. Cecil, Philadelphia, PA  
James W. Marvin, Jr. Wyncote, PA  
Robert F. Marvin, Wynnewood, PA  
Sara Frances Marvin, Wyncote, PA  
Verna Marvin, Gladwyne, PA  
William F. Marvin, Philadelphia, PA

## **Sinnick Broer (Sinnickson)**

Frances S. Baynes, New London, NH  
Rebecca Thorne Bowman, Houston, TX  
Olga Sinexon Brigham, Wilton, NH  
Charlotte H.B. Dallett, Taconic, CT  
Michael S. Maiden, Jr., Allenhurst, NJ  
Donald J. Sinex, Huntington Beach, CA  
Antoinette W. Sorensen, Tacoma, WA  
Judith Arlt Walker, Landenberg, PA

## **Olof Matthiasson Ingra (Caulk)**

Zebulon L. Bowman, M.D., Houston, TX

## **Otto Ernest Cock (Cox)**

Janet Robinson Berrtis, Alna, ME  
David R. Ross, Bryn Mawr, PA

## **Peter Larsson Cock (Cox)**

Emily Samson Tepe, Wilmington, DE  
John B. Tepe, Greenville, DE  
John B. Tepe, Jr., Greenville, DE  
Virginia Wilson Thomas, Durham, NC

## **Anders Larsson Dalbo**

Sandra D. Asher, Platte City, MO  
Aleasa Hogate, Pennsville, NJ  
Joseph E. Hogate, Jr., Longview, TX

## **Anders Jonsson Ekoren (Jones)**

William L. Hires, Haverford, PA

## **Garret Enochs**

Lester W. Enochs, Terre Haute, IN

## **Johan Ericksson**

F. Leif Eareckson, Annapolis, MD

## **Nils Larsson Frände (Friend)**

Gary L. Friend, Mount Vernon, WA  
James A. Friend, Edison, NJ  
Mark A. Friend, Arlington, TX  
Thomas A. Friend, Edison, NJ  
Trissa Haefling, Chagrin Falls, OH  
Majorie Jackson, Warren, OH  
Delores E. Shade, Frederick, MD

## **Marten Gerritsen**

Stephen H. Garrett, Boothwyn, PA

## **Johan Grelsson (Archer)**

R. Michael Borland, Colora, MD

## **Sven Gunnarson (Swanson)**

Andrew Clayton, Raymond, IL  
Barbara Clayton, Raymond, IL  
Dennis J. Cunniff, Cedar Grove, NJ  
Irénée du Pont, Jr. Montchanin, DE  
Eugenia Eberle, Springfield, IL  
Elise K. Eberle, Albuquerque, NM  
Fredrick R. Eberle, Albuquerque, NM  
John W. Eberle, Springfield, IL  
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Phillip F. Otto, San Francisco, CA  
W. Andrew Sisson, Somerville, MA  
Barbara Ann Turk, Blanding, UT

## **Johan Gustafsson (Justis)**

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# The Lansdowne Sycamore

## A Living Remnant of New Sweden

The borough of Lansdowne celebrates each Arbor Day with a ceremony at the centerpiece of the community; the 350 year old "Lansdowne Sycamore". In prior years, the Lenni Lenape, "William Penn", and even Pennsylvania Governor Rendell, have been celebration participants. Considering that this extraordinary tree is less than a mile from the Lower Swedish Cabin on Darby Creek, it was appropriate that representatives from the Swedish Colonial Society partook in this year's celebration. This tree was undoubtedly a part of the New Sweden landscape, and is likely one of the few living remnants from that era.

The vast majority of New Sweden colonists were farmers, and therefore were inextricably linked to nature. Fruit trees and other plants that could help to sustain the colony were vital and were brought to New Sweden from the motherland. It is probable that some of these trees and plants did not exist in America prior to Swedes and other European colonists sowing them into American soil.

In 1748, Carl Linnaeus, Sweden's most famous scientist and often referred to as "the father of botany," sent one of his students, named Pehr Kalm, to the area previously known as New Sweden. Apple, peach and cherry trees were abundant in the region at the time, and Kalm suspected that some of these fruit trees were originally brought over to America via New Sweden colonists. In his travel journal, Kalm documents a considerable amount of time speaking with "the old Swede," 91 year old Nils Gustafsson. Gustafsson's father was Colonial Swede Jön Gustafsson, and Nils

had many vivid recollections of his childhood in the New Sweden Colony. While interviewing "the old Swede," Kalm asked, "Whence did the Swedes here settled get their .... fruit-trees and kitchen-herbs?" Kalm cites Nils response, "The old man told me that he had frequently heard, when he was young, that the Swedes had brought all kinds of... fruits and herbs...with them." Regarding fruit trees Kalm cites Nils response as, "Among the fruit-trees were Apple-trees. They were not numerous, and only some of the Swedes had little orchards of them, whilst others had not a single tree. . .Cherry-trees were abundant when Nils Gustafsson was yet a boy. Peach-trees were at that time more numerous than at present, and the Swedes brewed beer of the fruit. The old man could not tell from whence the Swedes first of all got the peach-trees."

Although some speculation is necessary, it is not inconsistent with this and other sources to conclude that apples were not an indigenous American fruit, while cherries and peaches were more likely to have been so. In Kalm's journal dated September 26, 1748, he cites a discussion he had with America's first botanist, Quaker John Bartram. Bartram had befriended Linnaeus via cross Atlantic correspondence years before, and Linnaeus instructed Kalm to seek out his American colleague in botany upon Kalm's arrival to the New World. Kalm writes, "Mr. Bartram was of the opinion, that the apple tree was brought into America by the Europeans, and that it never was there before their arrival. But he looked upon peaches as an original American fruit, and as growing wild in the greatest part of America. Others again were of the opinion, that they (apple trees) were first brought over by the Europeans."

Kalm visited the descendants of many Colonial Swedes,



## Morton Homestead Imperiled Commonwealth Threatens Closure

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has recently notified Swedish Colonial Society representatives informing them of the state's plan to close the historically significant John Morton Homestead. State budget cuts, along with staffing problems and a lack of visitors were the reasons given. Although the status of the building is still pending at this time, it is matter of concern not only for the Swedish Colonial Society, but for anyone interested in preserving rare American historic sites.

The patriarch of the Morton Family, Morten Mortenson, was a Finnish Swede who emigrated to the New Sweden colony in 1641. He became a farmer and took up over 700 acres of land along Darby Creek for his plantation. He built the Morton Homestead and lived there with his wife, children and grandchildren, until his death in 1706.

In 1776, Mortenson's great-grandson, John Morton, was a sheriff and judge from Ridley Township in Chester County. During that summer he was a delegate at the Pennsylvania State House, (now known as Independence Hall), where the Colonies were voting to declare their independence from Great Britain. Historians indicate that the Pennsylvania delegation was evenly divided until Morton cast the decisive vote in favor of independence.

The Morton Homestead is an outstanding example of Finnish-Scandinavian log construction from the era of New Sweden. The logs were hewn by hand, fit closely together, and have unique



corner notching. Such workmanship is found in Scandinavian houses of the 17th century, but Morton Homestead is the earliest building with this type of unique corner notching in the United States.

The Delaware Valley was the "hearth area" for the log cabin, which eventually spread across the United States. This pragmatic home construction allowed much of the Midwest to be settled by pioneers, and this design was originated in America by Swedish and Finnish settlers of the New Sweden Colony.

The Morton Homestead is indeed a unique and valuable historic site. The closure of the building would be a serious loss to those interested in preserving and studying American history. Several alternatives other than closure are being pursued, including the state transferring the site to township authority, similar to the arrangement of Governor Printz Park.

For those wishing to voice concerns about such a closure, contact information is: Morton Homestead, 100 Lincoln Avenue, Prospect Park, PA 19076. Phone (215)-583-7221.

### CELEBRATIONS *(continued)*

including the Lock, Cock, and Rambo families. In his journal dated Sept 18, 1748, Kalm writes, "*We visited several Swedes, who were settled here, and in very good circumstances. One of them (Andrew Rambo) has a fine house built of stone, two stories high, and a great orchard near it. We were every where well received, and stayed over night with the above-mentioned countryman.*" Kalm cites repeatedly in his journal how most every country house had an orchard adjacent to it, with apples, peaches and cherries in abundance. The Rambo apple is now a well known apple variety in the mid Atlantic region of the United States.

There is also strong evidence supporting the notion that Colonial Swede Johan Andersson Stålcop either brought apple trees with him to America from Sweden, or harvested apple trees brought by other Colonial Swedes. Stålcop spent time working as a farmer while in New Sweden, and eventually acquired large tracts of farm land. He and his wife Christina Carlsson, eventually established their home about one quarter mile west from Fort Christina, in an area later known as Wilmington, Delaware. Maps from that time period indicate that apple orchards were in the proximity of that residence. The current day Stalcup, or Vandever Apple, is a variety identified by botanists as being one of the oldest in America, and it is thought to have originated in the Delaware region.

Due to cross breeding, incomplete, inaccurate or lacking historical accounts, redistribution of farm land, and other factors, it may never be possible to definitively prove that specific current

day apple varieties are of the same origin as apple varieties brought over to America by Europeans. That considered, the preponderance of evidence strongly suggests that apple varieties such as Rambo and Stålcup are derived from the breeds of apple trees brought over by New Sweden Colonists.

These "New Sweden Apple Varieties" take on a new significance when considering that almost all of the old apple strains indigenous to Sweden were extinguished due to the severe winter of 1709-1710. Consequently, Sweden had to repopulate its apple crop with breeds from other European countries; while at the same time the New Sweden apples multiplied and flourished here in the New World. In recognition of the worldwide Linnaeus Tercentennial celebration in 2007, a committee including members of the Swedish Colonial Society is participating in an effort to bring together American and Swedish horticulture. This is an arduous task due to the many regulatory agencies who need to take necessary steps to ensure that such an endeavor is safe for the ecological environment in Sweden. Due to these constraints, a limited budget, and the largely ceremonial nature of the effort, it may be cost prohibitive to introduce multiple apple varieties back into the Swedish eco system simultaneously. If indeed that limitation becomes a reality, the good news is that transplanting multiple apple varieties back home to Sweden gives us multiple reasons to visit our Swedish brethren on multiple occasions not only in 2007, but in years to come!

# Membership

## LIFE MEMBER

---

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---

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Walt and Mary Sirene, Warrenton, VA

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Mark Andrew Friend, Arlington, TX

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---

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Irénée du Pont, Jr., Montchanin, DE

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Anne D. Dunn, Danville, PA

Steven K. St. Martin, Columbus, OH

James Brush, Horse Shoe, NC

Edward R. Root, Lakewood, NJ

## NEW FOREFATHER MEMBERS

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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](http://www.ColonialSwedes.org) or from Dr. Peter S. Craig, 3406 Macomb Street, NW, Washington, DC 20016

**Bickley Ashens Rivera**, Land O'Lakes, FL, descended from Peter Anderson through his son, Anders Petersson Longacre and the latter's son, Andrew Longacre of Kingsessing, Philadelphia County.

**Gary L. Friend**, Mount Vernon, WA, descended from Nils Larsson Frände through his son, Johan (John) Nilsson Friend and the latter's son, Nils (Nicholas) Friend of western Maryland.

**Irénée du Pont, Jr.**, Montchanin, DE, descended from Sven Gunnarsson through his son, Anders Svensson, and the latter's son, Christopher Swanson, of Wicaco, Philadelphia County.

**Mark A. Friend**, Arlington, TX, descended from Nils Larsson Frände through his son, Andrew Friend, and the latter's son, Israel Friend, of old Frederick County, Virginia.

**Bruce Runyan Engstrom**, North Little Rock, AR, descended from Peter Gunnarsson Rambo through his son, Peter Rambo, Jr., and the latter's son, Swan Rambo, of old Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

## 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](http://www.ColonialSwedes.org). The annual membership fee for an individual is \$30. An annual family membership, which includes two adults and minor children, is \$35. Lifetime membership is available for \$400.

Cover article "The Stones Speak (Stenarna Tala)" was originally published in the Swedish periodical "Allsvensk Samling" in March of 1938. It was written by Swedish Colonial Society founder Dr. Amandus Johnson and translated by former Swedish Colonial Society Governor Dr. Benkt Wennberg. It is offered here for the first time in its entirety, in English, for the Swedish Colonial Society membership. Cover photo taken from the painting "Swedish Governed Tinicum" by Dean Hartung. Forefather luncheon photos courtesy of Gene McCoy.

# In Memoriam

A former Governor of the Swedish Colonial Society, Conrad Wilson, died on March 19th at the age of 84. The cause of his death was lung cancer. Governor Wilson presided in 1972 when the majestic statue of Johan Printz was dedicated at Tinicum and was one of the few Governors of the Society to have had no Swedish family connections. He was born in Bridgeport, PA, was an active Quaker, and was a descendant of John Bartram, the naturalist.

A convinced, lifelong pacifist, he was a CO during World War II, serving in the American Friends' Service ambulance corps with the British Army when the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp was liberated. This experience made a permanent impression on him. He said that it "shook me to the very foundations of my thinking about war and the human condition. For many years I tried to erase what I saw there from my mind. But the sights and stench of Belsen are permanently etched in my memory."

He studied at Middlebury College and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with a degree in art history. He worked in Exton, PA for the Foote Mineral Company and restored a 1710 log house in which he and his wife Barbara raised two sons. He worked for the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and the Chester County Historical Society before moving to Dummerston, VT in 1985.

His wife predeceased him. His older brother William resides in West Chester, PA and his sons Christopher and Alexander and six grandchildren live in Vermont. A memorial service was held on April 2, 2005 at the West Village Meeting House in West Brattleboro, VT. Memorial donations may be sent to the Putney Friends Meeting, P.O. Box 381, Putney, VT 05346. Governor Wilson will be held in esteemed remembrance, and the Swedish Colonial Society is thankful for his many remarkable contributions.

The impact of the recent Asian Tsunami upon the populace of Sweden was truly devastating. Somewhere between 600 to 700 Swedes died as a result of this natural disaster. It has been almost 400 years since a single event in Swedish history resulted in the loss of so many of its people. The Swedish Colonial Society extends its sincerest sympathies to all those affected by this tragedy.

<p><b>High Patron</b> His Majesty Carl XVI Gustaf King of Sweden</p> <p><b>Deputy High Patron</b> Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Victoria</p> <p><b>Patron</b> His Excellency Jan Eliasson Ambassador of Sweden</p> <p><b>Associate Patron</b> Hon. Agneta Hägglund Bailey Consul of Sweden</p> <p><b>Honorary Governors</b> Ronald Hendrickson Herbert R. Rambo William B. Neal John C. Cameron, Esq. Wallace F. Richter Dr. Erik G.M. Törnqvist</p>	<p><b>Governor</b> Dr. Kim-Eric Williams</p> <p><b>Senior Deputy Governor</b> Richard L. Waldron</p> <p><b>Junior Deputy Governor</b> <b>Secretary - Treasurer</b> Margaret Sooy Bridwell</p> <p><b>Recording Secretary</b> Aleasa J. Hogate</p> <p><b>Registrar</b> A. Doriney Seagers</p> <p><b>Captain of the Color Guard</b> Kenneth S. Peterson</p> <p><b>Counselor</b> Gordon L. Keen, Esq.</p> <p><b>Historian</b> Dr. Peter S. Craig</p> <p><b>Deputy Governor - Emeritus</b> Mrs. George C. McFarland</p>	<p><b>Councillors</b> Frances O. Allmond Britt M. Apell Marie B. Boisvert Julie Jensen Bryan DeAnn Clancy David Emmi LaVonne Johnson Paul Kiejzik Christina W. Lassen Marianne E. Mackenzie Mary W. McCoy Alfred J. Nicolosi Sandra S. Pfaff Edith A. Rohrman Ellen T. Rye James D. Seagers, II Earl E. Seppälä Sylvia Seppälä Katarina K. Sheronas Linda R. Smith Susan B. Spackman Richard L. Steadham Hans Ling Bradford P. Woods</p>
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## Patrons, Officers & Councillors



*Swedish Colonial Society Patron and Ambassador of Sweden Jan Eliasson visited the American Swedish Historical Museum in Philadelphia on April 23rd to accept his award as President of the United Nations General Assembly for its sixtieth session, due to begin in September 2005. The Ambassador was presented with a painting by SvenRobert Lundquist. Mr. Eliasson also offered a brief talk, describing the difficulties of the past year in Sweden due to the Tsunami, and later in the year a hurricane in southern Sweden that caused considerable damage. Drawing an analogy to the New Sweden Colonists, the Ambassador cited the inherent Swedish character to overcome strife while dealing with the difficulties over this past year. Mr. Eliasson also looked to the future, and spoke about his optimism in working at the United Nations, and in trying to usher in a world sentiment based on hope rather than fear.*

# Upcoming Events

- June 11-12* Saturday & Sunday, Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape 25th Annual Pow Wow Celebration. Salem County Fairgrounds, Woodstown, NJ Information 856-455-6910.
- June 25* Saturday, Midsommer Celebration at the Swedish American Historical Museum, 1900 Pattison Avenue, Philadelphia Information 215-389-1776.
- September 4* Sunday, Scanfest at NJ Convention and Exposition Center, Raritan Center, Edison, NJ. For more information visit <[www.scanfest.org](http://www.scanfest.org)>.
- September 24* Saturday, "Pennsylvania Before Penn" at Governor Printz Park, Tinicum, Essington, PA. Sponsored by the Delaware County Historical Society and the Swedish Colonial Society.
- September 24-25* Saturday & Sunday, Mouns Jones County Fair at Old Moralattion Village, Douglassville, PA. For more information call 610-385-3431.
- September 25* Sunday, Delaware Swedish Colonial Society Annual Kallbord at Greenbank Mill, Wilmington, DE. Information call 302-239-0641.
- September 29-  
October 2* Thursday-Sunday. Swedish Council of America Board of Directors visitation to New Sweden.
- October 22* Saturday, New Sweden Day <[www.kalmarnyckel.org](http://www.kalmarnyckel.org)>.
- October 23* Sunday, "Masked Ball" Dinner & Theater outing sponsored by The Swedish Colonial Society.
- November 19* Saturday, New Sweden History Conference, "New Sweden and its Neighbors" at the University of Pennsylvania.

## Swedish Colonial News

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[www.ColonialSwedes.org](http://www.ColonialSwedes.org)

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