



Swedish Colonial News

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Preserving the legacy of the New Sweden Colony in America

By Honoring the Past, We Define the Future

“Allt mänskosläktet av ett blod, den store Guden danat,
Och allas väg han, vis och god, tillsammans mäl har banat,
För all som barn av samme Far och syskon med varandra
Vi skulle våra prövningsdar i endräkt genom vandra.”

“Of one blood, the Great God has created all the family
of humanity. And in his wisdom and goodness he has
cleared the way for everyone to the same goal, so that as
children of the same Father, and brothers and sisters to
each other we may journey in concord through our days
of trial.”



As The Rev. Dr. Kim-Eric Williams, Chaplain of the Swedish Colonial Society, invoked the words of Archbishop Johan Olof Wallin’s hymn at the Forefathers Luncheon in the Gold Ballroom of Wilmington’s Hotel du Pont on April 5th, the significance of the 365th Jubilee commemorative events became apparent to the nearly 300 people assembled there.

The past 24 hours had seen a whirlwind of activity, starting with a tour of 300-year-old Trinity Episcopal (Old Swedes’) Church in Swedesboro, NJ, where The Rev. Dr. Raewynne J. Whiteley led the group in a prayer of thanksgiving, noting that Trinity Church is not merely a monument, but an active congregation, one

Alfred J. Nicolosi

of the oldest in the diocese. Under Curator Edie Rohrman’s leadership, Trinity Church recently completed a ten-year, million-dollar restoration project, funded in part by the New Jersey Historic Preservation Trust.

A highlight at Trinity Church was SCS Educational Consultant Beth Daly’s presentation of a magnificent scroll featuring photographs and signatures of over 400 children who are descendants of the New Sweden pioneers as a special gift for Crown Princess Victoria. The scroll was designed by Nancy Hendrickson and produced by Cataleno & Company.

The genuine expression of joy on the faces of Ambassador and Mrs. Eliasson as they examined the scroll and talked with the children spoke volumes. Ambassador Eliasson told local fourth-graders from the Walter Hill School, Swedesboro, and the Samuel Mickle School, East Greenwich, that Crown Princess Victoria was with them in spirit and hoped to visit them soon.

At Trinity Square, adjacent to Trinity Church, Ambassador Eliasson unveiled commemorative plaques explaining the history of the venerable church. Mayor Edavide Azzari presented keys to Swedesboro to Ambassador Eliasson and Barry Andersson, Lord Mayor of

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Olle Matthiasson, alias Olof Isgrå, alias Oliver Caulk and his Caulk/Calk Descendants

Among the soldiers arriving in New Sweden on the *Eagle* in 1654 was a young man named Olle Matthiasson, who had recently been drafted into the Swedish army. As was the custom, he was assigned a soldier's name befitting his appearance or personality. In this case Olle was assigned the name of Isgrå, meaning "ice-gray," probably because of his prematurely gray hair.

Olof Isgrå at New Castle

Olof Isgrå first saw military action on 21 May 1654 when the Dutch surrendered Fort Casimir at present New Castle to the Swedes without firing a shot. (The small garrison there had run out of gunpowder.) The fort was renamed Fort Trinity by Governor Rising and placed under the command of Captain Sven Skute.

Fearing that the Dutch Governor Petrus Stuyvesant might attempt to recapture Fort Trinity, Governor Rising assigned Captain Sven Skute the task of rebuilding and strengthening that fort and assigned half of his soldiers, including Olof Isgrå, to assist in this endeavor. However on 31 August 1655, a Dutch fleet of seven ships passed by and landed north of the fort, cutting the fort off from Rising's remaining troops at Fort Christina. Stuyvesant demanded that Skute surrender the fort, but he initially refused.

When word reached the soldiers in the fort that the Dutch troops outnumbered the Swedes by a 10:1 margin many soldiers, including Olof Isgrå, decided it was hopeless to try to defend the fort. Captain Skute then addressed his soldiers and demanded, "Whoever wants to be a loyal fellow and serve his ruler like an honest man, step forth from this rebellious lot and come with me." During this confusion, Olof Isgrå jumped over the wall of the fort and surrendered himself to the Dutch, also informing them of the division of opinion within the fort. Lacking the support of his own soldiers, Skute surrendered the fort to Stuyvesant the next morning.

The ill feelings between Isgrå and Skute carried forward for a considerable time. In January 1656, Olof Isgrå accused Captain Skute of having confiscated the poor tax for his own use. Skute denied the charge and claimed Isgrå threatened to kill him. In the summer of 1656 Olof Isgrå agreed to sell his plantation north of the fort at Swanwick to another former New Sweden soldier, Constantine Grönenberg, and in February 1657 he appeared at the Dutch fort again to promise he would pay his debt to Isaac Allerton, a New England trader, within a year. After that time, the name of Olof Isgrå disappears from the record. The reason, it turns out, was that he had fled to the Sassafras River in present Cecil County, Maryland.

Olle Matthiasson in Maryland

Among the things Olle left behind in the New Castle area was his soldier's name. Reverting to his patronymic, Olle Matthiasson, his wife Anna and their three small children were granted head rights in Maryland in 1664 and 200 acres, which he called "Sweedland," were surveyed for him on the south side of the Sassafras River in 1665. Later, about 1670, he moved with his family to a tract on the north side of the same river, called "World's End." The English scribes in the area had some difficulty with Olle's first name and often entered it as Olive or Oliver.

The Naturalization and Death of Oliver Caulk

The name of Olle Matthiasson disappeared from Maryland records after 1671. Thereafter the owner of "World's End" became known as Oliver Caulk. The name, quite obviously, came from the fact that his once ice-gray hair was now chalk white. ("Calk," now spelled "kalk" in Swedish, means "chalk.")

On 6 June 1674, Oliver Calk, described as a native of Sweden, became a naturalized citizen of Maryland, meaning that he could convey or will his land to his children or others. By 1683, Oliver Caulk had been named a Commissioner in Cecil County.

Oliver Caulk died at "World's End" shortly before 30 May 1685, when his widow Ann and his eldest son Isaac Caulk were named administrators of his estate. The inventory, filed 20 days later, showed that his estate included a horse, a mare, 2 yearlings, 8 cows, 4 steers, 2 heifers, 38 hogs, 5 deerskins, 2 guns, a number of beds, tools for the carpenter and cooper trades and two indentured women servants.

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Hendrickson is 30th Governor of Swedish Colonial Society

Ronald Hendrickson became the 30th Governor of the Swedish Colonial Society at its Jubilee luncheon held recently at the Hotel du Pont in Wilmington. This event capped two days of festivities in three states and celebrated the 365th anniversary of the founding of the New Sweden Colony, the first permanent European settlement in the Delaware Valley. In attendance were Ambassador of Sweden Jan Eliasson, Stockholm Lord Mayor Barry Andersson, Wilmington Mayor James Baker and 300 other notable Swedish- and Finnish-Americans from across the country.

“I am especially honored to become Governor at such a significant event in the history of New Sweden and our Society,” noted Hendrickson. “The tremendous amount of preparation and the truly fantastic results achieved by this celebration are testaments to the spirit of cooperation that exists in the modern-day colony. I am proud to work with the finest group of volunteers and I am particularly pleased to share responsibility with my good friend and colleague, Kim-Eric Williams, the new Senior Deputy Governor.”

Hendrickson, 49, who resides in Moores-town, NJ, with his wife, Nancy and children Katherine, Rachel and Andrew, earned a Bachelor of Science in Economics in 1976 from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and was awarded a Juris Doctor in 1979 from Rutgers University School of Law. Ron was a government prosecutor and later defense counsel in private practice. In 1986, he became a partner in the advertising design firm of Cataleno & Company to explore the then-new communication possibilities offered by the World Wide Web. The Swedish Colonial Society has been a major beneficiary of Ron’s career change.

In 1998, Hendrickson became the publisher of *Swedish Colonial News* and was responsible for its revised design layout and expanded content to the present 20-page format. This journal now serves as the principal printed resource for news and information about the Swedish Colonial Society and the New Sweden Colony in America. A year later in 1999, Hendrickson created and launched the Society’s web site (www.ColonialSwedes.org), which has received more than 175,000 visitors worldwide since its inception. He continues to

serve as Webmaster for this electronic resource, which contains more than 100 pages of information, including histories and timelines, Forefather family profiles and descriptions of historic sites from the New Sweden Colony. Hendrickson has served as Senior Deputy Governor since 2000 and, in recognition of contributions, in 2002 he was named Fellow of the Swedish Colonial Society.

A Life and Forefather member, Ron first became interested in colonial history as a youth while working on the citizenship portion of his Eagle Scout award. He is a tenth generation descendant of eight New Sweden colonists, including Johan Hendricksson who arrived on the vessel *Örnen* (Eagle) in May 1654. In 1699, Ron’s eighth great grandfather, Andrew Hendricksson, built the stone house on Crum Creek, which was moved in 1959 to the grounds of Holy Trinity (Old Swedes’) Church, Wilmington. Now known as the “Hendrickson House,” this ancient structure serves as a museum, gift shop and the headquarters of the Holy Trinity (Old Swedes’) Church Foundation, Inc.

The 365th Jubilee benefited from Hendrickson’s communication expertise as well. The descendant children’s banner presented at Trinity Church, Swedesboro, was a product of the design craft of Cataleno & Company. In addition, Hendrickson authored the official Jubilee commemorative booklet *New Sweden: Past, Present & Future*. This small volume is expertly illustrated with scenes from modern-day New Sweden and is destined to become a treasured keepsake of the Jubilee celebration.



Ronald Hendrickson

ROBERT MOULES PHOTOGRAPHY



Stockholm, who in turn gave the Swedesboro mayor a key to his city, noting the original settlement at Sveaborg on Raccoon Creek was called New Stockholm. Also present were Trinity Foundation members Elaine Rode and Richard Erdner, whose generous contributions helped make the church restoration and park a reality. Gloucester County Freeholder William Krebs read a proclamation welcoming the Swedish dignitaries and commemorating the dedication of Trinity Square.

Salem County businessman B. Harold Smick, Jr., who met Prince Bertil in 1938 and served on the 1988 New Sweden Commission, presented Ambassador Eliasson with a candleholder symbolizing enlightenment, made from the Salem Oak Tree, one of the oldest living things in New Jersey. This tree was already mature when the first Swedes arrived in 1638 and Fort Elfsborg was constructed nearby a little later. The tree also has an interesting Swedish connection. During a goodwill tour in 1928, famed Swedish-American aviator Charles A. Lindberg deliberately flew over the tree in the *Spirit of St. Louis*, dropping leaflets with a message for Salem's citizens.

On Friday afternoon at the American Swedish Historical Museum in Philadelphia, the Swedish Museum Singers performed traditional favorites, filling the lofty entrance hall with sweet memories of Sverige. "You made me see the summer wind of Skåne," said Ambassador Eliasson wistfully, as he gently requested an encore from director Steven Hackman. Refreshments provided by SVEA, Midsommarklubben and the Women's Auxiliary added familiar tastes and smells to the sounds of Sweden.

Ambassador and Mrs. Eliasson then cut the ribbon opening a new exhibit, "The Man Who Made the Monitor: John Ericsson, Engineer and Visionary" which celebrates the bicentennial of the Swedish inventor's birth. The interactive exhibit, mounted by ASHM Curator Margareta Talerman, will remain open to the public until December 28th.

"This exhibit is an excellent opportunity for Americans to learn more about John Ericsson, an ingenious inventor whose work with steam and caloric engines was far ahead of his time. Ericsson revolutionized naval warfare during the Civil War and his inventions are still in use today," said ASHM Director Richard Waldron.

Kjell Lagerstrom, President of the John Ericsson Society of New York, said, "Time can

erode the memories even of great men. It is therefore of significant importance and value that the American Swedish Historical Museum, in cooperation with the John Ericsson Society, celebrate the bicentennial of the birth of John Ericsson with this exhibition and in symposiums later this year."

Friday evening saw a reception for major donors at the Union League of Philadelphia. During dinner, Governor Herbert Rambo presented the Deputy High Patron's decoration to Ambassador Eliasson, who accepted it on behalf of Crown Princess Victoria. This decoration, designed by the Jubilee Chairs and custom made by J.E. Caldwell's, depicts the "Three Crowns" and that most American of symbols, the log cabin. Its longstanding relationship with the Royal Family makes the Swedish Colonial Society unique in America. Since the Society's founding in 1909, each Swedish King has been the High Patron or honorary leader of the Society.

Lord Mayor Andersson presented the key to the City of Stockholm to the Swedish Colonial Society. This beautiful oversize brass key has City Hall, the House of Nobility and Riddarholm Church sculpted on its handle.

Saturday morning began with a tour of Holy Trinity (Old Swedes') Church in Wilmington, the oldest of eight Old Swedes' churches in the Delaware Valley, where The Rev. Anne B. Bonnyman led the group in singing the hymn *O God of All the Nations*. Many who heard the prayer for peace were moved by the words, "This is my home, the country where my heart is; here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine; but other hearts in other lands are beating with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine...."

At Fort Christina Park, site of the landing of the first Scandinavian immigrants in 1638, Governor Johan Printz, portrayed by David Lewis, and other reenactors from the New Sweden Centre greeted visiting dignitaries U.S. Senator Thomas R. Carper; U.S. Representative Michael N. Castle; Delaware Assistant Secretary of State Richard Geisenberger, representing Governor Ruth Ann Minner; Wilmington Mayor James M. Baker; Swedish Council of America Director Susan R. Larson, ASHM Board Chairman Robert E. Savage; and Delaware Swedish Colonial Society President Robert G. Sandberg.

In memory of the New Sweden Forefathers, Ambassador Eliasson and President Sandberg laid a wreath at the base of the 25-

foot black Swedish granite Kalmar Nyckel monument. Created by Swedish-American sculptor Carl Milles for the Tercentenary celebration in 1938, this gift from the people of Sweden brought President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Crown Prince Gustaf Adolf and Crown Princess Louise of Sweden, Finnish President Kyosti Kallio and Delaware Governor Richard C. McMullen to Wilmington 65 years ago.

In 1988, King Carl Gustaf and Queen Silvia were rowed to “the Rocks” in a small boat when they visited this site during the highly publicized Royal tour of the United States which marked the 350th anniversary of the founding of New Sweden.

At the Kalmar Nyckel shipyard, Board President George C. Hering, III, presented Ambassador Eliasson with a large photograph of that event. Ambassador Eliasson, a former naval officer himself, gave the Kalmar Nyckel Foundation a three-tailed Swedish naval flag, which came alive as the stiff breeze unfurled it at the top of the mast. Also present was Delaware’s former Governor, Swedish-American Russell W. Peterson, whose message “Every Day is Earth Day” helped boost the nationwide “Adopt a Highway” litter control program.

Guests in the Gold Ball Room of the Hotel du Pont raised their glasses for the traditional toasts to President George W. Bush, King Carl XVI Gustaf and Crown Princess Victoria, offered respectively by Robert E. Savage, Robert G. Sandberg and Frances O. Allmond who, together with other Jubilee Chairs Jayne S. Huntington and Sandra S. Pfaff, spent untold hours meticulously planning every detail of the long anticipated Royal visit. Registration procedures were effortlessly handled by Sally Bridwell.

Among the attendees were dignitaries from three sovereign entities: Sweden, the United States and the Lenape nation. Speaking on behalf of Crown Princess Victoria, Ambassador Eliasson said, “Her Royal Highness sends her very warmest greetings. She has her mind with us today.” Referring guests to the message she had personally written to the group, the Ambassador remarked, “By honoring the past, we define the future.”

“The future starts now. We are here. Being together, living together, creating the future together. We have a responsibility to convey to our children this message of hope,” he continued, reinforcing Archbishop Wallin’s comments. “We must give our children roots and

wings, the family tradition and freedom to explore their unique individuality.”

“Sweden and America are united by common values, traditions and goals,” Eliasson added, noting that there are now more Swedish-Americans (10 million) than Swedes (9 million). More than 100,000 Swedes work for American companies in Sweden, and each year over 46 million people fly back and forth between Europe and America. “Even Volvo is now owned by Ford!”

The enduring bond between nations was appropriately symbolized by the meeting of the Swedes and the Lenape earlier that morning at an outdoor ceremony at the Kalmar Nyckel shipyard. An uninformed observer would have been shocked to see this unusual assemblage: Native Americans in traditional leather clothing and feathers, Swedish diplomats in business attire, and out-going Governor Rambo dressed as a 17th century cavalry officer. The Swedish delegation - Ambassador Eliasson, Science Counselor Kerstin Eliasson, Lord Mayor Andersson, Consul Agneta H. Bailey, and Press Counselor Claes Thorson - shivered in the cold, damp air under gray skies. April is indeed the cruelest month, stirring dull roots with spring rain, as winter and spring squabble over which will prevail.

Against the backdrop of the war no one wanted, the mood was solemn. Even nature seemed to reaffirm the Archbishop’s message, “The rain falls on everyone. We are all connected. What happens on one continent affects people living in another part of the world, ecologically, economically and politically. No man or nation is an island unto itself.”

Chief Dennis Coker of the Cheswold, DE, Lenape tribe, and Chiefs Mark and Dennis Gould of the Nanticoke-Lenape tribe in Bridgeton, NJ, intoned prayers in the Lenape language, now spoken fluently by fewer than a dozen people. The Swedes offered prayers in their mother tongue and danced with their Native American brothers and sisters, somewhat tentatively at first, then whole-heartedly as the spirit of the moment filled them.

Mayor Andersson said the Lenape ceremony was the event that for him best embodied the spirit of the Jubilee celebrations. His daughter, Linn Hansson, agreed saying, “It’s amazing to see how many people are curious about Sweden. We must reach out to other people and learn about their cultures.”

The exchange of gifts evoked memories of

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The Lenape-Delaware Indian Heritage

Kenneth S. Peterson

The late Herbert C. Kraft has written a book that traces the story of the Delaware Valley's first inhabitants from 10,000 B.C. to A.D. 2,000. The 670 page, hardcover volume features a picture of the Lenape sachem, "Tishcohan" from a painting completed by Gustavus Hesselius in 1735.

The book begins with a consideration of geography and then archaic hunters, fishers and gathers. It then considers the various Woodland periods, spiritual beliefs and practices, European contacts and colonization, final destinations and westward migrations.

He succeeds in his intent to provide a book that is readable not only for archeologists and historians but for the general non-professional audience as well. Many contacts with the Swedish colony are mentioned, including a

description of the Indian attack on New Amsterdam while Peter Stuyvesant was capturing Ft. Christina in 1655.

After finishing the book I am left with a sense of sadness of the almost total retreat and disappearance of the Lenape people and culture. Dr. Kraft brought alive in my mind the huge cultural clash that unfolded between the Europeans and the Lenape.

Despite misspelling Peter Craig's name in the acknowledgements and getting the name of the Swedish Colonial Society all wrong, this is an excellent work on the Lenape and perhaps the best book to date.

The complete title is: *The Lenape-Delaware Indian Heritage, 10,000 B.C. to A.D. 2,000*. It may be ordered from the publisher, Lenape Books, 569 Selfmaster Parkway, Union, NJ 07083. Hardbound edition: \$66.95 and soft-cover edition: \$51.50. Add \$4.00 for postage and handling. It was published in 2001.

Falckner Tercentenary

A special celebration involving both the bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania, Charles Bennison, and the bishop of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the Lutheran Church, Roy G. Almquist, will take place on Sunday November 23, 2003, at 3:00 p.m. All clergy in the area, members of the Swedish Colonial Society, as well as members of all of the original eight "Old Swedes" churches are invited to commemorate the first episcopal and first Lutheran Ordination in the Americas. It happened at Gloria Dei Church in Philadelphia when a Saxon by the name of

Kim-Eric Williams

Justus Falckner was ordained by three Swedish priests to serve the Dutch Lutheran Church in New York and Albany. (November 24, 1703) This will be the first time that the old Swedish Ministerium has assembled since 1784. Special music from the time will be sung. The event will be held at the recently renovated Philadelphia Cathedral of the Episcopal Church at 38th Street and Chestnut in West Philadelphia.

John Ericsson Bicentennial

Kim-Eric Williams

The 200th anniversary of the birth of Swedish inventor, John Ericsson is being noted with a special exhibition at the American Swedish Historical Museum in Philadelphia. Ericsson is best known for the invention of the marine screw propeller and his famous design of the Union ship *Monitor* during the Civil War.

A well-known statue of him stands in New York City's Battery Park, not far from Ground Zero. A plaza where the Holland Tunnel enters Manhattan is also named for him since he lived in this area. In Philadelphia he is remembered with a circular fountain in front of the Museum of Art at the end of the Benjamin Franklin Parkway. The exhibition at the Museum will continue through December.

Second New Sweden Conference Succeeds

Christina W. Lassen

The convergence of two winter storms failed to deter vocational and avocational historians from visiting the American Swedish Historical Museum on November 16, 2002, for a day of sharing knowledge about the New Sweden Colony. Featured speakers were two Swedish professors we last met during the 350th anniversary conferences in 1988. Hans Norman and Stellan Dahlgren, co-authors of *The Rise and Fall of New Sweden: Governor Johann Risingh's Journal 1654-1655 in its Historical Context*, each gave a presentation.

In 1988 at the University of Delaware it was almost as if the crackle of lightning had entered the lecture hall. Scholars working in isolation on each side of the Atlantic encountered each other for the first time. The atmosphere was intense as questions and answers flew back and forth.

This time the atmosphere was more melodic. The same scholars have been working together on such projects as the translation of the Gloria Dei Church records and there is more camaraderie.

Nowhere was this more apparent than in the collaborative efforts to restore and display the Gustavus Hesselius portraits of Eric Björk and Christina Stalkop. Descendants in Sweden and America have succeeded in restoring the paintings and having them displayed at the Historical Society of Delaware in Wilmington.

Stellan Dahlgren, Emeritus Professor of History at Uppsala University, started the day by speaking on "Swedish Colonial Goals, Experiences, and Disappointments." He told us Sweden's goals were two fold: 1) develop international trade, and 2) maintain a Lutheran mission. They did have some success in the fur trade but were unable to develop a tobacco business. They were able to maintain a chaplaincy for the colonists but were unable to convert the Indians.

Peter Wacker, Emeritus Professor of Geography at Rutgers University, spoke on "Early Fennoscandian influences on the North American Cultural Landscape." He discussed log cabins and the worm or snake fence.

Karen M. Reeds spoke on "Keeping Well in New Sweden: Diet, Health and Medicinal Plants." She discussed plants for food and drink that were 1) known of and brought from home, 2) from other colonists, or 3) from the Indians. She had a wonderful exhibit of native plants, as well as a list of plants known to be in the New Sweden territory. She said that there were per-

simmons in Bartram's garden, and confided that she would be serving persimmon pudding to her family on Thanksgiving (presumably not from Bartram's Garden).

After a lunch break (no dining *al fresco* on the Museum steps this year!), Hans Norman, Professor of History at Uppsala University, talked about "The People of Swedish Origin in the Delaware Valley Region: Numbers, Ethnicity and Cultural Identity (1638-1790)." Prior to the arrival of William Penn and his 8,000 fellow Quakers, Swedes were a majority in the Mid-Atlantic region. They had their own pastors and their language was the *lingua franca* in the area. Over the course of four years (1681-1685), they became a minority. Swedishness became a heritage.

Susan E. Klepp, Professor of History at Temple University, presented "Town and Country, Births and Deaths: The changing lives of Swedes in the Delaware Valley (1690-1828)." The Swedes settled along the rivers on farms averaging 500 acres each. They were rural and scattered and remained countrified, even after the Quakers came and built cities.

There was time for Peter Craig to add only a few concluding remarks. Dr. Craig, the Historian for the Swedish Colonial Society, said that every log cabin in New Sweden was built on a navigable stream and that the Swedes got around by boats, such as dug-out canoes. They had oxen and cows, but not horses and wagons.

Oblivious to the weather, the conference attendees spent an exciting day, filling the museum's assembly hall to overflowing. Each person left looking forward to next year's conference, which is scheduled for Saturday, November 15, 2003, at Trinity Episcopal (Old Swedes') Church in Swedesboro, NJ.



New Sweden History Conference participants (back row) Peter Craig (left), Hans Norman and Peter Wacker; (front row) Herbert Rambo (left), Susan Klepp, Karen Reeds, Stellan Dahlgren & Ronald Hendrickson.

LAURA COLLINS, ASHM

the first contacts between the indigenous people and Swedish immigrants to the Delaware Valley 365 years ago. Patrik Johansson and Donna Bergstrom, both of Indian and Lenape heritage, said in the letter which accompanied their gift of wampum made by Vernon and Berta Welch of the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head, Aquinnah, on Martha's Vineyard, MA:

"For hundreds of years, to the tribes on the East Coast, strands of tubular purple and white beads made from clam shells, known as wampum, have served as a medium to communicate peace and commitment. The beads are sacred, made from shell middens along the coast where Native People lived for thousands of years. This band of wampum being presented to Crown Princess Victoria is given in the spirit of good will and peace. The band, which can also be used as a necklace, has 14 beads, each bead representing a generation. On this 365th anniversary of the New Sweden Colony, 14 generations have passed since the initial meeting between Swedes and the Lenni Lenape. The 14th bead of the necklace represents this meeting and the beginning of a renewed relationship between Swedes and American Indians."

Ambassador Eliasson presented a crystal Orrefors bowl to the Lenape, symbolizing the fragility of freedom and the gentle care needed to preserve it.

The luncheon program proceeded with President George W. Bush adding his congratulations in a letter read by SCS Member Lloyd F. Thompson, President of Swedish Heritage Press of Norwell, MA:

"I send greetings to those celebrating Swedish-American Heritage Days in commemoration of the 365th arrival of the first Swedish immigrants in the United States. From every corner of the world, immigrants have come to America to discover the promise of our Nation. In 1638, Swedish settlers arrived in our country and established the first permanent European settlement in the Delaware Valley. These early pioneers helped to shape our Nation, and today millions of Swedish-Americans contribute to our rich cultural diversity, economic strength and proud ancestry. During this time, we recognize Swedish-Americans for their remarkable achievements in all sectors of our society. I commend the Swedish Colonial Society for preserving your customs and sharing your history with all Americans. Your efforts contribute to the values that make our country strong. Laura joins me in sending our best wishes on this special occasion."

The framed letter was given to Master of Ceremonies Ronald Hendrickson, newly elected Governor of the Swedish Colonial Society.

Noted Delaware sculptor Charles Allmond, a descendant of Mårten Mårtensson and Society member, presented sculptures for the Crown Princess and Ambassador Eliasson. Crown Princess Victoria's gift was a stylized owl titled *Athena's Favorite*, representing the enigmatic consort of Pallas Athena, the Greek goddess of wisdom and the arts. *Polar Cub*, a gift for Ambassador and Mrs. Eliasson, portrays a young bear tentatively approaching the edge of an ice flow. Both pieces are artist's proofs of cast bronze. Mr. Allmond's animal sculptures are on display at the Sewell C. Biggs Museum, Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum, Hiram Blauvelt Art Museum, Morris Library at the University of Delaware and Astra-Zeneca.

Throughout the luncheon, two mysterious guests remained hidden under blue veils, patiently waiting to be introduced. During more than 200 years out of the public eye, they understood that time brings all hidden things to light. Finally, the long-awaited moment arrived. Ambassador and Mrs. Eliasson deftly removed the drapes from the paintings of Holy Trinity's pastor, Rev. Erik Björk, and his lovely wife, Christina Stalcop. These paintings by Gustavus Hesselius, America's first professional portrait painter, had been discovered by Count Ulf Hamilton in storage at the Nordiska Museet in Stockholm, with assistance from its Director, Dr. Christina Mattsson, when Hans Ling, an Uppsala native and staff lawyer for Sweden's National Heritage Board, was researching his family's history through the SCS website (www.ColonialSwedes.org).

Mr. Ling, whose genealogical quest led to the remarkable recovery of these rare portraits from the colonial period, commented, "My first reaction was astonishment that my discovery woke such immediate enthusiasm in America. My feeling now is a great satisfaction that I have contributed to saving these paintings from disappearing into the darkness of lost memories."

Dr. Barbara E. Benson, Executive Director of the Historical Society of Delaware, in whose museum the paintings will be displayed, quoting a line from the musical *Hello Dolly*, said, "It's good to have you back where you belong." She added, "It is wonderful that we have this opportunity to display these paintings which have survived such a long period of time through tumultuous events and two trips across the ocean."

The story of how these 18th century paintings were found, restored and brought to the United States after two centuries is a testament to the information technology revolution. In

the age of New Sweden, Johan Printz waited two years for a response from Sweden to his letter. Now we can communicate instantaneously via cyberspace. SCS Member Aleasa Hogate said the discovery of the paintings would have been impossible without electronic communications. "They say the pen is mightier than the sword," she added with a smile, "but the internet is a laser that cuts across continents and cultures." Webmaster Ron Hendrickson, SCS Historian Dr. Peter S. Craig, and Forefather Member Larry S. Stallcup each played important roles in authenticating the paintings.

Generous support from Mrs. David Craven, Mr. Lowell Smith and Mr. Larry S. Stallcup enabled the Swedish Colonial Society to have the paintings restored and brought to the United States. "As someone who loves history," Mr. Smith said, "it is good to know that people care enough about this important part of our past to bring these paintings back to Delaware."

The faces of Pastor Björk and Christina Stalco captured the luncheon crowd, some of whom were still savoring the sparkling wine donated by Mike Sjoebloom of Sjoebloom Winery, Napa, CA. Many went over to the paintings to examine them closely, as if they were portraits of long-lost relatives, as indeed they were for some SCS members. "My goodness," said one guest, "she looks just like my sister!" Christina's Mona Lisa smile seems to suggest that more treasures like these are waiting to be discovered by diligent researchers.

In his sermon at Christina's funeral in Falun, Sweden in 1720, where the 34-year-old mother of ten died suddenly, Pastor Andreas Sandel commented that her children, having lost both their mother and grandfather, felt "their gladness sun (glädjes sol) now seemed to have gone down for them." As guests left the Hotel du Pont, they found their "gladness sun" had broken through the clouds, inspiring a cautious optimism for better days ahead.



Direct Descendant Children's Banner

To help celebrate the 365th anniversary, we contacted all Forefather members of the Society regarding a gift for Crown Princess Victoria. We hoped to gather signatures and photos of the youngest descendants for a scroll. Many of you responded. So many, in fact, that we collected 412 names from 27 ancestors from 21 states, all of whom trace their ancestry to the New Sweden Colony. Thank you for such a wonderful response.

Nancy Hendrickson of Cataleno & Company, along with her husband Ron, our new Governor, fabricated a stunning banner

which was presented by their three children, Katie, Rachel and Andrew, 11th generation descendants of Johan Hendricksson, to Ambassador Eliasson who accepted it on behalf of the Crown Princess.

Beth Linnerson-Daly

The Society will print poster-sized versions of this banner. To purchase a 12" x 30" full-color poster, mail a check payable to "Swedish Colonial Society" for \$10 for each poster to: Children's Poster, Swedish Colonial Society, 916 S. Swanson St., Philadelphia, PA 19147-4332. Please include your return address and order by July 1, 2003.

All photos courtesy of Alfred Pfaff,
Pfaff Photography, Bryn Mawr, PA

365TH *Jubilee* CELEBRATION





1. Jubilee Chairs Fran Allmond (l.), Sandra Pfaff & Jayne Huntington.
2. Smiles all around for a job well done by (front) Sally Bridwell (l.), Sandra Pfaff, Mary McCoy, Elsa Orescan, & Fran Allmond; (rear) Fred Nicolosi (l.), Herb Rambo, Jim Seagers, Raewynne Whiteley, Sylvia Seppälä, Bob Sandberg, Doriney Seagers, Ron Hendrickson, Earl Seppälä & Bob Savage.
3. Ambassador Jan Eliasson (l.) presents a Swedish naval flag to George Hering while former DE Gov. Russell Peterson (back l.) and Stockholm Lord Mayor Barry Andersson (r.) observe.
4. Kerstin & Jan Eliasson chat with U.S. Senator Tom Carper en route to “the Rocks” at Ft. Christina Park.
5. Visitors enjoy the view at the Kalmar Nyckel shipyard.
6. Ambassador Jan Eliasson presents gifts of friendship to Lenape chiefs.
7. The Swedish delegation joins the Lenape nation in a traditional dance.
8. Garrison parade at Ft. Christina Park.
9. New Sweden Garrison gives a black powder salute at “the Rocks.”
10. Gov. Johan Printz (a.k.a. David Lewis).
11. Fred Nicolosi gives the Jubilee a “thumbs up.”
12. Lord Mayor Barry Andersson (l.) at the podium in Swedesboro with Herb Rambo.
13. Swedesboro presenters (front) Doriney Seagers and her granddaughter Kirsten Seagers; (rear) Rachel (l.), Andrew and Katie Hendrickson.
14. Edie Rohrman holds the microphone while Swedesboro children count in Swedish for Rev. Raewynne Whiteley.
15. Barry Andersson (l.), Rev. Anne Bonnyman, Kerstin & Jan Eliasson view the treasurers at Holy Trinity Church.
16. Ambassador Jan Eliasson reviews a family time line held by Edie Rohrman (l.), Beth Daly and Judy Frett.
17. Kerstin & Jan Eliasson (l.) view the descendant children’s banner at Trinity Church.



18. The Swedish Museum Singers entertain the crowd from the staircase of the ASHM Grand Hall.

19. Gene (l.) & Mary McCoy join Fran Allmond at the American Swedish Historical Museum.

20. Nyckelharpa duo entertains at ASHM.

21. The newly restored paintings of Rev. Erik Björk & Christina Stalcop are admired by Peter Craig (l.), Larry Stallcup, Ellen Semple, Barbara Benson, Lowell Smith, Herbert Rambo, Kerstin & Jan Eliasson, Barry Andersson & Ronald Hendrickson.

22. Key to City of Stockholm.

23. Lord Mayor Barry Andersson (l.) & Herb Rambo with the Stockholm City key.

24. Michael Sjoebloom (l.), Sandra Pfaff, Nancy & Ron Hendrickson enjoy "Chauvignon Crystal" at the Union League.

25. Sally Bridwell toasts colonial Forefathers at the Jubilee dinner.

26. *Time for Three* wows the guests after dinner at the Union League.

27. Ambassador Eliasson accepts the John Ericsson exhibit plaque from Richard Waldron (l.) and Bob Savage.

28. Ron Hendrickson welcomes 300 guests to the Jubilee luncheon in the Gold Ballroom of the Hotel du Pont.

29. Artist Charles Allmond presents *Polar Cub*, the Society's gift to Ambassador Eliasson.

30. Sweden's gift to the Society.



All photos courtesy of Alfred Pfaff,
Pfaff Photography, Bryn Mawr, PA



In Gratitude to our Contributors for the 365th Jubilee

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Old Swede's Inn - Swedesboro, NJ

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Precision Arts, Inc. (pins) - St. Park, MN
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Swedish Heritage Press - Norwell, MA
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Waldor Orchids - Linwood, NJ
Walker's Florist and Greenhouses - Hockessin, DE

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Belak Flowers - Barbara Williams, Designer - Wilmington, DE
Brandywine Electronics Limited - Wilmington, DE
Dinner Music - *Time for Three* - Philadelphia, PA (courtesy of Robert E. Savage)
Living History Interpreters - Janet and Arthur Malestein, Coordinators, New Sweden Centre - Wilmington, DE
The Garrison of Fort Christina
Livgardet Kompanie Gustavus II Adolphus Gula Regemente - Westphalian Society
Sculpture - Charles Allmond - Wilmington, DE

PORTRAIT RESTORATION

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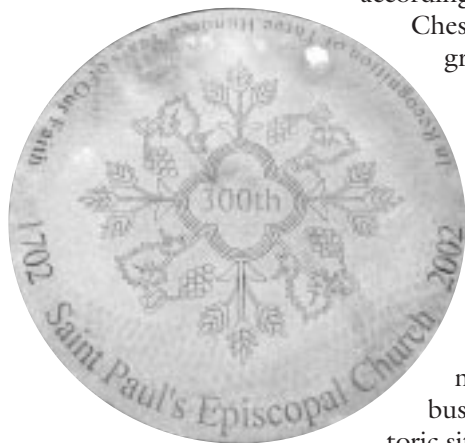
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Chester Cemetery Renovations

Kim-Eric Williams

The Old Swedish Burial ground in downtown Chester that has long been neglected is about to experience a complete renewal according to plans announced by the City of Chester. At one time it was the high ground overlooking the Delaware and the Upland (Chester) Creek. Today it is just a block behind City Hall on a busy four-lane artery.

According to a master plan developed by Cairone & Kaupp, Inc., the site on the south side of the eastbound lanes of Route 291, will be united with adjacent monument to Christopher Columbus. The street separating the two historic sites will be removed and new paving and walls installed along with new plantings. A new entrance will be created and signage installed relating to John Morton, both as to his role in signing the Declaration of Independence, and as to his grave. The footpath of the original St. Paul's Church will be outlined in the cemetery. Last year St. Paul's Episcopal, which was often served by Swedish priests, marked its 300th anniversary and placed a circular stone monument in the ceme-



tery to show its original location on the old Swedish glebe land. Fortunately the property owner to the south, Mr. Larry O'Brien of Lobec, Inc., has become fascinated with the site and will landscape his new facility to enhance the park site.

It was here that Johan Campanius lived and no doubt had services for the surrounding colonists in "Upland." We can imagine that it was here that he composed his famous Indian catechism in draft form. The last Swedish priest on the Delaware, Lars Carlsson Lock, lived here also until his death in 1688. After this, the church councils of the congregations at Wicaco and Crane Hook sold the property and divided its proceeds between the two congregations. When the three priests came in 1697 to renew the work of the Church of Sweden on the Delaware, they were faced not only with the need for new church buildings but for rectories also.

The exact time line for the new park awaits the granting of funds that have been applied for by the City of Chester. The cost is estimated at more than three quarters of a million dollars.

Patrons, Officers & Councillors

<p>High Patron His Majesty Carl XVI Gustaf King of Sweden</p> <p>Deputy High Patron Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Victoria</p> <p>Patron His Excellency Jan Eliasson Ambassador of Sweden</p> <p>Deputy Patron The Honorable Olle Wästberg Consul General of Sweden</p> <p>Associate Patron Hon. Agneta Hägglund Bailey Consul of Sweden</p> <p>Honorary Governors Herbert R. Rambo William B. Neal John C. Cameron, Esq. Wallace F. Richter Dr. Erik G.M. Törnqvist Herbert Gullberg Conrad Wilson</p>	<p>Governor Ronald Hendrickson</p> <p>Senior Deputy Governor Chaplain - Archivist The Rev. Dr. Kim-Eric Williams</p> <p>Junior Deputy Governor Jayne S. Huntington</p> <p>Secretary - Treasurer The Very Rev. David B. Rivers</p> <p>Recording Secretary Aleasa J. Hogate</p> <p>Registrar Doriney Seagers</p> <p>Captain of the Color Guard Kenneth S. Peterson</p> <p>Counselor Gordon L. Keen, Esq.</p> <p>Historian Dr. Peter S. Craig, F.A.S.G.</p> <p>Deputy Governor - Emeritus Mrs. George C. McFarland</p>	<p>Councillors Frances O. Allmond David R. Anderson Britt M. Apell Marie B. Boisvert 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 K. Sheronas Gunnil Sjöberg Linda R. Smith Susan B. Spackman Richard L. Steadham Richard L. Waldron</p>
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Among the children of Oliver Caulk and his wife Anna were four sons: Isaac, Peter, James and Jacob. It is likely that they also had daughters, but their names are not yet known.

1. Isaac Caulk, the eldest son, inherited the “World’s End” plantation on the north side of the Sassafra River. He married, before 1691, Mary Finch, an English woman, daughter of Francis and Mary Finch of Kent County, Maryland. He died at “World’s End” in 1702. His widow, Mary then married Daniel Pearce of Kent County. She named five children by her first husband in her will of 26 May 1740:

- > Oliver Caulk, baptized in Cecil County on 30 September 1692, was past 60 before he married Phoebe Brown, a Quaker, in 1752. He died at “World’s End” 22 December 1781, survived by three children: Mary, Isaac and Oliver.
- > Isaac Caulk, born c. 1693, married Temperance (surname unknown) and died at “World’s End” in the winter of 1748/9. They had nine children: John, Isaac, William, Oliver, Jacob, Benjamin, Richard, Mary and Sarah.
- > Mary Caulk, born c. 1696, married George Wilson.
- > Sarah Caulk, born c. 1699, married John Kennard.
- > Jacob Caulk, born in 1702, never married and died in Kent County, MD, in 1758.

2. Peter Caulk, the second son, moved south to Talbot County to earn his livelihood, acquiring part of “Lostock” in 1706. A successful planter, he died there c. 1727. The name of his first wife, who died c. 1710, is unknown. His second wife, Sarah Cartwright, died in 1738. Peter’s children by his two wives were:

- > Mary Caulk, born in February 1698, apparently died young.
- > Peter Caulk, born in 1700, married Mary Sockwell in 1725 and died at “Lostock” in 1756. He had five children: Mary, John, Henry, Dawson and Daniel.
- > John Caulk, born c. 1704, died unmarried in 1728.
- > Lawrence Caulk, born c. 1709, married the widow Mary Camper in 1744 and died in Dorchester County in 1772. His children included John, Elizabeth and Peter.
- > Sarah Caulk, born c. 1714, married Bartholomew Roberts.

> Alice Caulk, born c. 1716, married Edward Collison.

> James Caulk, born in 1718, married Judith Tribbles in 1740. He died before 1783 at his plantation called “Lewis” in Talbot County. His children included a son named Peter.

> Francis Caulk, born c. 1722, apparently died unmarried after 1745.

> Charles Cartwright Caulk, born c. 1723, died before 1743.

3. James Caulk, the third son, was married by 1695 to Sarah Allum, daughter of Nicholas and Ann Allum. Sarah’s mother had been born Anna Wheeler, the daughter of John Wheeler and Catharina Lom of New Sweden. They lived in Talbot County, where James Caulk died c. 1706. One child has been identified:

- > James Caulk, born c. 1700, in Talbot County, moved as an adult to Northumberland County, VA, and then to Prince William County, VA, where he died in 1776. By his wife Eleanor, he had two known sons: James Calk, born 5 July 1729, and William Calk, born 7 March 1740.

4. Jacob Caulk, the youngest son, became a shoemaker in Cecil County. On 7 February 1713/4 he married Sarah Joce, widow of Thomas Joce of Kent County, MD, and mother of three children. Later, Jacob married Mary Freeman, daughter of William Freeman of Cecil County. They had two children: Elizabeth, born 23 November 1716, and William, born 11 February 1723/4. The will of Jacob Caulk, who died 11 February 1724/5, left his entire estate to his widow Mary during her widowhood, but if she remarried, his estate was to be divided between Elizabeth and William. His widow married Thomas Ward in 1729. No later trace has been found of the two children.

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 (being descended from Swedish colonists who arrived before 1783) have been approved during the six months ending 17 April 2003:

Shirley Ann Schmidt, Bordentown, NJ, descended from Hans Månsson through his son, James Steelman, of Great Egg Harbor, NJ, and the latter’s son, Andrew Steelman, of the same place.

Zebulon L. Bowman, M.D., Houston, TX, descended from Olof Matthiasson Isgrå, alias Oliver Caulk, through his son, Peter Caulk, and his son, Peter Caulk, Jr., of Talbot County, MD.

Harrison G. Moore, IV, Houston, TX, descended from Matthias Claesson Holstein through his son, Henry Holstein, and his son, Henry Holstein, of Botetourt County, VA.

Richard Morton, West Chester, PA, descended from Mårten Mårtensson through his son, Morton Mortonson, Jr., father of John Morton, Sr., and grandfather of John Morton, Jr., signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Elizabeth G. Jackle, Westminster, MD, descended from Jürgen Keen through his son, Hans Jürgensson Keen, father of Matthias Keen of Pennypack, Philadelphia County, PA.

Robert C. Jackle, Westminster, MD, same as above from Jürgen Keen.

Roy White, Salt Lake City, UT, descended from Peter Gunnarsson Rambo through his daughter, Gertrude, and her husband, Anders Bengtsson, and their son, Andrew Bankson, of Potquessing Creek, Philadelphia County, PA.

Marlene Dellinger Melching, Decatur, IN, descended from Johan Hendricksson, progenitor of the Bilderback family, through his son, Peter Bilderback, and the latter’s son, Daniel Bilderback, of Chestnut Neck, Lower Penn’s Neck, Salem County, NJ.

Rebecca Thorne Bowman, Houston, TX, descended from Sinnick Broer through his daughter (name unknown) who married Hendrick Jacobs Falkenberg, and their son, Henry Falkenberg, of Cecil County, MD, and old Orange County, VA.

Ann Hooper Stacy, Dallas, TX, descended from Peter Gunnarsson Rambo through his daughter, Gertrude Rambo, who married Anders Bengtsson, and their son, Andrew Bankson, of Byberry Township, PA.

Joseph E. Hogate, Jr., Longview, TX, descended from Anders Larsson Dalbo, through his son, Olof Dalbo, and his son, Anders Dalbo, of Penns Neck, Salem County, NJ.

Harold Douglas Ford, Stone Mountain, GA, descended from Dr. Timen Stiddem, through his son, Adam Stedham, and the latter’s son, Christopher Stedham, of York County, PA.

Virginia Wilson Thomas, Durham, NC, descended from Peter Larsson Cock, through his son, Gabriel Cock, and his son, Isaac Cox, of Nelson County, KY.

Creston F. Laager, IV, descended from Hans Hopman (Hoffman) through his son, Anders Hoffman, and his daughter, Catharina Hoffman, who married Andrew Rambo, of Gloucester County, NJ.

Donald Johnson Sinex, Huntington Beach, CA, descended from Sinnick Broer through his son, Broer Sinnickson, and the latter’s son, James Sinnex, of New Castle County, DE.

Robert S. Mattson, Vallejo, CA, descended from Matts Hansson through his son, Peter Mattson, and his son Jacob Mattson of Gloucester County, NJ.

Olga Sinexon Brigham, Wilton, NH, descended from Sinnick Broer through his son, Broer Sinnickson, and his son, James Sinex, of New Castle County, DE.

Charles William Middleton, Norristown, PA, descended from Sven Gunnarson through his daughter, Gertrude Svensdotter, who married Jonas Nilsson of Kingsessing and their son, Måns Jonasson (Mounce Jones) of Manatawayne (Douglasville), PA.

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ORGANIZATIONS

Philip A. Homan, Bronx County Historical Society, Bronx, NY
Lloyd F. Thompson, Swedish Heritage Press, Norwell, MA

New Members Welcomed

The Swedish Colonial Society welcomes new members. No Swedish relative or ancestry is required - only an interest in colonial history. Contact our Registrar: Doriney Seagers, 371 Devon Way, West Chester, PA 19380 or visit us online at: <www.ColonialSwedes.org>. The annual membership 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.

Upcoming Events

- June 8** Sunday, 2 p.m. Delaware Valley Finnish Americans celebrate the 365th anniversary of the New Sweden Colony at the Finnish Monument at Crozer Park in Chester, PA., followed by dinner at the Ramada Inn in Essington. For details contact Earl Seppälä (302)239-0641.
- June 14** Saturday, 11:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Midsommar at the American Swedish Historical Museum, Philadelphia. Food, singing & dancing around the majpole.
- September 6** Saturday. Septemberfest in Pennsville, NJ. For details contact Aleasa Hogate (856) 678-5511.
- September 27-28** Saturday-Sunday. Mons Jones Country Fair, Douglassville, PA, at Old Morlatton Village. Information (610) 385-3431.
- November 15** Saturday. Third Annual New Sweden History Conference at Trinity Episcopal (Old Swedes') Church in Swedesboro, NJ. This year's theme is: "The History & Mission of the Church in New Sweden." Sponsored by the Swedish Colonial Society, ASHM, and the MacNeil Center of the University of Pennsylvania.
- November 23** Sunday, 3:00 p.m. Justus Falckner Tercentenary, Philadelphia Cathedral.
- December 7** Sunday, 11:30 a.m. Julmiddag.
- Summer 2004** Trip to Sweden and Scandinavia. Contact Jim Seagers (610) 918-0943.

Swedish Colonial News

The Swedish Colonial Society
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Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19147-4332
www.ColonialSwedes.org

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