

# THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY JOURNAL

PRESERVING THE LEGACY OF THE NEW SWEDEN COLONY IN AMERICA

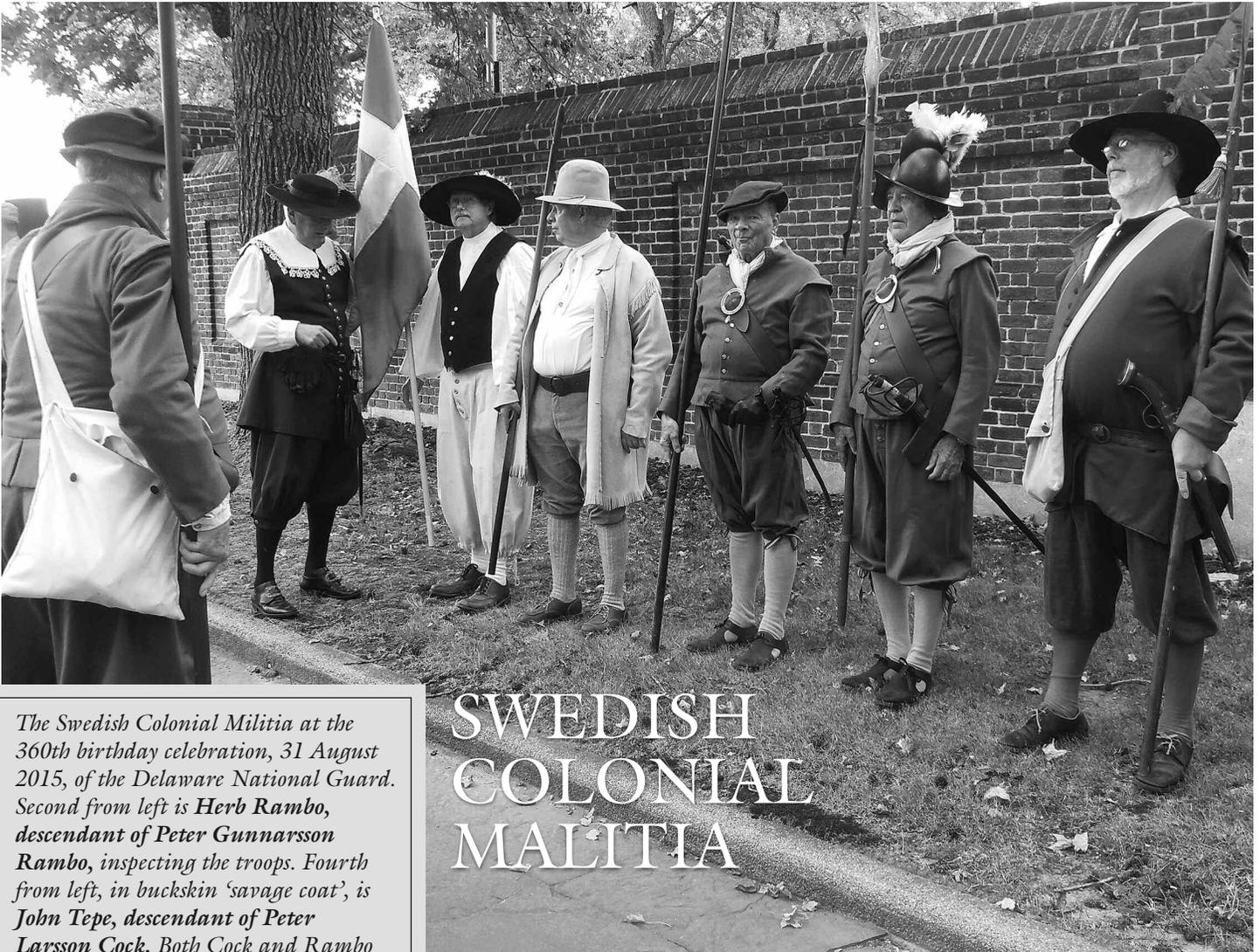


Photo by Marnie King, Wilmington DE

*The Swedish Colonial Militia at the 360th birthday celebration, 31 August 2015, of the Delaware National Guard. Second from left is Herb Rambo, descendant of Peter Gunnarsson Rambo, inspecting the troops. Fourth from left, in buckskin 'savage coat', is John Tepe, descendant of Peter Larsson Cock. Both Cock and Rambo were among the militiamen (here further portrayed by re-enactors of the New Sweden Centre) who defended Ft. Christina against the Dutch 360 years ago. Another photo, page 3.*

*Here they stand at Ft. Christina Park, Wilmington, which is now part of the First State National Historical Park, declared by President Obama on 13 March 2013.*

## SWEDISH COLONIAL MILITIA

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## THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

916 SOUTH SWANSON STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19147



Greetings, everyone,

As Governor, I urge you to visit the SCS Website at: [www.colonialswedes.net](http://www.colonialswedes.net) and our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/SwedishColonialSociety/timeline>. At the latter you will find each day's daily New Sweden history event. The SCS Website itself will provide you with upcoming events, conferences, and current SCS activities. The Swedish Colonial Society was founded in 1909 by people interested in New Sweden history and culture as well as by descendants of those earliest Swedish pioneers. Then, and ever since, the Kings of Sweden have graciously consented to be our High Patron, the only society in the United States so honored.

Now in my second year as Governor, the key word for me is *collaboration* with Swedish organizations for the purpose of strengthening New Sweden in the 21st century. I have collaborated with The Delaware Swedish Colonial Society regarding the Forefathers Day luncheon held on or around April 8th each year, which is also commemorated as Landing

Day. During our discussions and sharing of information we have made both organizations stronger and more committed to assisting each other.

My wife Jill D'Andrea and I actively participate in events such as the Spring Ting at the American Swedish Historical Museum (ASHM) in Philadelphia, and encourage you to visit this magnificent institution which is dedicated to preserving and promoting the contributions of Swedes and Swedish-Americans to the United States. The ASHM is located in south Philadelphia at 1900 Pattison Avenue, Philadelphia. Please visit their website at [www.americanswedish.org](http://www.americanswedish.org).

Recently I have become involved with the Kalmar Nyckel Foundation (KNF) and the newly active New Sweden Company. The mission of this modern New Sweden Company is to preserve structures and artifacts of the New Sweden Colonial Farmstead in Bridgeton NJ (currently closed), but formed in 1983 to help commemorate the King and Queen of Sweden's visit to the Delaware Valley for the 350th anniversary of New Sweden's founding.

This New Sweden Company, under the leadership of Joseph Mathews (who happens to have an article in this issue on page 10) as the Chairman of the Board of Directors, has just voted to move some of the Bridgeton cabins to Wilmington DE. And lo and behold, it has just been announced that one of the cabins (the forge) has arrived at the KNF in Wilmington. So the project is actually underway!

The original New Sweden Company was a commercial operation opening trading posts, with American headquarters at Ft. Christina. The idea is to use the cabins to present some aspects of a trading post, reflecting the New Sweden Company as it would have been 377 years ago. These cabins can also display artifacts and agricultural aspects to be used as stations for living history activities. Thus, they will continue to educate people about the New Sweden story at Ft. Christina National Park or the Kalmar Nyckel Museum, including the 5,000 school children of Wilmington who already visit the *Kalmar Nyckel* ship each year, as well as attract visitors from all over the USA and indeed the world.

In addition to the above, I have been cooperating with the New Sweden Centre in supporting their recently-held *Cabin to Capsule* program at the Junior Achievement Center, 522 S. Walnut St., Wilmington DE. Please see the article on page 9 in this issue for details of that seminar. The NSC website is [www.ColonialNewSweden.org](http://www.ColonialNewSweden.org).

I strongly encourage you, as members of The Swedish Colonial Society, to give your children and grandchildren a special gift, that being a membership in The Swedish Colonial Society. As members of the SCS these young people will learn about the early Swedes who landed in Wilmington in 1638 and they thereby will preserve the legacy of the Colonial Swedes in America.

Very best regards,

Michael R. D'Andrea  
Governor, The Swedish Colonial Society



THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

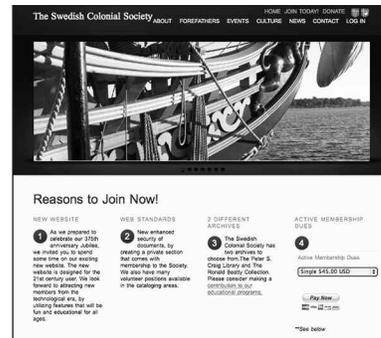
**Our Mission is to preserve and promote the history, genealogy and culture of the New Sweden Colony in America**

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3. To acknowledge members' proven descent from colonial forefathers
4. To encourage awareness and preservation of monuments at historic sites
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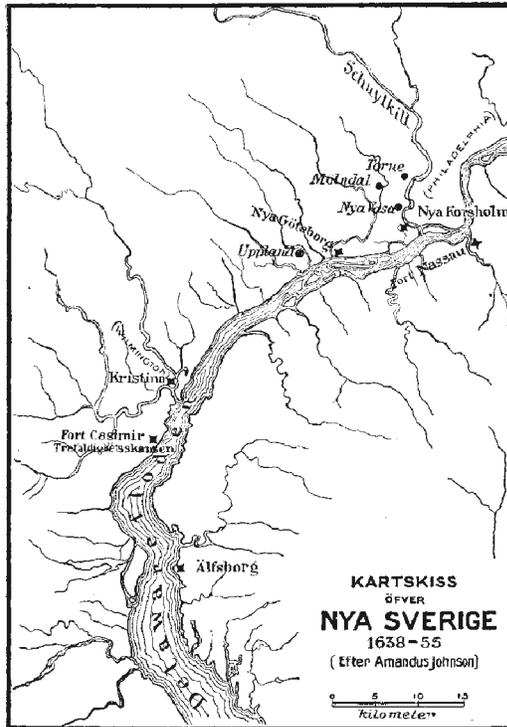


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*Concerning the Conquest of New Sweden, 1655*

Lief Lundquist's article on the conquest of New Sweden from the Dutch perspective begins on the next page. Note Fort Nassau on the right side of the map.



*The Delaware National Guard 360th anniversary, 1655 to 2015*

The modern National Guard parades past the "New Sweden Militia" in Ft. Christina National Park.



# A PYRRHIC VICTORY

## *Dutch High Council Minutes about the Conquest of New Sweden*

*In 1655, under the command of Governor and General Pieter Stuyvesant, New Netherland took control of the Swedish colony of New Sweden by military means.*

However, the Dutch victory became a very expensive affair for New Netherland. Stuyvesant had made a large bet by taking the New Sweden territory, but he left New Amsterdam on Manhattan completely unprotected. While practically his whole army and fleet were at the South River (the Delaware River), Indians attacked New Amsterdam and about one hundred people died.

Not surprisingly, the Dutch did not agree with the Swedes about who had the rights to New Sweden. Not only did the Dutch resent that Dutch stockholders, merchants, and seamen played a part in the New Sweden Company, but before the *Kalmar Nyckel* arrived in 1638 the Dutch had explored and established footing here and there along the South River as far south as the river's mouth. The anchor, of course, was the North River [now the Hudson River] and surrounding areas, which the Netherlands claimed in 1609 after Henry Hudson had sailed it as far north as today's Albany.

Until the 1650's there wasn't much the Dutch could do about New Sweden. Their colony was thinly populated, and they had their hands full managing along the North River. Trading with the Indians for beaver pelts—not settlement—was the goal; in 1614 the Dutch built trading posts, one on the southeastern end of the island of Manahatta (Fort Amsterdam) and another upstream south of Albany (Fort Nassau, replaced in 1624 by Fort Orange).

The Dutch also built a second Ft. Nassau (about 1627 to 1651), the second one being located at the mouth of the Big Timber Creek at its confluence with the South River. Thus it was the first known permanent European-built structure on the Delaware River, and the first in what would become the state of New Jersey.<sup>(1)</sup>

But starting in the 1640's and by the 1650's, a small town of about "a thousand souls" had grown up around Fort Amsterdam, and up at Fort Orange a town they named Beverwijck (*Beaver Bay*) was well established. When the English took over the colony in 1664, the town was renamed Albany and later became the capital of New York State.

Across the East River from Manahatta [Manhattan], on Lange Eylandt [Long Island], Dutch farmers were establishing farms and villages. With names like Gravenzande [Gravesend], Brueckelen [Brooklyn], Nieuw Amersfoort [Flatlands], Midwout [Flatbush], New Utrecht [Bensonhurst], and Boswijck [Bushwick], they are today parts of New York's borough of Brooklyn.

Peter Stuyvesant, engraving by Thomas Gimbrede, 1826 (New York Public Library)



New Netherland was run by the Dutch West Indian Company (WIC), which invested heavily in the development of the colony. But it was difficult to get Dutchmen to move to the colony, and WIC offered subsidized boat tickets, cheap land, and a supply of inexpensive labor in the form of slaves. New Netherland was considered a part of West India, and WIC was one of the biggest slave traders in the world.

WIC's investments and commitments far surpassed those of the New Sweden Company, and with time New Netherland grew and overshadowed New Sweden. In 1655 a conquering Dutch fleet of seven ships and 317 soldiers and a complement of sailors, under the command of Governor and General Pieter Stuyvesant, sailed to the South River and took command of New Sweden. But while the Dutch were conquering Fort Trinity and Fort Christina without a single shot being fired and no casualties, the Indians attacked New Netherland. About a hundred colonists and Indians died in the Peach Tree War. This set off a monumental quarrel among the members of the High Council of New Netherland. Stuyvesant was blamed for not having stayed in New Netherland to protect the colony, instead taking his whole army to New Sweden.

## HISTORIAN ISAAC NEWTON PHELPS STOKES

The history of New Netherland has been very well researched and documented. After all, New Amsterdam became a city of the world, and there are large collections of historical data about both the state and the city of New York. At Columbia University there is a massive compilation by Isaac Newton Phelps Stokes about the history of Manhattan, published 1915-1928 in six volumes: *The Iconography of Manhattan Island, 1498-1909*.<sup>(2)</sup> The complete work has been digitized and can be accessed and searched online at the university library website <http://www.columbia.edu/>.

In Volume IV there is a chronological description of the Dutch period, 1626–1664. Stokes cites source material of many kinds and creates a vivid story about the daily life and the political life in New Amsterdam and

New Netherland. I have extracted and transcribed notes that are relevant to New Sweden. The notes tell the story of how the Dutch, in their opinion, saw the intruders on their “South River”.

Stokes wrote in English and had to translate a lot from Dutch. He lists all his sources. As with so many documents from a period when everything was written by hand, thoughts flow freely, spelling tends to be phonetic, and the grammar is dodgy.

*The following is the story leading up to and including the final year of New Sweden as seen by the Dutch as quoted from Stokes.*

**Bold** added by the author.

### July 1651

**(Stokes, vol. 4, p. 123): Stuyvesant demolishes the South River Ft. Nassau (near present Camden, New Jersey) and builds Fort Casimir (near New Castle, Delaware)**

**Stuyvesant**, in order to settle the claims of the Dutch to lands on the South (Delaware) River, as against the Swedes and English, **demolishes Fort Nassau** on the New Jersey [side of the Delaware River], which had been built 27 or 28 years before [actually 1623 or 1627], and begins the erection of a new fort, called Casimir, on the west side of the river, at Sand Hook, near the present site of New Castle, and about four [sic] miles below the Swedish Fort Christina.

To prevent smuggling, ships departing from New Netherland to Holland, Virginia, the Delaware (South) River, or elsewhere, are “obliged to take in their full loading in front of” the city of New Amsterdam.

### 22 May – 1 June 1654

**(Stokes, p. 149): The Swedes capture Fort Casimir (New Castle, Delaware)**

**The Swedes**, under [Director] Johan Rising, deputy [sic] governor of New Sweden, **capture Fort Casimir**, on the South (Delaware) River, from the Dutch on Trinity Sunday, and name it Trefaldigheet [Swedish: Trefaldighet], or Fort Trinity, placing Swen Schute in command. Stuyvesant found opportunity to retaliate on Sept. 22.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Leif Lundquist is Swedish, lives in Sweden, but lived briefly in the U.S. and now spends winters in Arizona. He first came to the U.S. in 1961, and a visit to Christina Park sparked his interest in the story of New Sweden. He is married to Margot from New Jersey, who, it turned out, is a descendant of the early settlers of New Netherland. They lived in New Jersey in the 1960s, moved to Holland, and finally back to Sweden in the 1970s. On Leif's retirement, his interest in the early colonial history was rekindled. He wrote a book “Long Journey to the South River”, historical fiction about the early settlers of New Sweden. He is the webmaster of [www.colonialswedes.se](http://www.colonialswedes.se), a Swedish website dedicated to New Sweden, and a councillor on the board of SCS.

## 12-22 September 1654

**(Stokes, p. 153): Swedish ship *Gyllene Hajen* captured by the Dutch in retaliation for loss of Fort Casimir.**

A Swedish ship, *The Golden Shark*, bound for the South River, enters Sandy Hook Bay [south of Manhattan] by mistake, and anchors behind Staten Island. Discovering his error, the captain sends a boat up to Manhattan for a pilot. Stuyvesant, on account of the capture of Fort Casimir by the Swedes, orders the boat's crew to the guardhouse. On Sept. 25, he sent soldiers to seize the ship, and brings the [ship's] factor [Hendrick Elswick]<sup>(3)</sup> as a prisoner to Fort Amsterdam.

## 25 August 1655

**(Stokes, p. 158): Dutch Day of Reflection starts the expedition to conquer New Sweden.**

This day is set apart by proclamation of Stuyvesant and the Council as a day of general fasting, thanksgiving, and prayer, for invoking the divine blessing on the coming Dutch expedition from New Amsterdam against the Swedes on the Delaware. The proclamation was published by the burgomasters and schepens of New Amsterdam "from the City Hall after previous ringing of the bell", on the 20th [of August]. All common business, "such as ploughing, sowing, mowing, fishing, hunting, etc., as well as all games of tennis, ballplaying, tapping and drinking," were forbidden on this fast day, "on pain of arbitrary correction."

## 5 September 1655

**(Stokes, p. 158): Dutch flotilla under Stuyvesant sets sail for the South River. Peach theft and killing of squaw starts Indian uprising in New Amsterdam.**

On this day (Sunday), "after the sermon", **the squadron of seven vessels, with a force on board of between 600 and 700 men [actually 317 plus sailors], sets sail for the South River, against the Swedes.** Stuyvesant is in command, accompanied by Vice-Director De Sille and Domine Megapolensis. On Sept. 11, they secured, without firing a gun, the capitulation of Fort Casimir, which the Swedes had held since June 1, 1654. On Sept. 25, the Swedish Fort Christina surrendered.

**The Indians make an unexpected attack on Manhattan** and its environs, murdering and robbing the people and burning their property. It was an act of vengeance, due to the suspended schout-fiscal, Van Dyck, **killing a squaw whom he had detected stealing peaches** in his garden. To protect Stuyvesant's bouwery [farm] on Manhattan Island, during the Indian uprising at this time, some Frenchmen are hired by Cornelis Aertsen, by order of the company's fiscal, to remain on the property with him. Stuyvesant is absent on his expedition against the Swedes on the Delaware.

**The provincial council writes to Stuyvesant on the Delaware, informing him of the Indian depredations at Manhattan and its environs, thus:** "Madame, your Honor's wife, with her whole family and all those, in whom your Honor and she are concerned, are well. As the citizens are unwilling to guard other people's houses far from the Mannhattans, we have, with her advice, hired 10 Frenchmen, to protect your Honor's bouwery on the Mannhattans, subject to your Honor's pleasure. We'll keep as good watch as possible, and expect your Honor's speedy return, for to lie in the fort night and day with the citizens, has its difficulties, as they cannot be commanded like soldiers. . . . We had much (more) to say, but not to grieve your Honor any more, we will be silent, till another occasion, about **the great murder of 100 men in 9 hours; all the country-people are flying, except those of Amersfoort [Flatlands], Midwout [Flatbush], Breukelen and the English villages. There is a great deal of lamenting here, which we give your Honor to consider,**"

## 12 October 1655

**(Stokes, p. 159): Stuyvesant returns to New Amsterdam**

An express having been sent to the South River to call the energetic director (Stuyvesant) home to New Amsterdam, he returns to revive the spirits of the colonists, among whom consternation had spread on account of the recent depredations [by] the Indians.

## 28 October 1655

**(Stokes, p. 160): First councillor Nicasius de Sille writes to WIC director Hans Bontemantel about his concerns about Stuyvesant's leadership.**

First Councillor Nicasius de Sille makes the following extraordinary animadversions with respect to Director-General Stuyvesant and Fiscal Van Tienhoven, in a letter to Hans Bontemantel, one of the directors at Amsterdam and a commissioner for New Netherland, the original [holograph] letter being in the N. Y. Pub. Library, N. Neth. Papers, No. 1214. An annotation by Bontemantel reads: "Answered the 11th March, 1656." The text of the answer is not extant. The translation of the De Sille letter follows:

"Mr. Bontemantel:

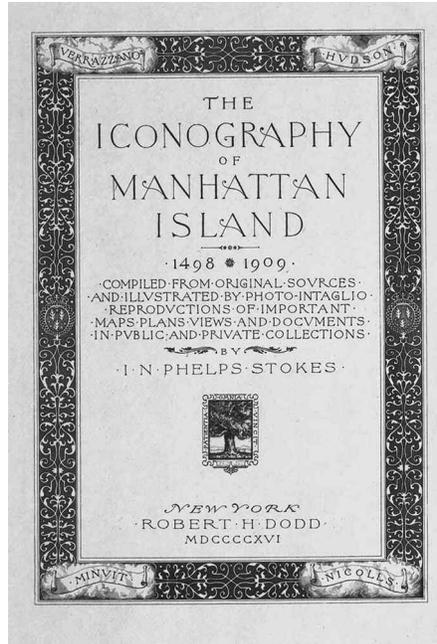
"Very cordial greetings and commendations to aunt and cousin van der Haghe. I have to report our sad experiences, and the common misfortune. I hope that the Honorable Estimable Gentlemen will now at least open their eyes and not place any more confidence in the flattering letters. We have been, as you will perceive from the general letter and the journal of the first of September, at the South River, **where we have captured the fortresses Casemier and Christina from the Swedes** without any combat or firing a shot. While lying before Christina, we received letters, that at the Manathes [Manhattan] some hundreds of savages came, who upset everything there by murdering, setting a fire, and taking captives, so that **the General [Stuyvesant] departed from us on the 29th with the small vessels for New Amsterdam** in New Netherland, leaving

me behind with Captain Coninx to regulate everything at the South that was required for the repair of Fort Casemier, as you will be more explicitly informed by the journal.

“In consequence [thereof], I arrived here only on Friday night, 22d of October, finding everything in a bad condition, the houses on Staten Island all burned down, also those at Pavonia [Hoboken], with some others, more than 100 dead and many prisoners, who are daily ransomed by us. There were ten nations of savages and only a little over sixty of them were killed, the others still use menacing threats, lying in the environs of Manathes [Manhattan], but we have invited their chiefs to visit us, who have promised to come and reach an agreement.

“The community and all the householders who have sought refuge here, call for revenge and murder against the fiscal and two or three others, whom they loudly proclaim by name to have been the only causes [of the attack]. **The General is not praised, because he does not investigate, but upholds, as it appears, the fiscal; does not lend much ear to the complainants,** and when I say anything, or make inquiry, or want to do something, nobody pays attention to me. Everything happened in my absence, so that I do not know how things will continue here any longer. They follow me cautiously, all to belittle me, for the wagon does not go straight, everyone follows his own counsel; the General and the fiscal act together, but make it appear before everybody as if they were great enemies. La Montagne is also in the cabal. The people want to go to Holland; many merchants depart with these ships because there is no order; therefore it is now my humble request that you will show yourself favorable toward me.

“Whereas, when I propose something, or should do something, they will not give me instructions by which I can act or give orders, as has already happened when the General went to Curacao, and other times. Neither will he [Stuyvesant] give me orders, saying, ‘do as you please;’ and he takes me all over with him, wherever he goes, which I neither will nor can I refuse him, though it is highly necessary that one of us always remain here to keep everything in good order, as I have proposed several times; but was answered: ‘Have you any writing or authorization for that? And, perhaps, had either one of us remained here, this [Indian depredation] would not have happened. And **what has been done at the South River, Captain Coninx and I could easily have accomplished.** But if I have to go along with one or the other, then the one who remains can play his part, and they understand each other. For this reason I have requested before an Act or authorization from the Honorable Lords Directors with which they did not comply, hence **I prefer [proffer?] to you the following request,** if you think it advisable, to present it to the meeting, and to



“The Iconography of Manhattan Island, 1498-1909” by Isaac Newton Phelps Stokes, published 1915-1928 (Columbia University)

support the same, **that I may have something to say here by virtue of their Honors’ authorization in case those two [Stuyvesant and Van Tienhoven] should be continued [In their offices]. If not, as we hope, that a General be sent who is not selfish, and no untutored fiscal,** and also another able councillor; because I and La Montagne have only two votes and the Director and the fiscal have three together, so we are obliged to follow them whether right or wrong, whether it be to the profit or loss of the Company, and, therefore, everything cannot go well here; but I fear an evil and short end; I have also before written about these matters to Messrs. van Beeck and Man, and have learned that my correspondence was not very acceptable to their Honors.

“But I protest before God and the world, that if no alteration takes place in this matter, that I cannot perform my duties with a good conscience, for,

moreover, everything is going to ruin here. I would write more, but you and the honorable Lords Directors will be fully able to read in the general letter and the journal, and the accompanying affidavits, about what has passed here. I also think it advisable, that the passengers and the free people, who now go over with these two ships, should, each in particular, be examined; because they were all present and under arms. Then the Honorable Lords will speedily discover the reason and know the cause through which these disasters have befallen us.

“Now ending with this, I commend you and all friends to the protection of the Almighty and recommending myself to your good graces. I remain

“Your Honor’s obliging servant

“Nicasius de Sille”

## 28 October 1655

**(Stokes, p. 160): Stuyvesant attacks Nicasius de Sille and others in letter to WIC directors.**

Stuyvesant addresses a confidential letter to the directors at Amsterdam, the text of which has not been known hitherto, altho’ there is a contemporary copy in N. Neth. Papers, No, 1223 (2), in the N. Y. Pub. Library. No text of an answer from the directors is known to be extant. A digest is given here of the most important items in Stuyvesant’s letter, viz:

He says he returned from Curacao to Mannades [Manhattan], on July 10, in the ship “De Liefde;” **Councillor Nicasius de Sille not a trustworthy man;** exploit on South(Delaware) River, against Swedes, and account of expedition to be had from his journal and general missives sent over to directors; **has no confidence in Johan de la Montagne;** **blames massacres by Indians on officials of New Netherland;**

28 bouweries [farms; Note also to modern word The Bowery, referring to a neighborhood of south-central Manhattan] destroyed, 12,000 schepels of corn (grain) burned, 40 Christians massacred, and about 100 captured, mostly women and children; his opinion, that firm peace with Indians is best thing; that they be kept from coming into any village or place with arms (guns); that they be obliged to deliver up murderers to be punished; that drunken Indians be kept in prison; that when animals are killed by them, they should be made to pay for them; refers to swearing, drinking, and profanations of the sabbath; ammunition needed; to make a contract with English, offensive and defensive; separate country dwellings not yet close to one another; commonality want revenge against Indians; **Fiscal Cornelis van Tienhoven hated**, and even English speak against him; Vice-Director Mathys Bex, of Curacao, could be used in New Netherland, as he is a man of experience, having fine credentials from Reuf, and later of Stara, where he had been director; former Fiscal Van Dijck charged with beating an Indian [squaw] to death, and selling much brandy to Indians, making them drunk; Cornelis Jacobsen Steenwyck sent to Amsterdam with commission to do and adjust everything as instructed on behalf of New Netherland.

### 7 November 1655

**(Stokes, p. 161): Stuyvesant recommends to “keep an eye on the Swedes” and lends money to New Sweden Governor Johan Rising for return to Sweden.**

Stuyvesant addresses a particular letter to the directors at Amsterdam, the text of which has not been known hitherto, altho' there is a contemporary extract in N. Neth. Papers, No. 1223(3), in the N. Y. [Public] Library. The most important items are digested here, viz:

Complaint against the secrecy of the directors at Amsterdam; Indians in New Netherland are stirred up by the Dutch themselves, and restoration of captives in hands of Indians is hindered; **Councilor La Montagne is a bad instrument—a snake harboured in the bosom of the colony; La Montagne’s “mix up” with the Swedes after the capitulation;** La Montagne went to church, and, on the way, in the presence of Fiscal Tienhoven, Capt. Cregier, Lieut. Newton, and Secretary Van Ruyven, uproariously attacked the bringing over of the Swedes; **Stuyvesant recommends keeping a wakeful eye on the Swedes**, etc.; handarms wanted to equip the burghers (vryeluyden), also 200 soldiers capable of guarding all; **Swedish commander, Rysing, gone to Sweden, via England; he requested passage money and was given 300 pounds, Flemish, to be returned in six months, etc.; transport of well soldiers to Sweden.**

## EPILOGUE

**Governor and Director General Peter Stuyvesant** continued as governor until 1664 when the English conquered New Netherland and New Amsterdam's name was changed to New York. Stuyvesant retired to his farm on lower Manahattan, where he remained until his death in 1672.<sup>(4)</sup>

**Schout-Fiscal Cornelis Van Tienhoven** was dismissed in 1656 as a result of De Sille's letter. In his place, De Sille was appointed schout-fiscal. Van Tienhoven disappeared in 1656. His hat and cane were found at the North River, but his body was never found.<sup>(5)</sup>

**The member of the High Council Nicasius De Sille** became schout-fiscal, and he also became commander of Dutch companies in the fights against the English. When New Amsterdam fell in 1664, De Sille retired back to his house and properties in New Utrecht where he lived until his death about 1674.<sup>(6)</sup>

**The member of the High Council Johannes De La Montagne** was appointed Vice-Governor of New Netherland in 1656 and moved to Beverwijck up on the North River. In 1664 the English changed the name to Albany and named the river Hudson. De La Montagne is believed to have lived in Albany until his death about 1670.<sup>(7)</sup> In 1797 Albany became the capital of the State of New York.

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2. Isaac Newton Phelps Stokes, *The iconography of Manhattan Island, 1498-1909* [electronic resource]. Compiled from original sources and illustrated by photo-intaglio reproductions of important maps, plans, views, and documents in public and private collections, New York: Robert H. Dodd, 1915-1928, Vol. IV.  
A digital copy can be found at <http://www.columbia.edu/> through library services called clio. Substitute clio for www.
3. Amandus Johnson, *The Swedish Settlements on the Delaware, their History and Relation to the Indians, Dutch, and English, 1638-1664*, Hendrick von Elswick was a German merchant who had moved to Stockholm and was sent to be the factor of New Sweden. He was the highest-ranking person on the *Gyllene Hajen*. Lancaster PA, 1911, vol. II, p. 680
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6. Nicasius De Sille: <http://www.oocities.org/heartland/estates/4498/DeSille.htm>.
7. Johannes De La Montagne: <http://delamontagne.org/history.htm>.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Thanks to Dr. Charles Gehring, Director of the New Netherland Research Center, who told me about Stokes' work.

## STUDENT SEMINAR

*Cabin to Capsule* A CHALLENGE TO YOUTH  
TO KEEP OUR HERITAGE ALIVE

I have been concerned for a long time that our various organizations promoting our Swedish heritage have an obvious lack of the younger generation on our boards and at our events. Without youth involved and interested in their Swedish heritage, to whom can we pass the torch?

On 17 October 2015 the student seminar *Cabin to Capsule*, held at the Junior Achievement Campus, 522 S. Walnut Street, Wilmington DE, was designed to be a challenge to our youth to help us preserve Swedish heritage. The seminar was organized by the New Sweden Centre with the support of The Swedish Colonial Society, Old Swedes Foundation, New Sweden Alliance, and the Embassy of Sweden, Washington DC.

The theme at the Swedish Embassy for the year 2015 is *Earth and Space*. In keeping with this theme, the *Cabin to Capsule* program introduced middle and high school, as well as college students, and all who attended, to the fields of history, public diplomacy, and space exploration through three speakers:

- Frank Eld, Preservationist and Author on Finnish/Swedish Log Cabin History and Building Demonstration.
- Monica Enqvist, Public Diplomacy, Press, and Communications Counselor, Embassy of Sweden, Washington DC discussing Public Diplomacy.
- Bill Ayrey, ILC (maker of NASA space suits in Delaware) concerning History and Demonstration.

Everything went off like clockwork and more than 60 were in attendance.

A special guest not listed on the program, Ulf Aakerblom, Honorary Consul, Consulate of Sweden in Philadelphia, made a couple of presentations: He presented a framed certificate to Mr. Clifford Anderson of Vineland NJ who, after retiring from the Air Force, worked for the US Government as a Quality Assurances Specialist. In that capacity he oversaw companies who worked on the Apollo space suits, including ILC Dover. He made sure all the companies followed procedures and adhered to government contracts to ensure the safety of the Astronauts. Mr. Anderson is the son of Swedish immigrants.

Consul Aakerblom's second presentation was of a gift to "Marnie" King, on behalf of the New Sweden Centre board, for her contribution of the detailed dioramas depicting life in the homes of the Lenape and early settlers in New Sweden.

The New Sweden Centre has, for over twenty years, been providing educational programs, exhibits, and events to promote and preserve the colonial history of the Delaware Valley. Last October His Excellency, Björn Lyrvall, Ambassador of Sweden to the United States, dedicated our new permanent exhibit *A Walk through Swedish-American Globalization*, also at JA Finance Park. The exhibit tells the story of the people who contributed to the development of the area since 1638. Attendees were able to visit this exhibit during the seminar.



Left to right: Ulf Aakerblom (Swedish spelling Åkerblom), Monica Enqvist, Aleasa Hogate, Apollo space suit dubbed "Peter Minuit the second", Bill Ayrey, Frank Eld, Jim Schute in the persona of Gov. Printz, and NSC President Janet Anderson.

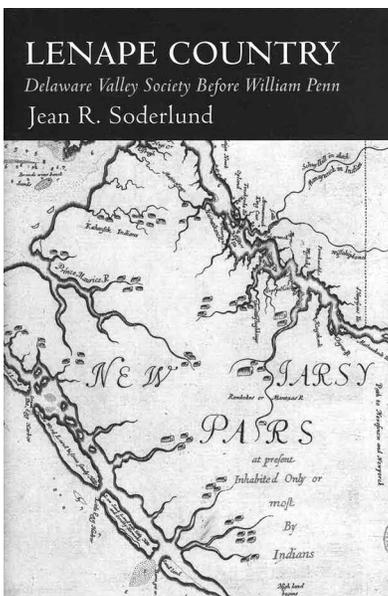
ABOUT THE  
AUTHOR

**Aleasa in persona of her New Sweden ancestor, Elisabeth Dalbo. Aleasa is well known to the Swedish/Finnish community throughout the Delaware Valley for her presentations to promote Swedish heritage. In 2004 she created the New Sweden Heritage monument in Pennsville NJ depicting the crossing of the church boat on the Delaware River in 1699, a topic she is passionate about. As an active Swedish Colonial Society forefather member and SCS Fellow, she served as Recording Secretary from 2000 to 2014. She is also recipient of the Swedish Council of America Merit Award. In 2014 she created a new exhibit, *A Walk through Swedish American Globalization*, at the Junior Achievement Center in Wilmington DE, dedicated by Ambassador Björn Lyrvall.**

Additional information about the New Sweden Centre is available at [www.colonialnews sweden.org](http://www.colonialnews sweden.org), or leave a message at 302.429.0464.

A book review of Jean Soderlund's new history,  
*Lenape Country: Delaware Valley Society before William Penn*

PHILADELPHIA: UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA PRESS, 2014



**In August 2014 a new book was published that offers a well-written, comprehensive, and authoritative re-visioning of the history of New Sweden.**

It is written for the layman and the academic. Its sources—primary and secondary—are admirably broad and exhaustive. The book is based on traditional and new scholarship. I refer to *Lenape Country: Delaware Valley Society before William Penn*, by Jean Soderlund. Professor Soderlund teaches history at Lehigh University. Her previous books have become classics, among them

*William Penn and the Founding of Pennsylvania: A Documentary History* (1983) and *Quakers and Slavery: A Divided Spirit* (1985). She has also had a long-term interest in the Lenape of New Jersey. This book is a realization of that interest. Its scope is wide, treating of all populations in the Delaware Valley in the colonial period, up to and slightly beyond 1737, the year of the so-called Walking Purchase, the real estate grab in Pennsylvania that largely drove the Lenape/Delawares out of their homeland. Thus, it is not limited to any state, but to the entire region drained by the Delaware River and its tributaries.

It offers a useful chronicle and interpretation of the colonial period in that region. It will bear more than one reading because the story is complex, with sources coming from many directions: from records from courts, churches, treaties, and so on. The thesis is straightforward: It restores the Lenape to their central place in the history of the Delaware River Valley. Here is that thesis in the author's own words, published on historian John Fea's blog, [www.philipvickersfithian.com](http://www.philipvickersfithian.com):

“During the seventeenth century, Lenapes controlled the Delaware Valley, limiting settlement and allying with the Susquehannocks, Swedes, Finns, and other Europeans against heavy-handed Dutch and English authority. In the process, the Lenapes and these colonists interacted on the basis of personal liberty, religious freedom, decentralized government, trade, and peaceful resolution of conflict, thus creating the cultural platform on which Delaware Valley Society grew.” And thus she credits Lenape rule with those positive qualities often ascribed to the Swedes and most often to the Quakers.

She goes on: “Colonial scholars typically begin their histories of other colonies such as Virginia and Massachusetts in the early seventeenth century but start the history of Pennsylvania in 1681 with William Penn. My book uncovers the history of the Delaware Valley in the seventeenth century—one that is quite different from the Chesapeake and New England because the Natives retained control. When the Dutch attempted to establish large-scale plantation agriculture at Swanendael [near Lewes, Delaware] in 1631, the Lenapes killed all its residents and demolished the colony, discouraging expansive settlement for more than fifty years.”

Soderlund's assertion that the massacre at Swanendael confirmed Lenape sovereignty in the Delaware Valley for fifty years brought about my first major realization in reading this book. The second—brought about by her detailed narrative—was how much there is for me still to know and to consider about the pre-English colonial period. Despite its title, *Lenape Country* provides a convenient starting point for a more nuanced chronicle of New Sweden as well.

In re-reading certain parts of the book for this review about the cultural mixing between the Lenape and Europeans in southern New Jersey, I realized I had already forgotten the account (borrowed by Soderlund from John Fea's 2008 book, *The Way of Improvement Leads Home: Philip Vickers Fithian and the Rural Enlightenment in Early America*) of Fithian's preaching to the “vociferous Swamp-Men” of Egg Harbor (p. 181).

I was reminded of how Indians and whites interacted socially, including intermarriage. She mentions the marriage of Othniel Murray, a Lenape, with Katharine, a Swede, and their 5 children: a founding family of Gouldtown NJ, just east of Bridgeton. With the influx of the English in the 1690s, Swedes and Finns now became the “Old Settlers” and—goaded by the combative James Logan, Mayor of Philadelphia—learned as an ethnic interest group to develop a political strategy with their churches as a base. Many migrated to Lenape areas in New Jersey, including among the Cohanseys. So, naturally, I think of the original location of the Swedish Granary (Dutch Neck, south of Bridgeton) when I read of Swedes moving in among Cohanseys!

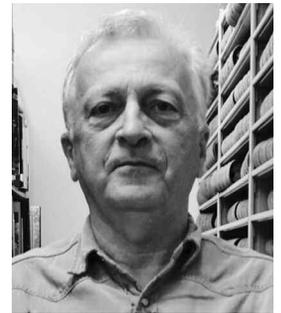
Since Bernard Bailyn’s book *The Barbarous Years* was recently reviewed in these pages (Fall 2014), I should mention here that I found his chapter on New Sweden fascinating and his command of the sources and secondary literature impressive. However, Soderlund—I think, rightly—considers his anecdotal approach to this period a “step backward” (page 6) in that it underestimates the “polyglot, negotiated society” of the early Europeans and Lenape in the Delaware Valley and fails to take full account of Lenape participation in shaping colonial settlement. Soderlund’s book, I feel, successfully addresses the collaborative nature of New Sweden society.

In summary, I heartily recommend this book to lovers of New Jersey history. It will provide much food for thought for years to come. Also, for me personally, with my interest—arising from working on behalf of the Swedish Granary—in re-imagining the society that obtained in southern New Jersey during and after the New Sweden colony, *Lenape Country* will be an important resource to be consulted repeatedly.



#### A NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR

**As a retiree and now part-time employee of the Lummi Library of Cumberland County Historical Society (CCHS) in Greenwich NJ, I have gotten very involved with the Swedish Granary, a log building which has been included among New Sweden landmarks since the 1970s when it was moved from its original location in the Dutch Neck area of Lower Hopewell Township south of Bridgeton. The preservation architects G. Edwin Brumbaugh and Albert F. Ruthrauff identified it at that time as “a rather well-preserved and very early Swedish log structure” (quoted from their “Report upon Log Structure Near Greenwich, N.J” of 1973).**



**Faced with the task of preserving the building, CCHS decided in 2008 to use the science of dendrochronology or the measurement and analysis of tree rings to determine the Granary’s exact age. The New Jersey Historical Commission has supported this project with two project grants: one in 2014 for \$12,282 and another granted for 2016 for \$12,750. Much progress was made during the first grant but more old Atlantic White Cedar (AWC) timber, of which the Granary is constructed, needs to be found to complete a master chronology for that species. More information on this fascinating project can be found at CCHS’s website, [www.cchistsoc.org](http://www.cchistsoc.org).**

**Please, If anyone can provide any leads on historic buildings with Atlantic White Cedar or on submerged historic AWC logs, stumps, or bulkheads, contact me at [jpmathews1@aol.com](mailto:jpmathews1@aol.com).**

*Editor’s note: Joe is also the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the New Sweden Company (NSCo), formed in 1983 to build and maintain the New Sweden Colonial Farmstead and all artifacts associated with it. The Farmstead is comprised of 7 log cabins. In terms of use, there are 2 barns, a stable, a forge, a sauna, a granary, and a main residence. Their construction was supervised by Gunnar Zetterquist, a Swedish log cabin builder. NSCo’s present mission is to resuscitate the Farmstead by means of moving it to a more propitious site, either to the Kalmar Nyckel Shipyard or the Fort Christina Park, both in Wilmington (see page 18).*

# Bengtsson Became Bankston

Anders Bengtsson, or Andrew Bankson as he came to be called in English, was one of the immigrant pioneers from Sweden. He was on the ship *Mercurius* which, in 1656, made the Atlantic crossing to New Sweden (in present Delaware) where the first colonists had landed 18 years earlier.

In 1668 he married Gertrude Rambo, who was a daughter of Peter Gunnarsson Rambo, another emigrant from Sweden well-known to posterity. Together they had 9 children: Bengt/Benjamin, Andrew, Jr., Peter, Catharine, John, Jacob, Brigitta, Daniel, and Joseph, all of whom lived to adulthood (or almost all; Brigitta was 7 years old when last mentioned in the records).

Andrew Bankson established himself as a successful farmer in the northern outskirts of Moyamensing in present south Philadelphia PA. At his death he owned fully 220 hectares (540 acres). Beginning in 1698 he was a member of the Pennsylvania Assembly and served as justice in Philadelphia County 1701-1705. He was also a vestryman, warden, and lay reader in the Swedish congregation by 1684. After Bankson drowned in the Delaware River in 1705 at 65 years old, it was noted in the church book of Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church in Philadelphia that he had been born "in Sweden near Göteborg in the parish of Fåxarn and Hanström farm."

The surname project for Bankson, Bankston, and similar names (even including other families) has up until now 22 participants. Some of Andrew's descendants kept the name Bankson while others adopted the name Bankston. Thanks to several descendants of two different of Andrew's sons (Andrew, Jr., and Joseph) who have done the male markers testing, Andrew Bankson's DNA signature has been reconstructed. The haplogroup is R1b1a2a1a1\*(R-U106, Z372+, U198-, P107-, L1-, L48-, L6-, P89.2-, L217-, L257-, L325-). Testing on 37 markers shows the related Bankstons up to 2 differences from each other, on 67 up to 2, on 111 up to 4.

Several Bankston families in the USA have, through Y-DNA testing, been shown to belong to this family, which they previously didn't know. From written sources, their oldest known ancestors emerged in different places in the USA during the 18th or 19th centuries. The genetic linkage gives new impetus to family research because now they know in which family their origin lies.

The nearest matches so far which are not named Bankston have 3 or 4 differences in 67 matches and 5 or 6 in 111. Among them is a family line known to be from Göteborg (not mentioned when), and another known from the 18th century in Oppland fylke (county), Norway. Some have been able to refine their tests up to 111 markers and this shows that they fall outside the degree of match that would make kinship probable within the historical timeframe.

In Hanström in Fuxerna parish there was one head of household with the name Bengt (which Anders' father must have been named). He and another adult person (probably his wife) lived there at least in 1635 (parish cattle records; see illustration), but he is not mentioned in 1631 nor in 1642 or onwards. The household was one of three at Hanström, which was one farm. Latin *ibid* in the picture means "at the same place" and the Swedish abbreviation *i s. g.*, the comment next to the third name, stands for *i samma gård*, meaning "on the same farm." From later records it is known that the principal farmer there had the full name Börje Andersson and had a son born at the latest in 1627. A hypothesis could be that Börje had a younger brother Bengt (in that case Andersson), who for a short period lived on the farm and in circa 1640 had a son whom he named Anders (= Andrew Bankson) after his father, but soon afterwards died or moved to another place.



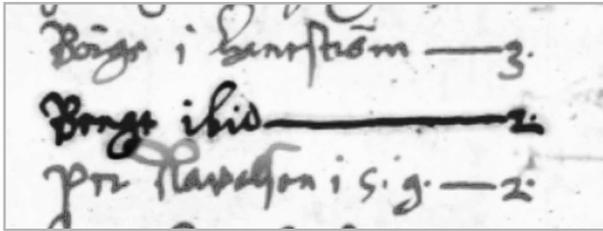
Crister Lindström

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Magnus Bäckmark, b. 1974, genealogist (for a living since 1998), Åkersberga (a little north of Stockholm), e-mail: magnus.baekmark@swipnet.se**



Thomas Campanius Holm, frontpiece to *Description of the Province of New Sweden, Now Called, by the English, Pennsylvania, in America, 1702.*



The only known record in Sweden of the ancestor of the American Banks(t)on family (judging by his name, residence, and time period). Boskaps- m fl lägder, Västergötland och Dalsland, Volume 43 (1635), p. 33, Swedish National Archives. DNA clues might in the future reveal close branches of the same paternal family, which could potentially take the genealogy further back in time.

More tested individuals within Scandinavia are needed in order to better pinpoint the origin of Andrew Bankson's family. With the best of luck, Y-DNA profiles might help prove the genealogical connection between the Hanström farmers – the mentioned ones and maybe earlier ones there also, provided there are surviving members of their Y-DNA line in Sweden today and that they sooner or later get interested in doing a Y-DNA test.

*Note: Translation from the original Swedish of the draft handbook article (reference 1) by Edward R. Root; subsequent updates above by the author.*

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## THE FIRST CRAIG COLLECTION PACKAGE

*Now Available Online—More to Come*

The Swedish Colonial Society has posted on its website for sale the first digitized set from the Craig Collection. It is a package prepared by our genealogist Ron Beatty of all Peter Stebbins Craig's family group sheets for the first four generations of the Mounce Rambo (lived 1700-1782) branch of the Peter Gunnarsson Rambo (lived 1612-1698) family. It is about 18 pages long. You may view and print, but not copy, the first page of the package for free, and you may download it all for an introductory price of \$99 using PayPal or a credit card via PayPal. Your emailed order acknowledgement from the Craig Collection will include the download button. Using Adobe's free Acrobat Reader, you will be able to key word search and print this indelibly watermarked read-only PDF once it is downloaded.

It is our hope that these materials, and others to follow, will facilitate the process by which members of The Swedish Colonial Society apply for forefather status as descendants of Swedish/Finnish colonists who arrived in the thirteen colonies before the end of the Revolutionary War in 1783.

The package can be accessed directly at <http://craigcollection.colonialswedes.net>.

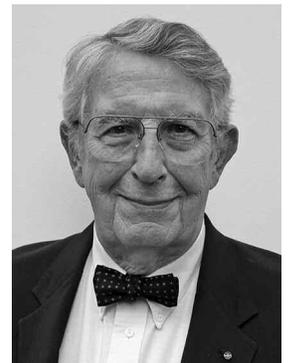
The Swedish Colonial Society, founded in 1909, is America's oldest organization dedicated to the preservation, study, and presentation of New Sweden history which began in 1638 at Ft. Christina (now Wilmington DE).

For further information contact John Tepe at [craigcollection@colonialswedes.net](mailto:craigcollection@colonialswedes.net).

## WHO WAS PETER CRAIG?

### DR. PETER STEBBINS CRAIG, J.D.,

(1928-2009) was The Swedish Colonial Society's world-renowned historian and genealogist who specialized in 17th century Swedish and Finnish immigrants to the Delaware River Valley. He researched the colonial experience of the settlers and their descendants from 1638 into the 18th century. He wrote over 100 articles and books on these settlers, the definitive volume being *The 1693 Census of the Swedes on the Delaware* (1993). Dr. Craig also was the editor for the Gloria Dei Records Project. Volumes 1 through 5, titled *Colonial Records of the Swedish Church in Pennsylvania*, were published under his guidance between 2006 and 2009, and volumes 6A and 6B, "The Reverend Wrangel Years," inspired by Dr. Craig, are currently in press.



## *SCS Forefather member named Swedish American of the Year; tours Värmland*

Three photos by Tommy Hellström



Emily (IVA) performing at the Karlstad waterfront



Tea at Rotneros Manor House (left to right): Emily, John Tepe of The Swedish Colonial Society, John Hasselberg of the Swedish Council of America, Connie Grön of the Vasa Order of America, Monica Torstensson, Torsten Torstensson of the Swedish Migration Center



Emily with Karl-Axel Bengtsson and Catherine Bringselius Nilsson of the Vasa Order of America

Emily Samson Tepe, a singer/songwriter under the name IVA, and 12th generation descendant of Peter Larsson Cock and Margaret Lom of New Sweden, has been named Swedish American of the Year 2015 by the two Swedish Districts of the Vasa Order America. The annual award has been presented since 1960. Recipients, either Swedish or American by birth, have been chosen because they have made significant contributions to the relationship between the two countries. Past honorees have included astronaut Buzz Aldrin and actress Ann-Margret. Emily is the youngest recipient of the award, and the first recipient descended from a colonial Swede. Her award was delivered in Karlstad, Sweden, after a one week concert tour of the Värmland Province. Värmland was the ancestral home of many of the New Sweden colonists, including another of Emily's ancestors, Olof Philipsson, his name in bold in the endnotes. She was hosted by Connie Grön and other Vasa Order officials and by Erik Gustavson, director emeritus of the Migration Center in Karlstad, which has a great interest in New Sweden as the earliest Swedish emigrant destination in North America.

On Tuesday, July 14, after a sail across Lake Vänern on the East India tall ship *Götheborg*, trailed by hundreds of pleasure craft, Emily was welcomed to Karlstad, the capital of Värmland, by the mayor, a costumed honor guard, and a crowd of about 5,000. She was interviewed on stage in Swedish and performed one of her original IVA songs.

On Wednesday, Emily held a press conference with live television and radio interviews at the Swedish Migration Center, which has a handsome library and archives as well as meeting rooms. The Center's ballroom is called the New Sweden Room and features an original painting of the landing at the Rocks in Wilmington, Delaware, in 1638. Emily was given a print of it for The Swedish Colonial Society, which she is framing for presentation at the SCS's Julmiddag celebration on December 19. Then followed a tour of the renowned Swedish watercolor painter Lars Lerin's works at the Sandgrund Lars Lerin Konsthall (art gallery). The Sandgrund dance club was big in Swedish pop culture in the 1960's. Then Emily attended a concert given by the dynamic Gunhild Carling Band.

On Thursday, Emily gave a full concert of her IVA songs at the tall ship *Götheborg* for several thousand visitors touring the ship. The only competition was a steam whistle from an antique tug and a nearby ship's smithy. A Vasa Order dinner followed with the ship's officers, who took turns singing schnapps songs such as "Our sailors are brave and bold, but our clothes are always wet and cold." Emily presented an SCS 375th anniversary pin to Captain Carsten Hedlund, commander of the tall ship, who admired the image of the *Kalmar Nyckel* and expressed an interest in sailing the *Götheborg* to America. This fine ship was built in Gothenburg in 2004, and is fully seaworthy, having navigated to Guangzhou and Shanghai, China, and then returning to Gothenburg, its home port.

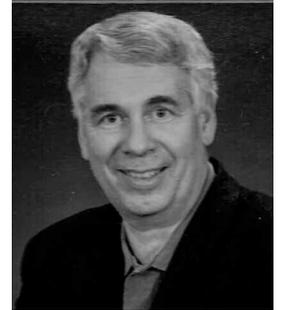
Friday featured a visit to the Rottneros Estate with its sculpture garden of Carl Milles and Christian Ericsson works. Tea at the manor house was followed at the Västana Teater by the musical *Lomjansgutten*, about the Finnish minority in Värmland. Folk music and dancing abounded, but the Finnish dialect confounded most of the Swedish audience.

Saturday saw lunch in Långban at the former home of John Ericsson, Swedish-American inventor of the propeller and the U.S. ironclad ship *Monitor*. Included were nyckelharpa (key fiddle) selections and a sing-along of *Värmelandvisan* with the chef. In the afternoon, the mayor of Filipstad and representatives of the U.S. Embassy and the Vasa Order honored John Ericsson at his tomb. Then Emily and an army captain placed a wreath on the tomb and Emily sang a Swedish folksong and her own song *All That We Are* from her new CD, available at ivavoice.com. The tomb has a propeller on the front and an eagle at its peak.

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**John B. Tepe, Jr., Esq. serves as The Swedish Colonial Society's Deputy Governor – Membership. As such he corresponds with members by maintaining up-to-date membership records and he answers many of their questions. He has long been interested in rare books and archives, having served as President of the University of Delaware Library Associates and as a member of the Friends of the Princeton University Library. In addition to his membership duties, he has been helping load genealogical data into our research computer at the SCS Archives. He is also a member of The Mayflower Society, the Society of Colonial Wars and the Delaware Historical Society. John is a retired attorney, and is one of our Forefather Members as an 11th generation descendent of Peter Larsson Cock.**

**John is the main point of contact regarding our efforts to make the Craig Collection of genealogical materials available electronically (see page 13).**



Emily performing on the wharf in Karlstad shows her location across from the East India tall ship *Götheborg*.

Later Mayor Per-Inge Liden and the City of Karlstad hosted a gala American Evening at the Sweden America Center. First, Emily performed in the garden, accompanied by the nyckelharpa. Champagne flowed. After dinner, Ulf Bergman of the Fulbright Scholarship Program spoke of the value of cultural exchanges to and from Sweden by Fulbright Scholars such as Emily. John Tepe, Deputy Governor of the SCS, then spoke of the Swedish-American heritage in the Delaware Valley, passed out various brochures, and presented the Migration Center and the Vasa Order with copies of the SCS's colorful photo book *New Sweden on the Delaware*. After receiving her medal, certificate, and crystal candlesticks from Vasa officers Connie Grön, Karl-Axel Bengtsson, Catherine Nilsson, and Charlotte Börjesson, Emily finished with a salute to Swedish culture and values, and presented SCS 375th anniversary of New Sweden pins to the mayor, to her dinner partner the governor of Värmland Kenneth Johansson, and to Erik and Connie who were her "roadies" (road crew) during the week.

Emily encourages you to visit Värmland as she did. It has a long relationship with New Sweden that we in The SCS should perpetuate. For example, the Migration Center offered to help Emily find her Swedish 12th cousins. The journey continues...

To see a video about Emily's visit, see <https://vimeo.com/134615118>

And to order Emily's new IVA album "Leap" please visit [www.ivavoice.com](http://www.ivavoice.com).



## ENDNOTES

Listed below are the New Sweden colonists known to have come from Värmland. Unless otherwise credited, the information is abstracted from Peter Stebbins Craig's *The 1693 Census of the Swedes on the Delaware*:

Emily's ancestor, **Eric Petersson Cock**, was married to Elizabeth, daughter of **Olof Philipsson**, a Finn from Letstigen in Värmland, who had arrived in New Sweden with his wife and five children on the *Mercurius* in 1656. The parents of Eric's wife are identified by the lawsuit in the New Castle court on 23 Oct. 1677 by Eric Cock and Eric Poulson [Mullica], acting for their "brother" Nils Olsson, deceased. See *Records of the Court of New Castle on Delaware*, vol. 1, 1676-1681, p. 137. Both were brothers-in-law of Nils Olsson as shown by Eric Mulica's passport of c. 1684 which identifies his wife as "Ingeri Philips" from Värmland who arrived on the Delaware River on the *Mercurius*. See *Peter Kalm, Travels in North America*, translated by Adolph B. Benson, p. 715, and see also Pehr Kalm, *Resa till Norra Amerika, Tilläggsband*, edited by Elfving, p. 185. **Olof Philipsson**, who, with his wife and five children (including daughter Ingeri born c. 1646) were passengers on the *Mercurius* in 1655-56. See Amandus Johnson, *Settlements on the Delaware*, Vol. 2, p. 725. They were described as being from *Letstigen*, the name of an old road in Närke and Värmland leading from Örebro to Kristinehamn via Kvisbro, Svarta, Nysund (where it crosses the Let River) and Visnum. See C.M. Rosenberg, *Geografiskt Handlexikon över Sverige*, 2:29.

The brothers Peter and Michael Nilsson arrived before 1671. They were born in Sweden, possibly in Lyckan, Gunnarskog Parish, Värmland. *Liken*, meaning "a clearing in the woods" or "a glen" was also a common suffix in other Swedish place-names in Värmland and elsewhere.

Marten Martensson, Sr., had arrived in New Sweden from Värmland on the *Eagle* in 1654.

Olof Nilsson from Letstigen, Värmland, arrived in New Sweden on the *Mercurius* in 1656, accompanied by his wife.

Anders and Bengt Jonsson, Finns from Salungen, Mangskog parish, in the Josse Hundred of Värmland, arrived in New Sweden as young freemen on the *Eagle* in 1654 and first settled in the area between Fort Christina (Wilmington) and Fort Trinity (New Castle) later know as Crane Hook, but identified as "Salungen".

Jöns Jönsson, a Finn from Letstigen, Värmland, was listed in October 1655 as about to go to New Sweden on the *Mercurius* with his wife and six children.

Måns Jönsson Halton, born in Sweden, probably was the son of Jöns Jönsson.

Johan Grelsson, also known as John Cornelis, was a Finn from Fryksdalen (valley of the Fryken lakes), Värmland, who arrived in New Sweden with his wife Helena and three children on the *Mercurius* in 1656.

Carl Jönsson, a Finn from Letstigen, arrived in New Sweden on the *Mercurius* in 1656 accompanied by his wife, a maid-servant, and three children.

Samuel Petersson, a Finn from Fryksände parish, Värmland, arrived on the *Eagle* in 1654.

Another Samuel Petersson, a freeman, arrived from Bogen, Gunnarskog parish, Värmland Province.

Thomas Jacobsson, a Finn from Letstigen, came to the Delaware on the *Mercurius* in 1656 with his wife, a maid-servant, and three children.

Jöran Jöransson Båtsman, Sr., was described as a servant from Fryksdalen, Värmland, on the 1655 passenger list of the *Mercurius*.

Matthias Ericsson Hammalin, a Finnish servant from Fryksdalen, Värmland, was a passenger on the *Mercurius* in 1656.

Matts Mattsson from Fryksdalen in Värmland arrived on the *Mercurius* in 1656 with his wife and family.

Nils Nilsson was from Fryksdalen also arrived in 1656 on the *Mercurius* with his wife and four children.

Olle Olleson Kuckow (perhaps from *kook*, the Finnish word for cock or rooster) was a Finnish servant from Fryksdalen, born in Sweden and arriving in America in 1656

The *Mercurius*, carrying then former New Sweden officers and servants, two Swedish wives, two Swedish maidens, and 92 Finnish men, women, and children from the province of Värmland had left Gothenburg on 25 November 1655 and arrived on the Delaware River on 14 March 1656.

Note: The above information from Craig's *The 1693 Census* has been shared with the Swedish Migration Center in Karlstad.

## THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL NEW SWEDEN HISTORY CONFERENCE

*Power & Politics in New Sweden, 1638–1655*

This year's New Sweden History Conference was held Saturday, November 14, 2015 at the Lazaretto Ballroom in Essington, PA. The day-long forum investigated the political powers involved in the New Sweden Colony. It explored the mechanisms by which New Sweden's governors maintained and exercised influence in their enduring struggle for control of the Delaware Valley and its access to the riches of North America. Speakers analyzed the governing styles and effectiveness of political figures such as Peter Minuit, Peter Hollander Ridder, Johan Printz, Peter Stuyvesant, and the influence the Lenape had on political decisions.

**MAGDALENA NAUM, Conference Moderator**

Magdalena Naum is a researcher at the Faculty of Humanities at Oulu University in Finland and holds a PhD in historical archaeology. Her research focuses on the colony of New Sweden and the Swedish community in colonial Pennsylvania and Delaware as well as early modern Swedish exploration and exploitation of Lapland (Sapmi). She is an editor of *Scandinavian Colonialism and The Rise of Modernity*, and *Encountering the Other: Ethnic Diversity, Culture and Travel in Early Modern Sweden*. She is also cofounder of GlobArch (globarch.org) an international network concerned with studies of Scandinavian colonialism.

**MARK L. THOMPSON, Keynote Speaker****"The Governors and the Governed:****Negotiating Authority in 17th Century America"**

This year's keynote speaker has been a member of the American Studies Department at University of Groningen, The Netherlands, since 2010. His recently published book *The Contest for the Delaware Valley: Allegiance, Identity, and Empire in the Seventeenth Century* received the Pennsylvania Historical Association's Philip B. Klein Book Prize on Pennsylvania history. Professor Thompson also authored the study on *The Limits of New Netherland: The Dutch in the Seventeenth-Century Delaware Valley*.

**TYTTI HALONEN****"Governor Peter Ridder from Finland: From Military Fort to a Colony"**

Tytti Halonen graduated from Tampere University and received a Masters of Arts from Helsinki University. She has studied Latin and transcribed Old Swedish manuscripts at Helsinki University. For her biographical research of Peter Ridder, Halonen made research trips to Stockholm, Netherlands, Delaware Valley, and Viipuri/Viborg, former Finland now Russia.

**HANS NORMAN****"The Life of Governor Johan Risingh: Success, Misfortunes, Rehabilitation"**

Hans Norman is a Professor Emeritus of history at the University of Uppsala, Sweden. Professor Norman's research and writings have focused on the study of Swedish emigration in the 19th century and the history of Sweden's Age of Greatness. Among his many publications is *The Rise and Fall of New Sweden, Governor Johan Risingh's Journal 1654-1655 in its Historical Context* which includes his essay *The Swedish Colonial Venture in North America, 1638-1655*.

**KIM-ERIC WILLIAMS****"Governor Printz, Tyrant or Tactician"**

Kim-Eric Williams has had a long and varied career in the Lutheran ministry. Dr. Williams has served the Swedish Colonial Society as governor, archivist, historian, and editor of the *Swedish Colonial News*. He is one of the leading American experts in deciphering and translating 17th and 18th century Swedish script into modern English. He has published four books and more than forty articles about early American history, focusing on the history of New Sweden and the 18th century Church of Sweden's mission in the Delaware Valley.

**JEAN SODERLUND****"Swedes and Finns in Lenape Country, 1638-1664"**

Jean R. Soderlund is Professor of History Emerita at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Most recently she has written *Lenape Country: Delaware Valley Society Before William Penn*, published by the University of Pennsylvania Press. She is also the author of *Quakers and Slavery: A Divided Spirit*, for which she received the Alfred E. Driscoll Publication Prize from the New Jersey Historical Commission, and co-authored *Freedom By Degrees: Emancipation in Pennsylvania and Its Aftermath*.

**CONFERENCE PARTNERS**

- American Swedish Historical Museum
- The Swedish Colonial Society
- Delaware Swedish Colonial Society
- Kalmar Nyckel Foundation
- Old Swedes Historic Site
- The McNeil Center for Early American Studies
- The New Sweden Centre
- Trinity Episcopal (Old Swedes) Church, Swedesboro, NJ.

Dear reader,

A few things I'd like to bring to your attention about Past, Present, and Future issues of the *SCS Journal*.

First, regarding the last issue, the Spring issue 2015 (vol. 5, no. 4), it needs to be pointed out that *The Protest Against Governor Printz* article is not the first time the 3 documents have appeared in print. Thanks go to Herb Rambo who pointed out that a version of the The Complaint, The Response, and The Settlers' Explanation appeared in Peter Craig's *Colonial Records of the Swedish Churches in Pennsylvania, Volume 1*, on pages 11, 13, and 19 respectively. To my eye the two versions are slightly different, so I would postulate that the *Colonial Records* version is Amandus Johnson's translation into English from his own transcription in Swedish from the original documents in the Swedish archives, while the basis for the *SCS Journal* version, transcribed and translated by Hans Ling and Kim-Eric Williams, is based on that direct Swedish transcription by Amandus. Both the Swedish and English versions are located at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

I am chagrined that I did not list Christina Lassen as a contributor in the last issue in spite of her detailed article about Swedish Ambassador Lyrvall's visit to the Delaware Valley on page 18. Thanks again, Tina!

The present issue, I think you will find, continues to have a broad range of articles and topics, from the mustering of the New Sweden militia (the beginning of the Delaware National Guard in 1655), on the front page, through presentation to you of information about a Swedish oil painting now gracing the library of the Archives at the Lutheran Seminary, page 20. If you haven't already noticed, there is an uncanny focus on old and new Finnish/Swedish log cabins, including at right. Enjoy the whole issue!

The next issue, Spring 2016, is already shaping up to be interesting and back to the 24-page format and will include articles on Swedish and Swedish-American statuary in Philadelphia and beyond, The First State First National Park, the first installment of speeches delivered at the 15th annual New Sweden History Conference titled *Power & Politics*, a humorous take on New Sweden, a look at Lykins family history, and an up-date on the New Sweden Company's progress in their homestead log cabin relocation. And, importantly, Volume 6, the Wrangel Years, of the *Colonial Records of the Swedish Churches in Pennsylvania*, now in press, will be introduced. There may well also be news about the internet access to the Family Group Sheets of the Craig Collection.

In this space I would like to thank all the authors and contributors for their efforts and also the proofreaders, and thank them all for their patience and persistence, the members of the Council for their ongoing encouragement, and special kudos to our Graphic Designer Gene Gilroy who is delightful to work with and who is a font of creativity, know-how, and organization!

Thanks and *Tack så mycket* to everyone.

**Edward R. Root, MD**

Editor, *Journal of The Swedish Colonial Society*

## *The New Sweden Company Cabin Transport Project Off to a Good Start*

The New Sweden Company project to transfer Homestead cabins from Bridgeton to Wilmington began on November 18 with the successful transport (in disassembled state, of course) of the Forge cabin to its new location on the grounds of the Kalmar Nyckel Foundation. Please see the Governor's letter on page 2 for further details.

The transport was achieved by Jeff Emmons, Bill Boston, and John Copeland (Kalmar Nyckel volunteers) and Wil Ott. Also necessary to the endeavor were Erik Burro with his roll back truck, Ned Hartman with his truck, and Andrew McKnight who provided the use of the Challenge Program Trailer.

Two views of the forge before it was dismantled



Forge logs shielded from the elements after transport from Bridgeton to Kalmar Nyckel Foundation grounds in Wilmington.

Photos by Jeff Emmons and Bill Boston.

# NEW MEMBERSHIP

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Anita M. Sinclair, Williamstown NJ  
Evan Soileau, Redington Beach FL  
Linda Soileau, Redington Beach FL  
Janvier E. Walker, Wyndmoor PA

## NEW FOREFATHER MEMBER

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.net](http://www.ColonialSwedes.net). Also on the website is a complete listing of active SCS members and their respective forefathers.

### Donna Crisp based on descent from

Anders Larsson Dalbo and his wife Elizabeth (unk), then through their son Olof (William) Dalbo and his wife Catherine (Carin) Nilsdotter Friend. The line continues through grandson Anders Dalbo and his wife Magdalene (unk) of Penn's Neck NJ.

## TIMBER APPEAL

Please, do YOU know of any colonial-era timbers or logs (even submerged!) in South Jersey or Delaware? The Swedish Granary is looking for Atlantic White Cedar for their tree ring dating project. See the article in this issue (page 11) and contact Joe Mathews [jpmathews1@aol.com](mailto:jpmathews1@aol.com).



*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 19147-4332 or visit us online  
at: [www.ColonialSwedes.net](http://www.ColonialSwedes.net).**

**The annual membership fee for  
an individual is \$45. An annual  
family membership, which  
includes two adults and minor  
children, is \$52.50.**

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## THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY JOURNAL

**Journal Editor:** Edward R. Root, M.D.

*Articles or letters to the editor may be sent to  
[goteborg13@yahoo.com](mailto:goteborg13@yahoo.com) or call 732.276.5470.*

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Leif Lundquist, Webmaster

**Contributors** (\*author), photos as credited:

Ron Beatty, Peg Berich, Magnus Bäckmark\*, Jill D'Andrea,  
Michael D'Andrea\*, Cynthia Forde-Beatty, Aleasa Hogate\*,  
Leif Lundquist\*, Joseph Mathews\*, Ken Peterson,  
Herb Rambo, Ellen Rye, John Tepe, Jr.\*, Bev Walker,  
Kim-Eric Williams.

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## THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY JOURNAL

The Swedish Colonial Society  
916 South Swanson Street  
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### UPCOMING EVENT

**The 2016 Forefathers Luncheon and Landing Day Celebration** is coming up in April. The exact date is not yet set. The event will take place in Delaware. As usual this is a joint event with The Delaware Swedish Colonial Society. Landing Day commemorates the day the Swedes took possession of The Rocks site, 29 March 1638 (O.S.)/8 April 1638 (New Style), to build Ft. Christina.



### *Swedish Landscape Painter Olof Arborelius' Large Oil Donated to the Swedish Colonial Society*

The Swedish Colonial Society Historian Kim-Eric Williams visited the former home of Theodore Jacobson in Mt. Airy to receive a forest scene oil painting, pictured here, by Olof Arborelius. Theodore's daughter Mrs. Sandra McConnell of New York thought the SCS would be interested in this since her mother was a longtime member of The Society. Mr. Jacobsson had received the work in February 1935 as a gift from SKF in Sweden in recognition of his work representing the firm in Philadelphia. The painting now hangs in the Peterson Library at the Lutheran Archives Center in Mt. Airy. It is signed *Arborelius* half way up on the right side among some trees. The painting is dominated by the greenery of the forest and accented by a woman bathing and 2 cows grazing. (Can you spot both of the latter?)

Olof Per Ulrik Arborelius was born in Orsa, Dalarna, Sweden, in 1842, and died at age 72 in Stockholm in 1915. He was known primarily as a painter of landscapes and country folk life. He studied at the Stockholm Royal Art Academy (Konstakademien). In his 20's he became part of the Düsseldorf school (Wikipedia: "finely detailed yet still fanciful landscapes"). He spent 3 years (1868-1871) on a stipend from the Academy, including the final year in Rome studying 'plein air' (open air) technique. About age 30, he married his cousin Hedvig Maria Arborelius. He did not become an impressionist and, in his 60's (1902-1909), he became a professor at his alma mater.

One of his best known works is the 1893 *Lakeview of Engelsberg, Västmanland*. He was quite prolific so many of his paintings can be seen on the internet.

On another note, in 1859 when he was 16 years old, he gathered together 22 postage stamps into a small album, the earliest still-intact collection in the world, now at the Postmuseum in Stockholm.

