



Swedish Colonial News

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Preserving the legacy of the New Sweden Colony in America

Prince Daniel Visits New Sweden



PHOTO: JESSICA GOW/SCANPIX

It was a beautiful fall afternoon last October when HRH Prince Daniel and Ambassador Jonas Hafström arrived in Wilmington to attend The Swedish Colonial Society's reception in honor of the Prince at the Chase Riverfront Center.

"Old New Sweden" was the second stop on the Prince's three city program ending in New York City during his first "official" visit to the United States. Earlier in the day the Prince had attended a multi-national Scandinavian Day in Washington, DC, and participated in sessions at the House of Sweden.

The Royal Party included Swedish Embassy Press and Public Affairs Counselor Gabriella Augustsson and Marshal of the Court of the Crown Princess, Jorgen Lindström, who coordinated the visit. They were greeted at the Amtrak Station by Society Governor Margaret Sooy Bridwell; Kalmar Nyckel Foundation Chair Hunter Lott, III and SCS Councillor John B. Tepe, Jr.

The visitors were whisked away in new sedans provided by Keystone Volvo of Berwyn & Doylestown, Pa. to the Riverfront Center for more welcomes, this time by Delaware Swedish Colonial Society President Jeffrey L. Knotts, American Swedish Historical Museum Chair Leonard Busby and more than a dozen women in colorful Swedish folk dresses.

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Prince Daniel receives a welcome bouquet from Evelyn Rambo as Margaret Dyer waits to present a bouquet to Ambassador Jonas Hafström.

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Celebrating our Ties with Sweden

Vasa Museum VIPs Visit Wilmington

When there is a Swedish happening in Delaware, you can be sure Mary McCoy has probably been involved in a leadership role. She is a 40-year veteran board member and former president of Sisters Cities of Wilmington, Inc. Her many past and present positions include: past president of the Delaware Swedish Colonial Society and current councillor; councillor of The Swedish Colonial Society; volunteer, former trustee and board member of the Kalmar Nyckel Foundation; and former volunteer and docent for Old Swedes Church Foundation.

In the past several years, an exciting new partnership between the world-renowned Vasa Museum in Stockholm and the Kalmar Nyckel Foundation in Wilmington, Delaware has developed. Vasa Museum marine archeologist, Fred Hocker, has given two outstanding lectures as part of the *Kalmar Nyckel* Foundation Lecture Series in Wilmington, and has sailed on the ship *Kalmar Nyckel* along the east coast. Last winter, the Vasa Museum hosted Kalmar Nyckel Captain Lauren Morgens, Captain Sharon Litcofsky, Education Director and Senior Historian Sam Heed, and Education Coordinator Bill Hutchinson during a week-long working visit to the Vasa Museum. And this fall, Port Captain Sharon Litcofsky was asked to return to Stockholm for ten days to offer technical assistance on fighting tops.

To actually sail on a ship of the same period as the Vasa and to study the rigging and how the ship is sailed, has been a desire of the Vasa

Museum professionals and researchers for some time. On the weekend of October 8, 2011, the Kalmar Nyckel Foundation was privileged to host the former Executive Director of the Vasa Museum, Klas Helmerson, and his colleague Senior Curator, Maria Dahled. A weather-perfect day enhanced their two sails (one of them a Pirate sail) on the Christina River, along with many other visitors who were treated to exciting history and ship handling experiences. They were particularly interested in seeing the complicated rigging challenges, so different sails were set on each trip.

After their busy sailing schedule, they were treated to a tour of historic Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church by long-time church volunteer and SCS Webmaster, Max Dooley. Klas and Max were able to renew their acquaintance from 1999 when Klas, a chaperone with the touring Katarina Kyrka Boys Choir, stayed with the Dooleys. That evening the Vasa visitors enjoyed dinner with *Kalmar Nyckel* Captain Morgens, Sam Heed, Bill "Hutch" Hutchinson, and several volunteers.

The following day, Klas and Maria travelled to Washington and then to Newport News, VA to attend the International Congress of Maritime Museums. They later reported that "going out on *Kalmar Nyckel* was unforgettable, both in terms of experiencing a Vasa contemporary and of meeting all the dedicated, skilled and friendly people involved in the project." It is hoped that others from the Vasa Museum will visit the ship as the partnership continues. Välkommen åter !!



Maria Dahled, Max Dooley
and Klas Helmerson.



SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

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Dear Friends of New Sweden:

The Swedish Colonial Society's members have been working diligently on many activities to support the growth of the organization.

On October 27, 2011, a marvelous reception was given by The Swedish Colonial Society for His Royal Highness Prince Daniel, Duke of Västergötland. It was held at the Chase Center in Wilmington, Delaware. Present also were Delaware's First Lady Mrs. Carla Markell and the Ambassador of Sweden to the United States, His Excellency Jonas Hafström. This affair was a grand event for everyone as all had the opportunity to greet the Prince during the receiving line. He seemed to enjoy the event and was very accommodating.

The Society is continuing to work on the Craig Collection and the recently donated Ronald S. Beatty Collection. In a recent meeting of the Archives Committee, it was decided to move forward with writing the request for a grant to continue the work of the digitization of thousands of these genealogical records. The committee also suggested that changes be made to the Society's list of offices in order to establish a more efficient structure. This suggestion will require a change in the Society's by-laws.

It has been suggested that the SCS website should include e-commerce, accepting payments online as well as requiring a member password to gain access to all the important genealogical information available.

During the month of March, the Society will initiate a working retreat for its officers and councillors. This retreat, which will be held at the Brossman Center, Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, will offer the opportunity for participants to discuss important issues regarding the future of the Society in great depth.

This year holds many challenges for the Society with the upcoming 375th Anniversary in 2013 of the landing of the Kalmar Nyckel, archival digitization of genealogical records, exciting website updates and an influential retreat. With the dedication of its many volunteers, the progress of the Society will continue to gain momentum and we will become an even more successful organization!

My message comes with a heartfelt "Spring is Coming" to all of the members and supporters of New Sweden.

Sincerely,

Margaret Sooy Bridwell
Governor, The Swedish Colonial Society



Amandus Johnson and *Swedish Settlements on the Delaware:* A Centennial Appreciation

This year we celebrate the centennial of Amandus Johnson's *Swedish Settlements on the Delaware, 1638-1664*. And "celebrate" is exactly the right word to use, though it is seldom linked with the anniversaries of history books. A century after the Swedish Colonial Society and the University of Pennsylvania published it in simultaneous editions in March of 1911, New Sweden historians still rely on it. In an early review of the book, the man Johnson unseated as *the* historian of New Sweden, Gregory B. Keen, wrote that *Swedish Settlements* "is and probably always will be, the most complete account of that colony in Swedish or in English." And complete it certainly is: two thick volumes, a total of 879 pages, including a 64-page index, 45 pages of bibliography, a section of biographies of the principal persons the book mentions, a 27-page-long document titled "Lists of Officers, Soldiers, Servants and Settlers in New Sweden, 1638-1656," a list of the expeditions the Swedes prepared to send to their colony, and 30 pages of original documents in Swedish and English. Oh, yes, and 698 pages of extensively illustrated historical narrative. It was and still is the biggest, the longest book ever written about New Sweden. It was a book meant to be used again and again, to replace all earlier New Sweden books because *Swedish Settlements* included most of what one would need to study and understand New Sweden and its history.

Swedish Settlements is the source we all turn to all the time and every narrative historical work about New Sweden anyone has published over the past century references it and derives from it. No later historian has seriously challenged it as a factual presentation about the colony, from its European origins until the English conquest of the Delaware in 1664. If no more recent historian has revised Johnson's evaluation of New Sweden's meaning or its place in North American colonial history, that



Amandus Johnson

is because he confined himself largely to a factual presentation.

We may wonder what it takes for a book and its author's reputation to survive for so long, for it is true that Amandus Johnson remains the pre-eminent New Sweden historian a century after the publication of his first and most important book. *Swedish Settlements* was not the first history of New Sweden and Johnson was not the first historian to make his name as a, or in his case *the*, historian of the colony. The very first New Sweden history to be published in English was Peter S. DuPonceau's translation of Thomas Campanius's 1702 history of the colony, which the Historical Society of Pennsylvania published in 1834. Jehu Curtis Clay followed in 1835 with *Annals of the Swedes on the Delaware*, and forty years later the HSP and the Delaware Historical Society published William Reynolds's translation of Israel Acrelius's 1759 history of the colony and the Church of Sweden mission to the Delaware Valley.

Richard Waldron worked for the New Jersey Historical Commission from 1973 to 1999, and was the Commission's executive director from 1991 to 1999. He was the director of the American Swedish Historical Museum from 1999 through 2004. His major research interest is the history of Swedish America from the 17th to the 20th century. His ongoing project is a history of the Church of Sweden's mission to the Delaware Valley from the 1690s to the 1780s. His most recent publication is "'A True Servant of the Lord': Nils Collin, the Church of Sweden, and the American Revolution in Gloucester County," *New Jersey History* 126 (Number 1, 2011): 96-103.

Gregory B. Keen wrote a long narrative chapter with a detailed bibliographical essay about the Swedish era on the Delaware for Justin Winsor's influential multivolume history of the United States, *Narrative and Critical History of America* (8 vols.; Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1884-89). There were also more compact 19th-century treatments of the colony by Samuel Hazard and Benjamin Ferris, and the twelfth volume of *Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New York* (1881) published hundreds of translated original documents about the Swedes and the Dutch on the Delaware. Gregory Keen also translated and published in the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* original documents from the colony's time and portions of modern Swedish histories of the colony, C. T. Odhner's 1876 *Kolonien Nya Sveriges Grundläggning, 1637-1642 (The Foundation of the New Sweden Colony, 1637-1642)* and Carl K. S. Sprinchorn's 1878 *Kolonien Nya Sverige (The History of the New Sweden Colony)*.

If there was, relatively, a great deal of material about New Sweden published in English before Johnson's book, why did there need to be another one, and why in 1911? The answer to the first question lies in the character of Amandus Johnson. The answer to the second one derives from the maturation of Swedish-American historical consciousness in old New Sweden and the foundation of the Swedish Colonial Society.

Amandus Johnson (1877-1974) was a Minnesotan by immigration, who learned about New Sweden while he was a student at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota. His family had come from Småland when he was about three years old. He grew up bilingual in farming country around Rice Lake, Minnesota, and thought he might become a minister, or a lay preacher, and he was studying for a preaching certificate while he was an undergraduate.

He was also the president of his college's Swedish Club (Sveaförbundet) and in that capacity he invited Johan Enander to come to the college to speak in October 1899. Much later Johnson wrote in an autobiographical fragment that Enander fired his imagination with a presentation about what Swedes of the past had contributed to the making of the United States. This awareness of Swedish and Swedish-American history, which Enander, the

editor of the influential Swedish-language newspaper, *Hemlandet (The Homeland)*, had helped to create and articulated best, included Viking attempts to settle North America, New Sweden, King Gustavus Adolphus, and John Ericsson, a 19th-century immigrant to the U.S. from Värmland via Great Britain, who invented the Civil War ironclad battleship the USS *Monitor*, which changed the course of the war and revolutionized naval warfare.

Johnson dated his lifelong passion for Swedish and Swedish-American history from Enander's speech at Gustavus Adolphus College, and while Johnson admired the imaginative way Enander involved Swedes in the establishment and maintenance of American republicanism and religious freedom, the twin pillars of a broader 19th-century American historical consciousness, Johnson thought Enander sometimes let his enthusiasm run away with him. Johnson wrote much later in life that on that October evening, Enander held his audience "spellbound."

He told us about New Sweden on the Delaware; he told us that Anderson, the Swede, rang the Liberty Bell on July 4, 1776 so that it cracked; he told us that Betsy Ross who sewed the first American flag with thirteen stars was Swedish...; he told us that Daniel Boone was Swedish, grandson of Sven Bunda, and a dozen other startling things.

Eventually Johnson learned not to accept Enander's version of the role of Swedish people in the American past, at least not at face value. As he later "began to collect material about the Swedes in America," he realized that "half of [Enander's] speech was more or less based on facts; the other half practically all based on fiction." Johnson was nonetheless inspired to take up Enander's challenge, made during a reception later in the evening, "to study the history of the Swedes in America, gather material and write about it."

In the same vein, almost a decade later, Johnson complained in a letter to Herman de Lagercrantz, Sweden's ambassador to the U.S., about inaccurate and unsupported claims about American "firsts" credited to Swedes "that have crept into our common books such as Enander's 'Amerikas Histore' [sic] and others. I hope," he continued, "to be able to bring out

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a great [many] new facts about the Swedish Americans...in my work and every statement will be backed by documentary evidence.”

And that is what he tried to do. Readers who look at the footnotes in *Swedish Settlements* will see that Johnson based most of his conclusions on primary sources, the documents created by the people living at the time of and during the events about which he wrote. He certainly made use of secondary sources – works by people who lived after the time of the events, often works by professional historians – and *Swedish Settlements*' extensive bibliography shows that he knew the literature well, in at least two languages, about colonial America, native America, and early modern Sweden and the rest of Europe. He studied the era's economics and international relations and the complex relationships that existed in the Delaware Valley among the English, the Dutch, the Swedes, and the Indians. It is this reliance on the primary historical record and his long study of the whole history of the 17th century in Europe and eastern North America that enabled Johnson to produce an unparalleled narrative about New Sweden and its context and an incisive analysis of the forces and the motives that created, shaped, and doomed the colony. Johnson's was the first work to be an economic, a social, and a religious, as well as a political history of New Sweden.

Johnson's passion for the primary historical word is also evident at the end of volume two of *Swedish Settlements*, where he published in Swedish and in English a number of 17th-century documents he had found in the course of his searches in Swedish and other European archives. They included the instructions for a number of colonists, including Johan Rising, New Sweden's last governor. They are documents that shed some light on what was supposed to be happening during what turned out to be the colony's last years, documents that had not been published before in English. He wrote in the Preface to *Swedish Settlements* (p. viii) that he had “examined and read every document on the subject known to exist.” And this became Johnson's pattern, even more pronounced in his later books, to build histories around collections of documents allied to historical narrative and analysis. Think of *The Instruction for Johan Printz, Governor of New Sweden* (published by the SCS in 1930), *The Journal and Biography of Nicholas Collin* (The New Jersey Society of Pennsylvania, 1936), and *Geographia Americae*, Per

Lindeström's account of his time in New Sweden in 1654-55 (SCS, 1925).

Careful scholarship and source citation and relying on original documents for narrative and analysis all mark Amandus Johnson as a modern historian. A footnote enables a reader to know where your quotations come from, what your conclusions rest on. A bibliography shows the breadth and depth of your learning. Publishing primary sources allows any reader to use the same sources you used in writing your history book. All very democratic, all honest and open to anyone who can read and has the interest to do the work of understanding. Johnson was at once democratic and a participant in a far older tradition, that of scholarly showmanship. Like Erasmus, or Machiavelli, or Edward Gibbon, Amandus Johnson wanted his readers to know just how learned he was, how much knowledge he had had to acquire to do his work, what a broad array of sources his work was based on. And so the purposes of scholarship are to tell a good story, get the facts right, explain what it all means. Another purpose is to validate the scholar, encourage his readers to believe him.

And that mention of “readers” brings me back to the question of why anyone would want to publish a big, new New Sweden history book in 1911. The reason was the Swedish Colonial Society, or rather the long process of evolution that led to the society's establishment in the winter of 1908-09. To keep that story short, let me just say that between 1834 (Campanius's history of New Sweden in English) and 1911 (Johnson's *Swedish Settlements*) the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and Gregory Keen nurtured and expanded the audience for New Sweden history in a variety of ways so that by the time Johnson showed up at the University of Pennsylvania to earn his Ph.D., there was a pretty sophisticated group of potential readers of a sophisticated new history of the colony. (If we think about historical process, Keen's interest in New Sweden found a congenial home when he joined the HSP in the 1870s; the society was already interested in New Sweden as the earliest history or prehistory of Philadelphia.) When Johnson first proposed the establishment of an organization like the one that became the Swedish Colonial Society, he easily secured the cooperation of a number of serious historians, including, especially, Keen (the HSP's curator) and his colleague, John W.

Jordan, the HSP's librarian. The SCS's first board included Johnson's mentor at the University of Pennsylvania, Marion W. Learned, Yale history professor Albert Bushnell Hart, and John Bach McMaster, University of Pennsylvania history professor. McMaster was a former president of the American Historical Association (1905), and Hart served as the organization's president in 1909. The board also included Samuel Pennypacker, the former governor of Pennsylvania and president of the HSP, who was himself an avocational historian, including of New Sweden. Most board members were prominent local businessmen, politicians, and government officials imbued with some level of interest in New Sweden and its history. It wasn't just that over time the audience for New Sweden's history broadened and deepened, but New Sweden became in a sense the "matter" of the Delaware Valley, as King Arthur and his "history" are the "matter" of Britain. When Johnson first applied to Yale to become a doctoral student, he was told, reportedly, that he belonged at Penn because Philadelphia was the location of the history that he should write about.

What was it, finally, that Amandus Johnson thought he was doing with his big book that was so much more than just a big book? If he didn't leave us an assessment of what New Sweden meant in the broader context of American colonial history, he explained in his Preface (vii) that New Sweden was important as "the beginnings, however small, and the springs, however insignificant, whence some of the civilization and culture, some of the strength and power, of a great nation have sprung, are worthy of the closest consideration and the most painstaking research." Others concurred with his view. In a slightly condescending article in the *American Historical Review* (volume 17, January 1912, pp. 381-83), J. Franklin Jameson, the *Review's* editor, wondered if the history of such a short-lived colony merited such an elaborate treatment. But he concluded that since there were more than a million people of Swedish ancestry living in the United States then, and New Sweden in large degree prepared the way for Pennsylvania, "the story may be well told, once for all, with authoritative fullness." And Gregory Keen, in the *PMH&B* review cited



Swedish Settlements on the Delaware, 1638-1664

previously, wrote that *Swedish Settlements* should interest "every intelligent inhabitant of Pennsylvania, Delaware and New Jersey, since it relates the first successful attempt of a European nation to occupy and develop the territory of those States." And so it should, and so it still does.

Sources Quoted

The edition of *Swedish Settlements* from which I have quoted is the one the Swedish Colonial Society published in 1911. The original editions are still available on internet used book sites, as are a number of paperback reprints.

I quoted an untitled and undated autobiographical sketch by Amandus Johnson, which is found in the Amandus Johnson Papers (AJP), Historical Society of Pennsylvania, box 1, folder 1 ("Autobiographical Information"), pp. 3-4 of a document that begins "When I returned to college in St. Peter..."

I also quoted from a draft letter Johnson wrote to Herman de Lagercrantz, October 28, 1908. AJP, box 8, folder 9 ("Swedish Colonial Society Activities, 1908-1921").

Citations for quotations from the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* and the *American Historical Review* are given in the text

Stalcop Cups & Curious Cousin

Larry Spencer Stallcup is both a Life and Forefather member of the Society and a direct descendent of Johan Anderson Stålkofta who arrived at Fort Christina in New Sweden as a 13 year old lad. Larry and his wife Roslyn, a talented artist, live in Virginia Beach, VA, have two children and are the grandparents of five.

Larry is a retired naval architect and over the years his interest in New Sweden has led him to acquire a wide range of information and insight into the Colony. He is also a member of the New Sweden Centre.

The world we live in, once so vast it took New Sweden settlers an average of five and a half months to make the journey from Sweden, appears to be getting very small. Today communication between any two places on earth seemingly is instant. The Internet is the marvel that makes this possible. In early March 2001 a gentleman in Sweden was doing some exploring and discovered the web site for The Swedish Colonial Society. Having a strong family curiosity he sent off an inquiry to the Society in an attempt to learn the answers to several questions.

The curious gentleman, Hans Ling of Uppsala, Sweden, is a descendant of Reverend Ericus Björk, the founder and first minister of the Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church in Wilmington, DE. He wanted to know if two portraits were still in the Church. One was of Reverend Björk and the other of Christina Stalcop, the wife of Reverend Björk. The portraits were given to the Church in 1714 as a remembrance when Reverend Björk was recalled to Sweden. Hans also mentioned that he was the owner of a small silver bowl, or cup, made to honor Christina Stalcop after her 1720 death.

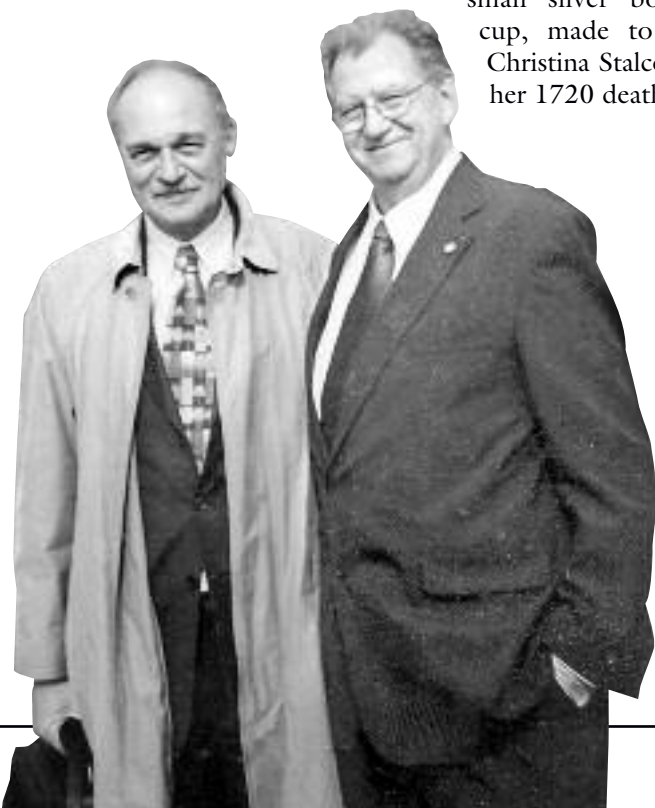
Hans sent his inquiry via the Internet to Ronald Hendrickson, at that time the Senior Deputy Governor and Webmaster for the Society. The message was forwarded to Dr. Peter Craig, Historian for the Society, who was kind enough to forward a copy on to me. I was included because Christina Stalcop is the daughter of one of my direct ancestors, Pietter Stalcop, and the granddaughter of Johan Andersson, alias Stålkofta/Stalcop, the primogenitor of the entire Stalcop family. Dr. Craig immediately recognized the portraits and the cup as being important artifacts of New Sweden and of early American history.

They are also important artifacts in the Stalcop family. The portraits are the oldest items to be associated with the family known to still exist. The portrait of Christina, later found by Hans Ling in the attic of a museum in Sweden, is the oldest known visual image of any member of the Stalcop family. It may also be among the earliest of portraits of any woman painted in America.

The Swedish Stalcop silver cup has been passed down by direct inheritance. Hans inherited it in 1998 from his mother. There is a continuous documented record of all of its owners. The cup started life as a coin, an English Silver Crown, minted in 1677. It was transformed into a cup in Falun, Sweden after Christina Stalcop's death in 1720. The cup bares the silversmith's mark. The mint date and a Latin motto can still be read on the lip of the cup. The cup is inscribed: "Christina Pet: Stalkop Född I Pennsilvanien och America 1685. Ther Gift til Probst: Er: Biörck 1702 Kom med honom Sverige 1714 dödde I Fahlum 1720". Christina was born April 16, 1686 so there is an inexplicable error of one year in her date of birth.

How an English coin came to be available in Sweden is not so certain but it is possible that Christina acquired it in England during a stop on their trip to Sweden. Another possibility is that it was among the gifts exchanged with the Holy Trinity Congregation

PHOTOS: LARRY S. STALLCUP



Hans Ling (left) and Larry Stallcup

as the family departed from New Sweden in 1714. A third possibility, suggested by Hans Ling, is that some member of her family gave the coin to Christina, perhaps as a keepsake passed on from her father or grandfather, when she left America. It was clear she would never see any of her family in America ever again. In any event it seems sure that the coin held some great or personal value to Christina to warrant having it transformed into a lasting memorial to her memory.

During my first e-mail message to Hans Ling I identified myself as being a descendant, not of Christina Stalcop, but of her parents, Pietter Stalcop and Catherine Samuel's daughter and of her brother John. I pointed out that this meant that since he and I shared the same grandparents we are cousins even if it is very distant cousins. In his reply Hans said "Never in my life [have] I thought that I should find a relative in Virginia." He could not have been any more astonished than I at finding a Stalcop relative in Sweden.

Because I am descended from at least twenty-two other New Sweden immigrant settlers I have always believed that I may have distant cousins yet living in Sweden that are descended from some of them. But that was not true for the Stalcop family. The Stalcop family has never resided in Sweden. Christina Stalcop is the only member of the family to permanently live in Sweden and is the only one known to leave descendants there. None of her descendants carry the Stalcop name. All Stalcops are descended from one lad, or boy, who traveled to New Sweden, alone, at about the age of 13. Five years after his arrival he acquired a nickname that eventually an English

phonetic equivalent became the American surname for his children and all other descendants.

Hans and his wife Meta visited the former New Sweden Colony in 2003 for the dedication, by Crown Princess Victoria, of the restored portraits. My wife Roslyn and I had a wonderful return visit with Hans and Meta in Sweden in 2004. Between those visits a silversmith in the same city, Falun, where the 1720 Stalcop cup was made had fashioned a second cup from an American silver dollar coin. Roslyn and I brought the new cup back with us. It was dedicated and started on its journey through time during the 2007 Stalcop Family Gathering.

Hans and I have maintained contact with each other via the Internet. He is the rarest of relatives. He has both a deep interest in the history of his family and the curiosity to discover new facts about them. Best of all he is willing to share what he has found. He has discovered historical documents, provided translations and improved translations for documents that otherwise would never be available in America.

It has truly been a rewarding experience for me to get to know my Swedish cousin. I hope the experience has been rewarding to him.



Christina Stalcop



Swedish Stalcop Cup



American Stalcop Cup

PRINCE DANIEL VISITS NEW SWEDEN



Escorted into the reception by SCS Marshal Alfred Capotosto, the Prince and Ambassador were joined by special guest Carla Markell, First Lady of Delaware.

the United States is also "Patron" of the Society, an honorary but highly prestigious affiliation.

Bouquets of flowers were presented by Miranda and Margaret Dyer, twin seven-year-old granddaughters of Governor Bridwell, and Evelyn Rambo, age six, granddaughter of Honorary Governor Herbert R. Rambo. The girls in their traditional Swedish folk dresses were escorted by Councillor Britt M. Apell.

Mrs. Markell welcomed the visitors warmly and remarked on her own Swedish ancestry. Mrs. Markell invited the Prince and Ambassador to visit again soon especially in 2013 to mark the 375th anniversary of the founding of New Sweden Colony.

In making introductions of a few of the many prominent guests, Reception Chair Rambo noted while The

Individual Color Guards were provided for the flags of the United States and Sweden by the U. S. Marine Corps which posted the colors and then retired after the national anthems of both countries were sung by Councillor DeAnn Clancy.

In keeping with tradition, a series of celebratory toasts were offered to the President of the United States, the King of Sweden, Crown Princess Victoria and Prince Daniel as well as our Swedish and Finnish ancestors. The toasters, Honorary Governors Kim-Eric Williams, Ronald A. Hendrickson and Herbert Rambo along with Councillor Sandra S. Pfaff, are Society members present that day who have received knighthoods in Sweden's Royal Order of the Polar Star from King Carl XVI Gustaf.

Governor Bridwell opened the program noting it was her "privilege to welcome all to this special event celebrating both culture and commerce as bonds between Sweden and America that have existed since the days of the New Sweden Colony, and representing a bridge to the twenty-first century, the reception's theme."

Ambassador Hafström, a strong supporter and frequent visitor to "Old New Sweden," remarked it was no coincidence that Wilmington was on this visit because it represents the centuries' old bond between nations as a strong foundation in a 21st century world with its challenges. Since the Society's founding in 1909, the Swedish Ambassador to



PHOTOS: V. EUGENE MCCOY

Jonas Hafström



Councillor Britt Apell shepherded Miranda Dyer, Evelyn Rambo and Margaret Dyer when they presented flowers to HRH Prince Daniel.

Herbert Ripley Rambo is a two time governor of the Society who has been awarded knighthood in Sweden's Royal Order of the Polar Star. He and his son John Gunnar Rambo are Forefather members of the Society descended from Peter Gunnarson Rambo.

The grandparents of two, Herb and his wife Zofia live in Berlin, NJ and are members of Trinity Episcopal (Old Swedes) Church, Swedesboro, NJ. He is a retired civil servant. He is past president of the New Sweden Centre.



Swedish Colonial Society was hosting the reception, it had been made possible with the assistance from other organizations including the Delaware Swedish Colonial Society, the New Sweden Centre and the Kalmar Nyckel Foundation.

Prince Daniel personally greeted the nearly two hundred guests. He graciously accepted invitations to pose for pictures and many were taken by Britt Apell, Gene McCoy and Alfred Pfaff.

Guests got the opportunity to view the exhibit "COLONY TO COMMUNITY – The Story of New Sweden," a collection of panels illustrating the 17th century colony's transition to a vibrant 21st century community. Other material from the New Sweden Centre was displayed by Forefather Member Christina W. Lassen.

All too quickly it was time to leave for New York City and the visitors were bid farewell by ASHM Executive Director Tracey Beck, KNF Executive Director Cathy Parsells and Governor Bridwell.

SKOAL was the response to toasts by those at the head table, from left Honorary Consul Jan Campbell-Westlind; Delaware First Lady Carla Markell; Honorary Governor Herbert Rambo, Governor Margaret S. Bridwell, Prince Daniel and Ambassador Jonas Hafström.



The National Flags of the United States and Sweden were posted at the reception by a United States Marine Corps Color Guard.



Carla Markill and Prince Daniel

St. George's Episcopal Church, Pennsville, NJ

Although the colony of New Sweden was established first in Wilmington, DE in 1638, it was not until the end of the 17th Century that settlers from Sweden and Finland came permanently to New Jersey. In 1697 the Church of Sweden renewed its mission on the Delaware and sent three Lutheran priests to the area. Holy Trinity in Wilmington, then called Christina, was built in 1699 replacing the former Crane Hook church that had been erected in 1667. Parishioners in New Jersey were assigned pews at Holy Trinity but had to face an often difficult trip across the river. The name "Church Landing Road" preserves the memory of the area from which the boats transported people across the Delaware. Finally in 1703 a congregation was established at Sveaborg/Swedeseboro on the Raccoon River by Lars Tolstadius, a priest who had come from Sweden without episcopal approval. He dedicated a log church in 1705 but died soon thereafter. With the population of Swedes and Finns growing in "Penn's Neck", it became desirable to have another congregation, thus St. George's was established in 1714 on land donated by Jean Jacquette. By March 31, 1717 a log church was able to be dedicated by Dean Andreas Sandel. The church name reflected the name of the patron saint of England and the recently crowned King of England, George I, who was simultaneously Defender of the Anglican faith, and a German Lutheran as Duke of Hannover. The New Jersey Swedish Lutheran parish had a rectory at Pilesgrove Township from 1720 and the pastor served people in both Swedesboro/Sveaborg/Raccoon and Penn's Neck/Pennsville. By 1742 the mixed Protestant population of the area made it necessary to have all services in English according to the *Book of Common Prayer*, which the Swedish pastors had used frequently.

The last Swedish Lutheran pastor to serve in the congregation was Nils Collin (1770-1786) who then moved across the river to become rector of Gloria Dei, Old Swedes Church at Wicaco in South Philadelphia. St.



St. George's Episcopal Church

George's then became a member of the newly formed Protestant Episcopal Church in 1792. In 1808 the present brick church replaced the log church and was rebuilt and renovated in Gothic style with a steeple in 1877. A Carrara marble altar was made by Thomas Jacquet and consecrated in 1902. A parish house was built in 1896 and then replaced in 1953. Nine acres of land were donated on the south side of the rectory to increase space. Further renovations to church took place in 1976 and 1987.

In 1964 a Swedish delegation associated with the American Order of Vasa, presented the congregation with a Bridal Crown, which may be worn by any woman of the parish. This is an ancient Swedish tradition that is still followed in many Swedish Lutheran congregations in this country that have 19th Century origins.

In 2014 St. George's will celebrate 300 years of service to the community.

Kim-Eric Williams is the Historian and Honorary Governor of the Swedish Colonial Society. He teaches Swedish at the University of Pennsylvania and is Archivist at the Lutheran Archives Center in Philadelphia. He is Forefather member from Olof Stille and Carl Springer and lives in West Chester, PA

Esther Ann McFarland, 1917-2011

Esther Ann McFarland of Haverford, age 94, passed away peacefully at her home on September 20, 2011, eight days after suffering a stroke. Born in East Goshen Township, Chester County, she is the daughter and last surviving child of the late Harry Mercer Brown and Lucy May Green. Her dear brother, Harvey Brown, had just died on September 9, 2011 at age 95. Mrs. McFarland's family roots date back to the early American settlers. She is descended from Sven Gunnarsson and Jonas Nilsson who arrived in New Sweden (what is now the greater Philadelphia area down to coastal Delaware) in the early 1640s. Always proud of her Swedish ancestry, Mrs. McFarland was the Junior Deputy Governor Emeritus of the Swedish Colonial Society, and an avid member of the American Swedish Historical Museum. She helped fund the recently opened Sven Gunnarsson and Jonas Nilsson New Sweden Gallery at the American Swedish Historical Museum and had the pleasure of speaking at the Gallery opening this past June, a meaningful event attended by Her Royal Highness Princess Madeleine of Sweden. Mrs. McFarland also was proud to be a direct descendent of Judge William Lewis (1751-1819), a prominent Philadelphia Federalist lawyer who in 1789 was appointed by President George Washington to be the first United States Attorney for the District of Pennsylvania, and later in 1791 was appointed (again by George Washington) to be the second United States District Court judge for the district (now known as the Eastern District of Pennsylvania). As importantly, if not more so, William Lewis served for a time as a Pennsylvania state legislator, and in that capacity authored a bill entitled "An Act For The Gradual Abolition Of Slavery In Pennsylvania" which was enacted into law in 1780. It was the first Act of its kind in America, and is believed to be the first Act of its kind in the world. Judge Lewis had his primary residence and law office at 3rd and Walnut Streets in Philadelphia, an area now called the Judge William Lewis Quadrangle in his honor. He maintained a summer residence at what became known as Strawberry Mansion in Fairmount Park East. Not surprisingly, Mrs. McFarland had been a long time member of

the Committee of 1926 of Pennsylvania, a charitable organization dedicated to the preservation of Historic Strawberry Mansion. She also, at her death, had almost finished writing a comprehensive book on the life of Judge William Lewis which will be completed and published posthumously. In addition to the Swedish Colonial Society, the American Swedish Historical Museum, and the Committee of 1926, Mrs. McFarland's ties to various Colonial immigrants and her love of genealogy, early American history, and historic preservation led her to become an active member in a number of other hereditary organizations, including the Daughters of the Founders and Patriots of America, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Colonial Dames, the Pennsylvania Society of New England Women, the Netherlands Society, and the Welcome Society. Additionally, she enjoyed close association with the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and the historical societies of Chester County and Montgomery County. In 1956, Mrs. McFarland married her beloved, late husband CDR. George C. McFarland (affectionately known by many persons simply as "the Commander"). CDR. McFarland had been in active duty in the United States Navy during World War II and the Korean War, and through fate the two met at a Naval function as Mrs. McFarland also had worked for the Navy in a civilian capacity. The rest, as they say, is history. Perhaps because of their shared Navy background, they enjoyed more than 30 years of world travel together - of course, primarily by cruise ship. After the death of her husband in 1989, Mrs. McFarland continued her travels and, indeed, was scheduled to embark on her latest cruise the day after she suffered her stroke. All told, Mrs. McFarland had visited all



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We are grateful to *Main Line Media News* and Mr. George C. McFarland, Jr., for permission to reprint Mrs. McFarland's obituary as published on September 28, 2011.

Ronald S. Beatty Collection “Everything Rambo” Given to Swedish Colonial Society

“The Swedish Colonial Society’s Archives collection for genealogical studies grew substantially recently with the gift of the Ronald S. Beatty Collection dealing with the descendents of Peter Gunnarson and Britta Rambo, progenitors of New Sweden’s largest family and whose members can be found in every state and several foreign countries,” according to Society Curator pro tem Beverly B. Walker.

Beatty and The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Forde-Beatty were named the Society’s Co-Genealogists earlier this year succeeding the late renowned genealogist and New Sweden Historian Dr. Peter S. Craig. Both Beatty and Forde-Beatty are Rambo descendents, Ron through son Gunnar Rambo and Cynthia through daughter Gertrude Rambo who married Anders Bengtsson (Bankson).

Beatty’s quest in seeking out everything Rambo was the direct request of the late Beverly Nelson Rambo, author of the original 800 page “Rambo Family Tree.”

“The result of Mr. Beatty’s decade-long trek across America is a five volume epic (more than 2,200 pages) listing thousands of Rambo descendents all going back to Peter Gunnarson and Britta Rambo and the earliest days of The New Sweden Colony,” remarked Governor Margaret Sooy Bridwell who was joined by Honorary Governor Herbert Rambo and Curator Walker in accepting the Beatty Collection on behalf of the society.

Dr. Craig left all his extensive original historical and genealogical research including publication copyrights to The Swedish Colonial Society and those materials in total are called the Craig Collection. With the addition of the Beatty Collection, the Society has one of if not the most important collections of New Sweden genealogical and historical material that exists anywhere in the world.

While working for months cataloging and organizing the extensive Peter S. Craig Collection for the future use of genealogists affiliated with The Swedish Colonial Society, Beatty decided to donate all of his Rambo-centric materials to the Society. This includes the five published volumes of the *Rambo Family Tree* and the expanded CD which

includes additional information not included in the printed publications. This additional information has been sent to him by cousins, and he has spent endless hours in courthouses and libraries across the nation in his attempt to document every one of Peter Gunnarson Rambo’s descendents.

Peter Gunnarson, (1611-1698) created the family’s distinctive surname when he came to New Sweden in 1640. It is derived from “Ramberget” or Raven Mountain, located outside Goteborg.

“The Beatty Collection on the Rambo and allied families is the most extensive family documentation in our archives and unique because it tracks many generations from colonial New Sweden through modern era,” noted Governor Bridwell. “The Society is delighted with Mr. Beatty’s gift for greatly expanding our original research material, but also because it simplifies the Society’s Forefather Membership application process for any individuals filing through ancestors documented in the “Rambo Family Tree” by Beverly Nelson Rambo and Ronald S. Beatty,” Governor Bridwell continued.

“Individuals will not be required to submit original documentation to file Forefather Membership if they are referencing individuals listed in the “Rambo Family Tree” as filed in the Society’s Archives at The Brossman Center, Lutheran Seminary at Philadelphia,” Walker explained. “The Society requires original documentation for any generation not included,” she noted.

The Beatty collection is without equal in its comprehensive research of New Sweden pioneers and includes all families named Bankson (or Bankston) and a sizable number of Mattsons, Holsteins, Priests, etc. who married Rambo daughters. Ron continues to work on Rambo cousins by any surname, and each of the following families are represented in the *Rambo Family Tree* by at least 66 individuals: Allen, Anderson, Baldrige, Bankston, Bower, Coates, Cole, Cramer, Cremer, Crosby, Cruzen, DeHaven, Denny, Dyson, Evans, Eyestone, Fulton, Hager, Hambrick, Hendrickson, Hill, Holstein, Hughes, Ickes,

Archives Reorganization Announced

With the late 2009 acquisition of the Peter S. Craig Collection of New Sweden historical and genealogical research and the recent donation of the Ronald S. Beatty collection on the Rambo and allied families, The Swedish Colonial Society's Archives extensive collection has grown in stature and now requires additional management.

"The Craig and Beatty Collections are of such historical importance they will undoubtedly shape The Swedish Colonial Society's future," noted Governor Margaret Sooy Bridwell, who announced a temporary reorganization of officers that will be made permanent by appropriate changes to the By-Laws. "The revisions will enable the Society to better manage its collection and divide responsibility. All of the members' efforts are as unpaid volunteers," she explained.

Beverly B. Walker, the Society's Archivist has been appointed Society Curator Pro Tem with overall responsibility for all research and genealogical materials in the Archives located at the Brossman Center in the Lutheran Seminary at Philadelphia.

Councillor Edward Root has been appointed Archivist with responsibility for collecting historical memorabilia relating to the Society and New Sweden. The historical collection ranges from rare 17th century parchments to the

personal desk of the late Dr. Amandus Johnson, one of the founders of the Society and the American Swedish Historical Museum.

Continuing as Co-Genealogists are Ronald S. Beatty and The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Forde-Beatty. Cynthia is a member of the National Society of Professional Genealogists and Ron is a member of the Pennsylvania Society of Genealogists. They are leading the Society's massive undertaking to make some of Society's genealogical research material available on line to members and appropriate researchers and to identify other materials that can be viewed at the Archives by appointment. Dr. Forde will respond to genealogical inquiries received through the web site. These inquiries are far-ranging, from inquiries about information we have in the Archives to requests for the names of professional genealogists for specific assistance.

"These changes position the Society to enhance our operations and make use of information technology to make historical and genealogical research material available to our members and others. Years ago before the internet, Society membership was concentrated in the region of Old New Sweden. Now our membership is nation-wide and in Sweden and we are taking steps to better serve our mission on that basis," Governor Bridwell concluded.

Irvin, Jordan, Koplín, Lawrence, Lincoln, Mason, Mattson, Mozley, North, Priest, Reno, Richardson, Rider, Ridgely, Rittenhouse, Robertson, Springer, Tranberg, Williams, Wilson, and Young.

Personal privacy is one of the issues that generally limits publication to persons no longer living; however, many cousins have sent far more complete family information than appears in print. All such materials about living individuals have also been given to the Society for historical record and safekeeping. Much of this information is in the form of computer files, so includes all the attendant conveniences and difficulties. Research and accumulation continue, so Beatty will periodically update, catalog, and reorganize these materials.

Beatty's interest in genealogy began thirty years ago when he visited his Aunt Verla in Arizona. Knowing of his siblings' interest in their family history he asked for a copy of his Aunt's research material. A week later they were both exhausted, but happy with their effort in creating a Family Tree as a personalized Christmas present for his brother and sister.

Now in his "third retirement," Ron's successful careers involving advanced computer skills and a love of travel by motorcycle have benefitted his genealogical research of Rambo ancestors. Ron has always loved puzzles and describes "genealogy as the granddaddy of all puzzles." He can be reached at rsbeatty@gmail.com.

Mullica House

Kenneth S. Peterson is a counselor, Fellow and Forefather member of The Swedish Colonial Society and descends from several of the colonial Swedes. He has three daughters, Erika, Katherine and Christina Peterson. His wife Barbara Bettler descends from Dutch Vice Director, Niccassius DeSille, who wrested control of Swedish Fort Trinity from Kenneth's ancestor, Måns Petersson Stake (Peterson). Kenneth S. Peterson is an Industrial Specialist at Navy Lakehurst in the Carrier Launch and Recovery programs and lives in Ocean County, New Jersey.

The Swedish Colonial Society seeks out ancient buildings built by the early Swedes, their children and grandchildren in the New Sweden area. One that has come to our attention lies on Raccoon Creek in Mullica Hill, Gloucester County, New Jersey. The quaint, small house, which is nicely restored, is in the center of the town on busy Route 45 at 20 North Main Street. It is apparent the town was laid out around this house. The early Swedes and Finns always built near the water and that is exactly where the Mullica House is located.

Mullica Hill was named for the Mullica brothers William, John, and Eric-sons of Eric Pålsson Mullica, who arrived on the *Eagle* in 1654 with his parents (Pål Jönsson and Margareta Andersdotter) and nine brothers and sisters. The family emigrated from Mora

Parish in Hälsingland, Sweden [See Dr. Peter S. Craig's profile of this family in the "Forefathers" section of our website ColonialSwedes.org.]

William was the first purchaser here in 1704, followed later that same year by his two younger brothers John and Eric. William and Eric had migrated over from the Tacony settlement, where their father, Eric (Sr.) formerly kept the family. It was from the "Little Egg Harbor River" (today's Mullica River) that the other brother, John, came. John had lived there with his father and stepmother Ingeborg and other siblings at today's Lower Bank. Eric, Senior, died in 1701 and three years later the family moved to the Raccoon Creek settlement. As the Swedes were building their new log church at Raccoon (Swedesboro), the Mullica boys were building nearby, just 5 miles upstream.



PHOTOS: KENNETH S. PETERSON



The central portion of this third-generation house is the oldest, measuring 20 feet square, and is of “brick-panel frame construction.” It rests on a sandstone foundation, 2¼ feet thick in the rear of the house. It is said to have been built in 1704 on the land surveyed for William Mullica. The exceptional age of the central portion is evident. It is described by the National Register Of Historic Places as of “early 18th century, probably the oldest house in Mullica Hill.” However, only a dendrochronological study will reveal the true age of the Mullica House.

Additions of a later date have been added to each end of the house. Some of the weathered cedar clapboard from an early period remains.

Inside, exposed walls are slightly reminiscent of the English Tudor, half-timber style. Red bricks fill in the space between the hewn oak wall supports. One long “summer” beam, or main support beam, runs the length of the original portion of the house. The inside is laid out in two halves divided along that beam.

There is no trace of the fireplace or fireplaces which must have existed originally. It has been removed, probably in the 19th century, and replaced by a narrow, inside chimney to accommodate a stove. Yet, the evidence for the original fireplace is found by a visit to the basement. There in the

corners survive two “squitches,” or brick corner supports stacked diagonally, for the missing fireplace above. A squinch is an ancient design dating back to the Persians. Without being able to remove some of the siding and walls of the house, it is difficult to determine if the squitches supported two corner Swedish fireplaces or one large English one.

By the way, the Mullica House is for sale. It was lately the business place of “Debra’s Dolls” and prior to that an antique shop.

We appreciate the assistance of Barbara Price of the Gloucester County Historical Society and Joanna Galante of Century 21.

FAMILY MEMBERS

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NEW FOREFATHER MEMBERS

Active members of The Swedish Colonial Society may apply for recognition as "Forefather Members" if they can prove descent from Swedish colonists arriving in the United States prior to the Treaty of Paris, marking the close of the Revolutionary War, in 1783. Application forms may be obtained from the SCS website www.ColonialSwedes.org.

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: Peg Berich, The Swedish Colonial Society, 916 S. Swanson St., Philadelphia, PA 19147 or visit us online at: 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.

Peg Berich is the Financial Secretary/Registrar of The Swedish Colonial Society. She is also a member of Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church, where she conducts genealogy searches. She resides in Philadelphia PA but is originally from Minnesota, a Swedish/Finnish descendent of the great 19th Century Scandinavian great migration.

Next Volume Available Soon

Work is continuing on Volume 6 of the Colonial Records of Swedish Churches in PA series.

It will be the longest book in the series about Gloria Dei, Old Swedes Church in Philadelphia. The ministry of the aristocratic and charismatic Carl Magnus Wrangel is featured, 1759-1768.

This is the time when Gloria Dei grew the most but when there were also the most controversies which involved theology, language, piety, and contrasting personalities among the Swedish preists in America. Kim-Eric Willaims and Ronald S. Beatty are preparing the final copy this Spring and we hope that it will be available late next fall. The previous five volumes can be purchased through the Gloria Dei Church website: www.colonialswedes.org/Publications/Books.html.

Two more volumes are expected in the series, which concludes with the calling of Nils Collin



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seven continents, crossed the 80th parallel in the Arctic Circle, stepped foot on Greenland, and made it down to Antarctica. She was among the first American tourists to visit mainland China in the 1970s after travel restrictions there had been lifted, and she was among the first tourists to visit Angkor Wat in Cambodia after this ancient temple complex was re-discovered. She even rode in a hot air balloon over Kenya while in her 80s. As a result of her marriage, Mrs. McFarland inherited a Scottish connection, and developed lasting, deep friendships with many at the St. Andrews Society of Philadelphia. She later was named an Honorary Member of this all male society, and enjoyed participating each year on its scholarship committee. This, she often said, combined her interest in education with her interest in travel as the scholarships enabled selected students from area colleges to spend

their junior year studying abroad at one of the four ancient Scottish universities. Mrs. McFarland was a 50 year member of the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church and was an ardent supporter of its storied music program. Mrs. McFarland also was a member of the Union League of Philadelphia, the Merion Golf Club, and the Merion Cricket Club. She is survived by her son, George C. McFarland, Jr., Esq., her daughter in law, Betsy Kennedy McFarland, three grandchildren, Megan Davis McFarland, George C. McFarland, III, and Elizabeth Anne (Bonnie) McFarland, and a niece Anita Hamilton. A memorial service was scheduled for Tuesday, September 27, at 11:00 am at the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church. Burial was private. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Bryn Mawr Hospital or the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church.

Swedish Colonial News

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FROM THE EDITOR

Karin Hampel, Editor

With this edition, Karin Zapf Hampel is assuming editorship of The Swedish Colonial Society newsletter. As a lifelong member of the American Swedish Historical Museum, she has served as President of the Auxiliary and on the Board of Trustees. As a recent affiliate of the Swedish Colonial Society, she has shared in its heritage through her parents Sofian and Dagmar Sjostrom Zapf who were lifetime members. Karin's interests include music, poetry and writing. Having lived in Swarthmore, Pa. with her husband Joseph and their four children, she now resides in Westtown, Pa. near their five grand-children.

Articles for the newsletter may be addressed to joehampel@hotmail.com. Karin may be reached at (484) 266-0028.



PHOTO: ALEASA HOGATE