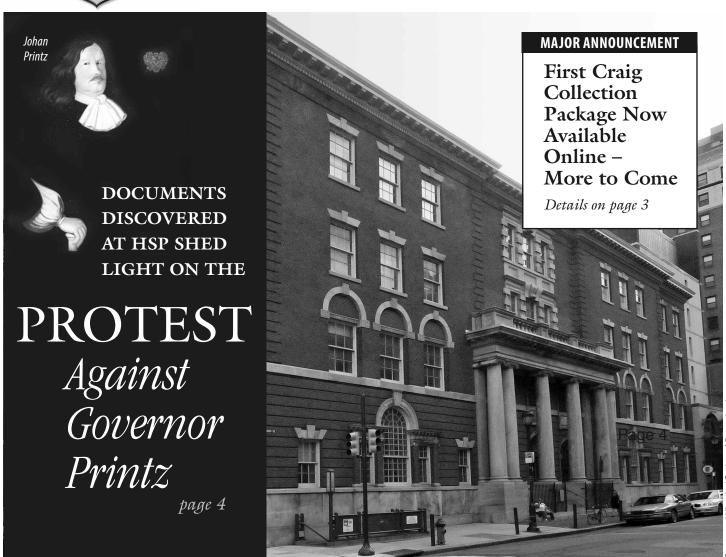


THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY JOURNAL

PRESERVING THE LEGACY OF THE NEW SWEDEN COLONY IN AMERICA



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THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

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

Our Purposes are:

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THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

916 SOUTH SWANSON STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19147

To The SCS Membership and Friends of the New Sweden Colony,

As Governor, I encourage you to visit the SCS Website at: www.colonialswedes.net, where you will delight in the new look of the Governor Johan Printz (ruled New Sweden 1643 -1653) granite monolith. The photographs were taken before, during, and after restoration. I call this restoration a rebirth or renaissance. This monolith was erected by the Swedish Colonial Society in 1923. We own it!



Our next scheduled project is the restoration of the John Morton cemetery monolith located at the

Old Swedes or Chester Burial Ground, 301 E 9th St, Chester, PA 19013, right beside Rte. 291. John Morton was the only signer of the Declaration of Independence of Scandinavian descent. The cost of this restoration is \$6,000. The SCS has allocated \$1,000 and we recently received a generous donation of \$1,000. Please donate what you can; any amount is appreciated. Your contribution will help preserve this sacred monolith. Make your tax deductible donation check to The Swedish Colonial Society and mail it to Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church, 916 South Swanson St., Philadelphia PA 19147-4332. Our goal is to complete this restoration project by September this year. The SCS plans to have a festive commemorative ceremony at graveside in celebration. With your contribution we can do it! This is a golden opportunity for you to be part of our country's history and to enhance your heritage.

I am also pleased to announce that a major milestone has been reached by The Swedish Colonial Society: The first package (the Mounce Rambo branch of the Peter Gunnarsson Rambo family) of family group sheets from the Peter Stebbins Craig Collection of New Sweden Genealogy is now available for the first time online at http://craigcollection.colonialswedes.net

In addition, you are welcome to check out our updated and active Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/SwedishColonialSociety.

You will see that this issue of our publication has a new name, *The Swedish Colonial Society Journal*, in keeping with recent inclusion of many diverse subjects and activities involving the New Sweden Colony, then and now.

Very best regards,

Michael R. D'Andrea

Governor, The Swedish Colonial Society

Michael (En) andrea

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 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.

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.

MONOLITH AT MORTON GRAVESITE IN CHESTER PA



The entire monolith, which has inscriptions on all 4 sides, needs restoration by a conservation specialist similar to that performed on the Printz monolith at the Corinthian Yacht Club (SC News, vol. 5, no. 3, p. 12).



The PROTEST

Against Governor Printz

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Hans Ling is a resident of Uppsala, Sweden, where he lives with his wife Meta and is conveniently near the Uppsala University Library. He is a lifetime member of SCS and a descendant of Pastor Erik Björk and his wife Christina Stalkop. He is the author of The Faces of New Sweden, Erik Björk, Christina Stalcop and America's First Portrait Painter, published by SCS in 2004.

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

In February 1643, Johan Björnsson Printz and his wife and five children arrived at Ft. Christina in what today is Wilmington, Delaware. He was to be the third leader of the New Sweden colony along the Delaware River which had been founded in 1638. He had agreed to a three-year term but ended up staying ten years. Few people in Sweden had realized any supposed potential from their colony and its financial return from trade with the Indians had been disappointing. Their other trading post on the African Gold Coast (Ghana) seemed to hold more promise. In addition, under Queen Christina all attention was focused on ending the Thirty Years' War and protecting their German possessions. When she abdicated and Carl X Gustavus took over in 1654 there were new wars with both Denmark and Poland.

The political and military upheavals in Sweden meant that New Sweden was neglected. However, Governor Printz ably organized the colony. He built Fort Elfsborg on the New Jersey side of the Delaware to control access to that river, and moved the capital up the river to Tinicum Island in present Pennsylvania where his fort was called New Gothenburg. Here he was in firm control of the River and was centrally located. He soon made friends with the Indians who had never encountered a person weighing 400 pounds and standing over six feet tall. He had boats built and he staked out new areas for settlement. He established a mill on Cobbs Creek and built a church on Tinicum next to his executive mansion, the Printzhof.

Yet most of his letters and reports were not answered and with few inhabitants, plus few trade goods, and no people or news from Europe, the colony was in trouble. Two recent expeditions had been lost: the Cat foundered off Puerto Rico and the Golden Shark had been deliberately steered off course to New Amsterdam by a deceitful Dutch Captain. The Dutch had long resented the intrusion of the Swedes on their southern borders, and one day in 1651 Governor Peter Stuyvesant sailed from New Amsterdam and established a fort on Swedish territory, knowing that Printz could not stop him. The choice of location at what is now New Castle, Delaware, was brilliant. This Ft. Casimir made Ft. Elfsborg redundant and could control access to the Christina River with its original settlement, Ft. Christina. Although the new Dutch fort was

only lightly garrisoned this intrusion was meant to show Printz who was in control. If this were not enough, Printz was beginning to feel sick and depressed and had sent his son back to Sweden to personally report on the now-desperate situation. Some of the colonists had already deserted to Maryland and Virginia, and others resented what they considered to be Printz' arbitrary decisions.

At this time a popular protest broke out against Printz. On 27 July 1653 a group of disgruntled settlers presented him with a written document outlining their grievances and personal accusations. It was signed by 22 freemen who represented some of the most trustworthy families in the colony. It was likely written out by local Lutheran pastor Lars Lock who had a reputation for independent thinking. The everyday language of the document is mixed with bureaucratic phrases that would have a governmental resonance.

We have not had access to the original documents, which are thought to be somewhere in Sweden. So far the originals Amandus Johnson copied from have not been located in the National Archives (Riksarkivet) in Stockholm or elsewhere. However, Kim-Eric Williams wondered if, among Amandus Johnson's papers housed at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, copies might exist. Indeed Kim-Eric found there what appears to be Amandus Johnson's handwritten copy from the originals of three related documents: the Protest document as well as Printz' *Answer* and a longer *Explanation* by the settlers that was given to Governor Risingh when he arrived in 1654 as a justification for the original protest. These three documents have never before been translated into English and their appearance here represents their first time in print. Unfortunately Amandus Johnson seemed unable to decipher certain words, or the original document was so badly damaged that certain sections are missing. The condition of the original documents is no doubt the reason why he did not translate them into his monumental work about New Sweden but only gave a summary and a list of the signers. (1) Yet a sufficient number of words are legible and they have recently been transcribed into more modern Swedish by Hans Ling to assist Kim-Eric Williams with the translation into English. Hans Ling also has clarified many difficult passages when dealing with archaic and missing words.

THE COMPLAINT OR PROTEST

Noble and [Highly-born]...
Johan Hein...and Council
Favorable Defender, Propitious Promoter
Your most Humble and
Good-willed servants
For as long as we live

- 1. The noble and highly-born Lord, Sir Governor is hereby most humbly reminded about the conditions under which we live, that we are at no hour or moment secure as to our lives and welfare.
- 2. Sir Governor has strictly forbidden us with fines and on pain of death to trade with both the heathens (Indians) and Christians, though the highly-born Governor has done this diligently for himself in all places.
- 3. Sir Governor has forbidden us to fish in the waters, to use the trees, the rye, and the grass on the ground, and to get land from which we could obtain a livelihood.
- 4. We have built a mill with the help of the Company and maintained it for our use by paying a reasonable fee yet [have been forbidden to use it]⁽²⁾
- 5. Sir Governor has threatened us and said that he [could really do things] to make us weep. An example before our eyes is that of Anders the Finn and the other Finns in Finland⁽³⁾ and their wives who have lost their minds and been driven from their homes without legal judgment and must now beg for bread with their small children. We don't know why the Governor has done this.
- 6. Sir Governor says that everything that we own belongs to him, since some among us have debts that we cannot repay.
- 7. Sir Governor says that on behalf of Her Royal Majesty and the worthy Company we... [could regain our freedom by work and slave labor after careful investigation].⁽⁴⁾
- 8. ...[Sir Governor has not upheld Law and Justice]. (4)
- 9. For these and other difficulties we are exceedingly forced to send two men to Her Royal Majesty and the Highly-honored Company in the fatherland to know if we are quite cut off, and if we can cultivate the earth or where we shall go since we have no place on land or water where we can obtain a livelihood.
- 10. Our final request and united obliging petition is that Sir Governor would allow Anders the Finn to keep the forest which Sir Governor has judged [confiscated) until further information [is secured] so that his wife and children will not die of hunger.
- 11. Upon these written issues, we humbly request Sir Governor to give a favorable resolution.⁽⁵⁾

Mats Hansso(e)n Peter Jochim Olof Stille **Anders Andersson** Axel Stille Mats Hansson Johan Hwilar [Wheeler] Per Rambo Hindrick Matsson Peter Kock Ivar Hindrickson Sven Gunnarson Måns Andersson Anders Hansson Olof Ericksson Mårten Mårtenson Hindrick Matsson, the Finn Klas Johansson Johan Fijsk [Fisk] Valerius Loo Hans Månsson Lars Thomesson Bross Note on brackets use:

- () indicates alternate word, spelling, or meaning.
- [] indicates interpolated or probable words inserted into gap in copied text.

HISTORIC DOCUMENTS

It did not take Johan Printz long to respond. Five days later, on August 1, Anders Jönsson was executed by firing squad after a trial and judgment was given at the Printzhof. Jönsson seemed to be the ringleader and had been in New Sweden since 1643 serving as a soldier. Printz knew that Lars Lock was involved but did not prosecute him, probably because of his office as pastor. The Governor then composed an *Answer* which was presented to the freemen on August 5:

THE RESPONSE

To the named Rebels to calm their [protest] is given an Answer which reads as follows:

Answer to a Petition which was addressed the 27 July 1653

- No one can cure the insecurity from the wild ones (Indians). It had been wished for before this former disturbance and the [actions of the] traitor Anders Jonsson.
- 2. Trade in furs with the wild ones (Indians) is forbidden but with freemen and strangers, not now or before was it ever forbidden.
- 3. [To use] land, to plow and plant or to use the forests has never been forbidden, except for two islands which are reserved for the plantation of the Executive Mansion (Residence). And this has been so, for well over ten years since Kingsessing⁽⁶⁾ was colonized.
- 4. They are free to use the mill for a fee. But only at certain times since the Miller dares not be there continually on account of the wild ones (Indians) Yet for two years they have ground and not paid [any fee] at all.
- 5. Legal judgment has been rendered over Anders the Finn. But as for Lasse the Finn and Karin the Finn, they have been separated from us because of witchcraft and other disturbances. However, better Land and opportunities have been given to them than what they had before this, in spite of the fact that their debts are three times as great as their plantation is worth.
- 6. I would gladly consider that some volunteer to pay their debts, but would rather prolong the debts.
- 7. If some work, even as slaves, more than has been agreed, after investigation, [the debts could be] reduced and their freedom extended.
- 8. One cannot see or find in the judgments rendered that Law and Justice have been turned into injustice. Proof is necessary.
- 9. We gladly approve of sending two men to Sweden. The sooner the better.

Dated, New Gothenburg (Nya Göteborg), the 3 August, Year 1653

It was then clear that Printz and his family had to return to Sweden which they did, probably in October, as soon as they could book passage on a Dutch ship. Printz meant to lay before the New Sweden Company and the Governing Council the gravity of the situation. His journey was long and it was spring before he arrived in Stockholm. But the Council had already selected Johan Risingh as his assistant and was busy outfitting two ships to assist the colony. With this personal testimony and new instructions, Risingh was made Governor and left Gothenburg on the Eagle in February 1654. It was the largest expedition ever launched with more than 300 passengers of whom 100 died of illness during the journey. They finally landed at Ft. Christina in May and the decimated colony of about 70 people was suddenly increased by 200 newcomers. Some soldiers had returned with Printz to Sweden while others had left for Maryland or New Amsterdam. Risingh had captured the lightlydefended Ft. Casimir on his way up the Delaware so he now had additional Dutch settlers to count. Overnight the colony had more than tripled in size to about 370⁽⁷⁾ and Risingh lost no time in parceling out land and gaining the confidence of the freemen.

But Risingh had to address the protest, or as Printz had called it the "mutiny." On June 4 he gathered the freemen at the church at Tinicum and, after the liturgy, addressed them, assuring them of their rights and that more help was on the way.⁽⁸⁾

At the time he did not know that the second ship in his expedition, the *Golden Shark*, would never arrive, having been commandeered in New Amsterdam by Governor Stuyvesant. Some days later on a proclaimed Day of Fasting⁽⁹⁾ the colonists gathered again at Tinicum and explained their opposition to Printz. Risingh wanted to reestablish good relations between the people and the government but he did not want to encourage any other rebellions. Later, he did prosecute and fine Olof Stille and, after threatening to send Pastor Lars Lock home on the *Eagle*, relented because of his poor health.

We know something about what the freemen felt at this time because of this document called the *Explanation* where, in 10 articles, the freemen discuss in greater detail their difficulties with Printz. The date is July 7, 1654, and is signed by six freemen, three of whom had signed the original *Protest*.

THE EXPLANATION

- 1. We have been ...[deserted by our own government] so that we are [not secure] from the wild ones (Indians) and now by our own authorities we must work for the Governor and our poor wives are endangered and we don't know if we shall continue to see them alive.
- 2. The Governor had maintained trade with all places, and for many years with the Minquas (Indians). (10) The Governor's goods are taken by the Company's employees to the Fort of the Minquas and other places. We and the wild ones traveled to display and sell the [Company's goods] and we got high prices for them but the Company's people were not allowed to receive anything, even when they carried goods to the Hornkijl. (11) on the Company's yacht and to some other places, while the wild ones got good payment, but in the town (Christinehamn) (12) we poor subjects must work on the Governor's estates, fields and pastures in many places.

Since the Governor has acted in this way without permission, we cannot otherwise understand than that this has happened contrary to the will of Merchant Boijen and Her Royal Majesty and the Highly-Honored Company. [We cannot understand] that the Governor with his goods can freely trade, but that we poor subjects are forbidden to trade for the bare necessities of life.

The Governor has forbidden us to sell even a bushel of flour to the Dutch freemen here with threats of punishment. But when the Dutch were in greatest need, the Governor himself has assisted them with all kinds of provisions: flour, beer, pork and other things.

Also when he left us, he took the best things from the land to a large trading post at Manates⁽¹³⁾ and sold wheat, rye, and salt and other things for a great loss to the country. The Governor has without permission sent silver and other furs by ship to Holland besides yearly negotiating for gold and money with the devilish New Englanders.

- 3. The Governor has forbidden us to fish where we are used to, fishing in the waters at Mucker Huffingh⁽¹⁴⁾ and Qugreckyl⁽¹⁵⁾ where we have our fishing equipment and also at Uplandskyl.⁽¹⁶⁾
- 4. The black nut trees (walnut) which we never take here [for wood] ... [and which grow] on an island nearby,⁽¹⁷⁾ ...within gunshot, or... the many other trees which grow on the same island, we have been forbidden to cut and sell to the Hollanders. Such a thing, in truth, could never have been proved. He has taken away [the use of] the mill so that we must grind with hand mills at home.
- 5 ...He wants to treat us so that our wives weep and our heads shall become bald. Thus it has been with Lars the Finn and his Widow Karin the Finn. Without lawful judgment he drove Lars the Finn out of house and home, whereby his deserted wife and small children are now undergoing the greatest suffering.

The Governor first poorly treated her with kicking, blows, and cuts, and then let her be taken away from her house and property in chains to Elfsborg. She had to remain there for two months, not only plagued by the chains, but by the great hunger from which she and her children suffered. He took away the little grain she had cut with her own arms when he drove her from her home. When she had suffered from constraint and misery at

continued on next page

HISTORIC DOCUMENTS

THE EXPLANATION continued form previous page

Elfsborg, she worked off the chains from one foot so that she could find grain and other things to preserve her life and the lives of her small children. When the Governor heard that she had worked one foot loose, he had her taken to Ft. Christina for a month. He then let her be taken again with chains to Elfsborg and she was there for a whole year in irons. When she returned here again she had lost her mind and could not be with other people. She lay in the forest and in the snow and other disgusting conditions, and died away from this world. All of this was for the purpose of the Governor taking their home and property. This happened and he named it for himself, "Printz Torp."

- 6. The Governor has not only commandeered our oxen without any agreement when we had work to do, but told us that the oxen belonged to him, although we had certainly paid a lot for them. The Governor's men came at harvest time and told us they wanted our sleds. Then we said that we need the sleds ourselves. The sleds were taken, used, and driven into the creek. Thus our grain was left out in the rain and damp.
- 7. The people had to go to (Ft.) Christina and there build a warehouse three stories high. This took seven weeks. Then we erected another building with four stories and floors that took six weeks. We also built a barn in two days. At Tenakom (Tinicum) twelve men have worked four at a time for eight days to build a large structure. We even helped with a "badstuga" (sauna) and worked on all buildings on the estate, both with building and with masonry. In addition we had annual work on the grain fields and meadows and the care of the Highly-honorable Company's and Governor's cattle. We were so strictly regulated that we had to neglect and give up on our own [work], until his harvest was complete and we did much other work which is not described.
- 8. Thus we have been treated more contrary to the law than according to the law. For example, Clemet the Finn had a hand-mill together with Anders, Johan, and Måns the Finn. [Later] Clemet bought the mill from the other Finns, and when he then got the mill, he took it home. He immediately made this known to the Governor. Afterward when Clemet came to church (at Tinicum) on the General Prayer Day(18) the Governor called him up before the Sermon and asked him why he had taken the mill? Clemet answered, "The mill is mine." Then the Governor said, "You rascal (skälm). Shall you take the mill without asking me?" With this he seized Clemet, beat him first inside and followed him [outside] with blows and cuts until he fell down and even further he struck him when he was on the ground, so that he lost his health. Later he threw (imprisoned) him into the church. The next day he was taken to Ft. Christina where he languished in prison for eight days. When he had somewhat recovered, he took him out and let him do work for some weeks. (19)

In addition, Per Gunnarsson was called into Court and when he came, the Governor asked him how much rye he had sold to the Dutch? He replied not one grain of it.....[Having been judged guilty and threatened with the loss of house and home] he proposed to pay a fine and cut down [and prepare] 100 planks [as restitution]. The Governor gave him permission and when they had negotiated for 112 guilders and the planks were finished, his people would pick them up and transport them to his estate, Printz Torp. (20)

In addition, ...Knut Pärsson⁽²¹⁾ came to Pär Kåck⁽²²⁾ and, presenting a rifle, asked him if he could sell it. Pär Kåck refused and did not dare. Then the clerk said that since the Governor sells so many, "Why can't I dare to sell mine?" Then the rifle was stolen by the wild ones (Indians). Soon afterward the clerk died, and the Governor sought the rifle. Pär Kåck answered that the rifle had been stolen from him. So he bought another rifle and presented it to the Governor. The Governor took this rifle and said, "If you cannot give me the same rifle again you should go and shoot [whoever has it]". Then Pär Kåck discovered who had stolen the clerk's rifle and bought it again from the wild ones (Indians). He then presented it to the Governor and was called into Court. When he came to the Court, the Governor pondered over what punishment he should get? "The Court had not seen anything so that I will do what I want. He will work for the Company for three months at his own expense." The Governor retained both rifles and then sold them to the wild ones (Indians).

Master Johan Campanius⁽²³⁾ sold a bullock calf to Olof Stille which he fully paid for. He gave him a written receipt. But when Master Johan was away on a ship, the Governor immediately took the bullock calf away from him.

- 9. Concerning the rye of Andhers (Anders) the Finn, (24) we have seen his great poverty and have gone to the Watchman (Commissary) Gregorius von Dick (Dyck) and asked him to go to the Governor and intercede with him for mercy for Andhers the Finn so that he is not altogether impoverished. This the Governor called a "mutiny" (muterij) which in truth it never can be.
- 10. God knows that this is our highest [desire] to contact our high authorities, that we [be loyal subjects]...

Johann S. Kosken⁽²⁵⁾ Petter Hinchim Andhers Andersson Sven Gunnarsson⁽²⁶⁾ Mårton Mårtensson Thomas Thomasson

According to an earlier version of Governor Risingh's Journal, the Governor had encouraged the colonists to write out their complaints against Printz as a part of the June gathering at Tinicum. (27) This would accord with the July date. The fact that Risingh later revised his Journal to tone down the protests against Printz should be seen as a response to Printz' good reception when he returned to Sweden. (28) It is probable that Risingh felt it would do the disgruntled settlers good to produce the document, but it would do him no good to send it on to Sweden. It clearly shows Printz' brutal treatment of some of the people, his bigotry against several Finns, and his personal greed and selfishness. Yet this is only part of the story. Perhaps, for example, the protesters were not aware that Printz was repaid with beaver skins for advances of money and goods he made to some colonists and that he could sell them as he saw fit. (29) More details about all the above cases could shed a more positive light on Johan Printz.

Another document was also included besides these three documents in the handwritten pages at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. It is the *Mercurius* passenger list for the last expedition to the Delaware Valley. It shows 110 settlers, almost all of whom are Forest Finns from the areas of Frijsdalen (Fryksdal), Brunskog and Litjtestegen (Letstigen?) in Värmland. This list was made before they left Gothenburg on 17 October 1655, probably by Admiral Anckarhjelm. They arrived in March 1656 after the colony had been surrendered to the Dutch. At first Stuyvesant refused permission for them to land and ordered them to come to New Amsterdam. However, when the Indians heard of their arrival they demanded that they be put ashore. (30) A complete translation of the passenger list is found in Amandus Johnson. (31)

REFERENCES

- 1. The Swedish Settlements on the Delaware, 1638-1664. Volume I, Amandus Johnson, Philadelphia: The Swedish Colonial Society, 1911, p. 462 ff.; also The Instruction for Johan Printz, Amandus Johnson, Philadelphia: The Swedish Colonial Society, 1930, pp.37-42 and Svenska Öden vid Delaware, 1638-1831. Nils Jacobsson, Stockholm: Svenska Kyrkans Diakonistyrelses Bokförlag, 1938, pp. 91-92.
- The mill was constructed in 1646 on Cobbs Creek on the border of present day Darby and Philadelphia at Baltimore Ave. The site was quite far inland for the majority of settlers.
- 3. Original name for a settlement of Finns in Marcus Hook PA.
- 4. Nothing at all is in the copied manuscript but from Printz' reply it had this intention.
- 5. Details about the signers may be found in The 1693 Census of the Swedes on the Delaware, by Peter S. Craig, Winter Park FL: SAG Publications, 1993. See also below endnotes #22 and #26.
- 6. An area in what is now southwest Philadelphia.
- 7. Jacobsson, op.cit. p. 113.
- 8. *The Rise and Fall of New Sweden*, Stellan Dahlgren and Hans Norman, Uppsala: Almqvist & Wiksell, 1988, pp, 97-98.
- 9. June 26 according to Risingh's *Journal*, in Dahlgren and Norman, op. cit. p. 185.
- 10. The Minquas or Susquehannock people lived inland along the Susquehanna River and were the main trading partners of the Swedes.
- Today's Lewes, Delaware, near Cape Henlopen. Variously spelled as Whorekill or Hornkyl.
- 12. Christinehamn had been laid out by engineer Per Lindeström just north of Ft. Christina. It was the only town in the colony.

- 13. May refer to Manhattan, in the historic records spelled variously but sometimes as Manahatas or Manates. Printz caught a ship back to Europe through New Amsterdam. Amandus Johnson, op. cit. Vol. I, p. 466.
- 14. A corrupted combination of the Indian names for Darby Creek and Cobb's Creek: Muckruton Creek/Mohorhootink Creek/Moherhuting as shown on early settlement maps of Delaware County. They flow along the western boundary of Aronameck and Karakung settlements.
- Likely Krdkekyl/Krökekyl/Crooked Creek, or later, Crum Creek, referring to early maps by Lindeström and Smith.
- 16. Upland Creek, today's Chester Creek.
- 17. A difficult paragraph because of missing words. Perhaps the reference is to Nötebomsön, an island north of the Christina River in the Delaware. Walnut wood was valuable and used for fine furniture. The nuts were food and could produce oil.
- 18. The King and Archbishop declared four special Prayer Days each year: one for Repentance, one for recalling the Reformation, one for Mission, and one for Thanksgiving. The 1986 *Psalmbok* ended this tradition
- 19. This paragraph was translated into English by Amandus Johnson, op. cit. Vol.1, p. 464.
- 20. Many blanks are found in this paragraph of the copy. This represents the substance of the fragmentary account, the beginning quoted from the *Explanation* by Amandus Johnson, op. cit. Vol. 1, p. 462.
- 21. These events are briefly described by Amandus Johnson, op.cit. Vol 1, p 462.
- 22. Peter Larsson Kock (Cock) arrived in New Sweden in 1641 as a prisoner and became a freeman. He later served as one of the Justices on the Upland Court during Dutch

- and English rule. He was one of the signers of the original protest. Craig, op.cit. pp. 28-29.
- 23. Pastor in New Sweden (1643-1648) who had come on the same voyage as Printz.
- 24. Anders the Finn was previously named in the Complaint, #5 and #10. He had come to New Sweden as a prisoner in 1643 and became a freeman before his troubles with Printz. Craig, op.cit. p.109
- 25. The first two persons' names are not presently identified.
- 26. Three names are on the original petition: Sven Gunnarsson had arrived in New Sweden as a convict in 1640. (Craig, op.cit. p. 33); Petter Hinchim (Peter Jochim or Peter Jochimsson) was a soldier from Schlesvig, Holstein, arriving on the Swan in 1643, became a freeman in 1652. In 1654 Risingh sent him on a mission to New Amsterdam where, however, he died. (Craig, op. cit. p. 43); Mårton Mårtenson is not the famous ancestor of John Morton who arrived in 1654, but another Mårtenson who came from Jomala, Åland, as a freeman and glassmaker. (Craig, op.cit. p. 41) Thomas Thomasson's identity has not been uncovered, although the surname is known in the colony.
- 27. Dahlgren and Norman, op.cit. p. 42
- 28. Printz became Commandant of the castle and then Governor in Jonköping. He was a member of Parliament and built an estate, Gunillaberg, near his birthplace, Bottnaryd. He died in 1663.
- 29. Amandus Johnson, op. cit. Vol. I, pp. 349-350; email from Ken Peterson 4 June 2015.
- 30. A complete narrative of the exciting events concerning the *Mercurius*' arrival is found in Johnson, op. cit. Vol. II, pp. 659-662.
- 31. Amandus Johnson, op. cit. Vol. II, pp. 724-726.

COMMENTARY Lawrence Backlund

The Protest Against Printz interpreted



ABOUT THE REVIEWER

Lawrence Backlund is Professor of History and **Political Science at Montgomery County** Community College, Blue Ball PA. He was born in New York City, raised in Connecticut, and received his MA and PhD from the University of Pennsylvania, majoring in European History. In addition to his teaching duties at MCCC he has taught as an adjunct at **Temple University and** Philadelphia University. He recently became an SCS Councillor.

Dr. Backlund speaks
Swedish, German, and
Spanish, and has a special
interest in music. He travels
extensively, enjoys crosscountry skiing and
mountain biking.

We thank him for his many scholarly contributions to the Swedish Colonial News, the most noteworthy being the lead article in the Summer 2011 issue, "Pehr (Peter) Kalm: Race relations in the 18th Century."

(Available on our website.)

The three documents presented by Kim-Eric Williams and Hans Ling—the settler's *Complaint*, *Protest* or *Petition*; Governor Johann Björnsson Printz' *Answer* or *Response*; and the more detailed *Explanation*—lead to new insights regarding the New Sweden colonial experience.

Taken together, these documents present a fascinating and insightful look into the "mutiny" launched in 1653.

The July 1653 *Petition* spells out the concerns of the settlers and cites cases of arbitrary behavior by Governor Printz, who, however, is addressed in respectful language. The focus is on failures: Printz has failed to provide security and well-being (popular expectations, even then, of government); failed to himself obey the prohibition on trade with the Dutch imposed on the settlers; failed to treat all women with respect; failed to provide justice, that is, not taking sworn evidence into account. The proposed solution—dispatch of emissaries to Sweden—represented appeal to higher authorities, who, it would appear, would correct these injustices. Precisely how is not mentioned. Throughout the Petition there is a tone of disappointment.

There was no intention to replace or even harm Printz. The petitioners sought fulfillment of what they perceived as the Governor's duties to the Company and themselves.

Printz' Answer reeks of counter complaint: insecurity is blamed on the Indians; there is no land shortage—land is available except on his own estates; the settlers have failed to pay the miller who risks his life to operate the mill; labor services in lieu of debt payment is an acceptable alternative; the petitioners have no proof of the injustice of his decisions; he implies that Lasse the Finn and his wife Karin were expelled because they threatened the colony as witches, yet mercifully, they were allotted fertile land.

Printz, in a more positive light, emerges as beset by difficulties and endowed with a sensitive vanity typical for persons of his station. Yet, he also supplied the nearby Dutch who were in desperate need and thus he hoped to justify his actions as legitimate.

The *Explanation* expands on the complaints in the Petition and provides specific examples that might be useful in any kind of official proceedings. Note that a specific Company merchant-owner is named. There is an effort here as well to evoke sympathy, with several references to suffering wives and starving children. And the *Explanation* prudently and in modest fashion denies the episode is a "mutiny," implying the settlers are obedient and law-abiding, properly appealing to higher authority.

Did the settlers get what they wanted? Perhaps so. Printz departed and Johan Risingh, who was more attuned to the settler's needs, arrived.

If the settlers, who numbered fewer than 100 after Printz' departure, could be considered successful, then something unique had transpired, something that would set the tone for later developments in North America.

In most cases of conflict between peasantry and authority, rebellion or resistance was usually brutally suppressed.

One such case was Bacon's Rebellion in Virginia in the 1670s. Nathaniel Bacon, a leader of the rebellion, penned a *Manifesto* explaining the rebels' grievances against Governor William Berkeley, who was accused of favoritism, personal enrichment, monopolizing the fur trade with the Indians, freeing guilty Indians, and failing to seek restitution from the Indians who had attacked interloping settlers. Following some initial success by the rebels, Bacon's Rebellion was harshly suppressed using armed force, although Bacon himself died of disease, not the sword.

In the case of the 1653 episode, by comparison, Printz executed one person, Anders Jönsson; Berkeley's men killed scores and executed more. Berkeley remained royal governor until recalled by a commission sent to investigate by King Charles II, who did not retain him as a favorite; Printz returned to Sweden, where he continued as a royal favorite. Problems with the Indians continued in Virginia because the settlers continued their expansion onto Indian lands in order to create tobacco plantations. Johan Risingh, Printz's successor, made a real effort to "stake out" new family farms and maintain good relations with the Indians. And while Berkeley traded with the Indians for his personal gain, Printz was an agent of the New Sweden Company and could not allow fur trade for private gain. That would conflict with the Company's assigned monopoly.

In somewhat unique fashion, in the case of the 1653 events, Printz and later Risingh made efforts to respond point by point to specific complaints reduced to writing. We can thank them also for their dutiful record-keeping, an example of the emerging sense of the responsibilities felt by public officials in the service of the Swedish monarchy.

The creation and preservation of these documents allows us greater insight into the historic reality faced by the men, women, and children of the New Sweden colony. Kim-Eric Williams and Hans Ling deserve accolades for their important work providing evidence of some unique and significant aspects of the New Sweden experience.

EPITAPH FOR AN EXCEPTIONAL SHIP: LAST VOYAGE OF THE KALMAR NYCKEL

JUNE 14-JULY 22, 1652

Somewhere off the east coast of Scotland, near Buchan Ness, lie the unmarked remains of our original namesake Kalmar Nyckel, one of the great ships of the 17th century.

Please note: Annotated endnotes begin on page 21

he went down valiantly, with guns blazing, once again in the service of the Dutch fleet after a long and distinguished career with the Swedes,² fighting back against the English in the opening engagement of what would become the First Anglo-Dutch War. Flying Dutch colors as the *Kalmar Sleutel*,³ she had come full circle. A workhorse of a ship since being launched in Holland in about 1625, she would end her career with the people who had built her so many years before.⁴

For the first time we have what amounts to a definitive "death certificate" for our namesake.

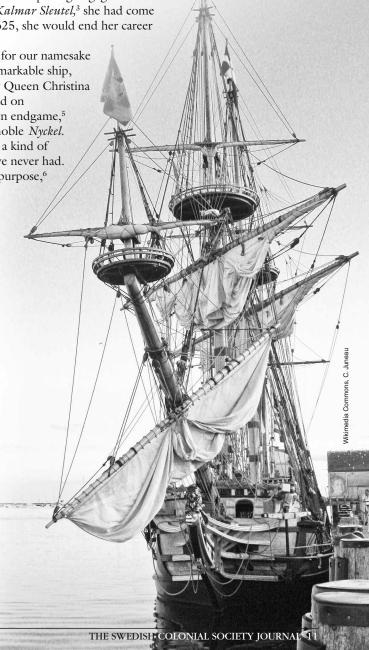
For the first time we have what amounts to a definitive "death certificate" for our namesake *Kalmar Nyckel*. This essay traces the missing last chapter in the career of a remarkable ship, her final year from when she left Swedish service and was decommissioned by Queen Christina on 19 June 1651 until her ultimate demise fighting for the Dutch off Scotland on 22 July 1652. After decades of guesswork and speculation about this unknown endgame, the evidence presented here puts to rest conjecture about the demise of our noble *Nyckel*. New evidence uncovered, together with a fresh look at old evidence, the brings a kind of closure that we who work with and serve the modern-day *Kalmar Nyckel* have never had. We can make peace with the past and move forward with pride and renewed purpose, finding satisfaction in closing a mystery left unanswered for so long.

Unlocking "The Key"

After twenty-two years of distinguished service to the Swedish Realm, the *Kalmar Nyckel* was decommissioned in 1651 and sold to a private merchant. An inspection by the Swedish Admiralty had determined that her aging conditions were worsening and that she would not be sound enough to cross the Atlantic for a fifth time as a colonial ship for New Sweden.⁷ By written consent of Queen Christina herself on 19 June 1651,⁸ *Kalmar Nyckel* was decommissioned and sold to Cornelis Roelofsen,⁹ a Dutch merchant living in Stockholm and known to members of the Swedish governing elite.¹⁰ This much we have always known, and Roelofsen is named in the document.

We don't know exactly what Dutch merchant Roelofsen did with the *Kalmar Nyckel* immediately after the purchase, but we can be confident that he took note of the larger drama unfolding along the Dutch coast, some nine hundred miles southwest of Stockholm. Dutch maritime might had been irritating English pride across the Channel for some time, and the wealth produced by Dutch trade and fishery proved an irresistible target for English privateers and naval predators. The dispute over control of the sea lanes around the British Isles led increasingly to warlike preparations among the English and Dutch forces.¹¹ As English Admiral George Monck put it at the time, "The Dutch have too much trade, and we intend to take it from them."¹²

What we do know is that Roelofsen had the *Kalmar Nyckel* outfitted for war, up-gunned to 20 "pieces," and had her in Amsterdam available for hire by 11 April 1652, nine months later, just when deputies of the Dutch



NEW SWEDEN HISTORY

States General¹³ came looking for ships to augment their navy.¹⁴ The States General had decided that the navy needed significant reinforcements if the Dutch were to defend their far-flung merchant and fishing fleets from English predators. The decision to reinforce the navy had been made on 3 March 1652, ¹⁵ and the

States General requested the five Dutch Admiralties¹⁶ to find, hire, renovate, and equip 150 ships for patrol and escort duty. In response, the Admiralty Board of Rotterdam sent two deputies, Van Dorp and Van Santen, to Amsterdam to look for suitable ships. On the 11th of April, the two deputies examined the ships in Amsterdam harbor and reported back to Rotterdam on 22 April that they had hired five ships: The *Vergulde Beer* ("Gilded Bear"); the *Sphera Mundi* ("Globe"); the *Sint Maria* ("Saint Mary"); the *Hollandia* ("Holland"); and, last but not least, our *Kalmar Sleutel*¹⁷—the last word *sleutel* is the Dutch literal translation of the Swedish word *nyckel*, both meaning *key* in English. The list records Cornelis Roelofsen as the owner of the *Kalmar Sleutel*. Van Dorp and Van Santen also reported that the owners had agreed to move the five ships from Amsterdam to Rotterdam and have 35 men aboard each.¹⁸

Ship's Inventory • 22 April 1652

Before the move to Rotterdam, Roelofsen had an extensive "Inventory" of his ship drawn up: "*Kalmar Sleutel*, old about 20 years, long over the bow 103 feet, wide 25 feet, its hold 11 feet, there above 6 feet, with a new pine hull." Written in Dutch and prepared by Roelofsen, who signed it, the Inventory is dated 22nd April 1652. Although Roelofsen was a bookkeeping businessman and simply recording the value of the ship he was hiring out to the Dutch Admiralty, his Inventory gives us the most complete list of the ship's equipment we have in all of her long career. It's an interesting and important document that we are just beginning to study (*See SCS website for the Inventory Supplement*). From the 11th of April onward, our namesake *Kalmar Sleutel (née Nyckel)* appears repeatedly and consistently in the Dutch archives (with confirmation from English records, too), allowing us to trace her final months with something close to certainty.

Last Captain and Crew of the Kalmar Nyckel

On the 26th of April, the Admiralty Board of Rotterdam appointed Dirck Vijgh as captain of the *Kalmar Sleutel*, and the States General issued him his letter of commission.²⁰ Captain Vijgh had been nominated by the Admiralty Board two days earlier,²¹ when it identified ten candidates as captains for their recently acquired ships. Captain Vijgh was the son of a nobleman and decorated for bravery in action against Dunkirk pirates.²² His ability and courage were noted as he worked his way up to lieutenant-captain, and Dutch Admiral Maarten Tromp had chosen him as flag captain for his flagship *Brederode* ("Castle of Brederode").²³

At the time of Captain Vijgh's appointment, *Kalmar Sleutel* was still in Amsterdam taking on provisions and undergoing additional modifications.²⁴ The States General had specified to the five Admiralties that all ships recently acquired for patrol and escort were to be refit so that they could carry at least 22 guns and crews of 90.²⁵ We don't know the specific changes made to *Kalmar*

Go online to see the ship's inventory and a map of locations mentioned in this article. www.ColonialSwedes.net

Sleutel's configuration, but we can surmise that accommodating a fighting crew of 90 would have required some alterations and that at least two guns were added, bringing her main armament up to the specified 22.²⁶ The refit was soon completed, and the ship was brought by way of Texel Island to her new homeport of Rotterdam,

arriving on the 11th of May.27

That these upgrades would be needed became clear soon enough. Escalating tensions between the Dutch and English fleets erupted into open warfare on the 22nd of May and then again on the 29th—the first a minor clash off Start Point in the Channel near Dartmouth and the second a major engagement called the Battle of Dover, near Goodwin Sands, where Dutch Admiral Tromp and his fleet of 42 ships fought a smaller squadron under English Admiral Robert Blake. ²⁸ From then on, no Dutch or English ship would be safe in the seas around the British Isles. The conflict would be made official with declarations of war on the 10th of July, and it would later be given the title First Anglo-Dutch War (1652-54).²⁹

In Rotterdam on the 23rd of May, ³⁰ meanwhile, Dirck Vijgh took command as the last captain of the *Kalmar Sleutel (née Nyckel)*. We don't know what Captain Vijgh thought of his new ship as he stepped aboard, but, since the shooting had started, he must have been eager to inspect her carefully. On the 31st of May, the last crew of the *Kalmar Sleutel (née Nyckel)* came aboard and were brought under oath. There were 90 of them, and they were given one month's wages in advance.³¹

"Buss Patrol" Last Voyage of the Kalmar Nyckel (14 June-22 July, 1652)

On the 1st of June, the Admiralty Board issued assignments to the hired warships of Rotterdam, 32 and Kalmar Sleutel was ordered to join the escort squadron protecting the Dutch herring fleet, which was out sailing off the Shetland Islands north of Scotland. This herring fleet—"the Great Fishery"—was famous the world over and the first to develop "industrialized fishing." Its influence on the Dutch economy in the early 17th century was comparable to the more famous Dutch trading fleets—the Baltic "mother trade," the East India Company trade (VOC), and the Dutch West India Company trade (WIC).³³ The scale of the Great Fishery was enormous, with 2,000 fishing boats at work in the North Sea and 150,000 tons of fish exported from the Netherlands for profit in 1614 alone.³⁴ One-fifth of the Dutch population was employed one way or another in the fishing business, and Dutch capitalism contributed many innovations to the "industry," including the development of drift nets to catch shoals of herring, which are still used today.³⁵ The Dutch also perfected a preservation technique called *gibbing*—the fish were gutted and salted and packed in barrels—allowing Dutch fishing boats to stay at sea longer to follow the schools of herring far off the Dutch coasts.³⁶ The fishing vessels, called busses, were an innovation all their own, being sturdy ships with flat bottoms that could be beached for quick and convenient unloading.³⁷ About 70 feet in length and crewed by fifteen "men," busses were often worked by whole families, women and children included, making them a kind of floating "cottage industry."38

For the next two weeks Captain Vijgh and crew undertook a flurry of final preparations in port. The same day the orders came through, the 1st of June, *Kalmar Sleutel* took on an extra 300 pounds of gunpowder, and Captain Vijgh sent a request to the Admiralty Board for four new guns—two 8-pounders and two 6-pounders.³⁹ Whether these were to be additions or replacements is not entirely clear.⁴⁰

The Admiralty of Rotterdam heeded Captain Vijgh's request on the 4th of June and decided that all of the hired ships needed additional armament, placing four extra pieces on each ship, including *Kalmar Sleutel*.⁴¹ On the 7th of June, the *Kalmar Sleutel* moved to Den Briel, a staging harbor located at the mouth of the Maas River, where Captain Vijgh and the other escort captains would await the command to sail.⁴² Captain Vijgh received an additional 700 pounds of gunpowder on the 13th of June and clarifying orders – the hired escorts would serve under the commander of the fishery fleet, Admiral Dirck Claesz van Dongen in the *Sint Paulus Bekeering* ("Saint Paul's Conversion").⁴³

On the 14th of June, Captain Vijgh and his crew of 90 set sail from Den Briel on what would be the *Kalmar Sleutel's* (*née Nyckel*) last voyage. 44 The winds of war were upon them. They were fresh and well-equipped, and they must have been anxious to find the Great Fishery fleet which was working somewhere off the Shetlands. Leaving Den Briel, they were joined by the *Sphera Mundi*, which would serve with them as part of the "*buss* patrol." Together they sailed out with two other ships, the *Sint Maria* ("Saint Mary") and the *Vergulden Roskam* ("Gilded Currycomb"), which would escort them out to the herring fleet but then sail back to join Admiral Tromp's fleet, which was still before Dover.

It was likely the early part of July by the time they found the Great Fishery fleet. They joined up with the escorts under Admiral van Dongen, some 15 or more, 45 and began to shepherd the 600 herring busses. 46 All was well as the fishermen went about their business, setting drift nets and hauling back vast shoals of herring, the "silver of the seas" as the Norwegians called them. They knew to be wary of the English, "perfidious Albion," but probably didn't know that war had been officially declared on the 10th of July 1652. 47 They were still undisturbed as they headed south from the Shetlands and Fair Isle, reaching toward the Scottish coast. They were somewhere near Buchan Ness⁴⁸ on Thursday morning, the 22nd of July 1652, when 66 English sail were spotted coming up on the southern horizon. 49

The Battle Off Buchan Ness • 22 July 1652

The scene off Buchan Ness that 22nd of July, with stiff breezes and bright Scottish skies, could have come straight from the pen of Robert Louis Stevenson: the romance of ships under sail, the mystery of a battle of "encounter," the smell of adventure in the salt air. But from the decks of the Dutch escort squadron charged with protecting 600 fishing boats from the depredations of Admiral Blake's English fleet, the view that morning was terrifying and carried with it the fear of death or dismemberment.

continued on page 20

LOCATION SCHEMATIC

NORTH

Shetland Islands

Fair Isle



Sam Heed (left) and Jordi Noort working on the present article.

Scotland:

Inverness

Boddam(Buchan Ness)

Dunbar

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England

The Netherlands: Texel Island

Amsterdam

Rotterdam

Den Briel

✓ SOUTH

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Samuel Heed is the Senior Historian and Director of Education at the Kalmar Nyckel Foundation in Wilmington, Delaware. Sam's recent work for the Foundation includes the opening of the Copeland Maritime Center, a new 18,000 square foot education center and ship maintenance facility, which is the home port of the Kalmar Nyckel.

Jordi Noort is a student at the School for Translation and Interpretation in Maastricht, the Netherlands. Jordi recently completed a nineteen-week "International Internship" as a translator and researcher with the Kalmar Nyckel Foundation. Jordi's research led to the writing of this groundbreaking essay.

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Special thanks go to Matt Sarver for pointing the way to the Dutch documents and making the connection to Kalmar Sleutel. We gratefully acknowledge the work and expertise of Carl Stapel, James Bender, Cor Snabel, and Adri P. van Vliet, who have been a tremendous help in the hunt for the last truth about the Kalmar Nyckel. We thank them for their advice and for selflessly sharing the data they had in their respective possessions, which were scattered across Dutch, English, and Swedish archives.

Honorary Governors, Officers, and Councillors of The Swedish Colonial Society

at the Julmiddag Luncheon, 20 December 2014, at the Corinthian Yacht Club

(Left to right) Jill D'Andrea, Alfred Nicolosi, Sandra Pfaff, DeAnn Clancy, Britt Apell, Margaretha Talerman, Susan Spackman, Sally Bridwell (front), Linda Alexy (behind), Beverly Walker, Michael D'Andrea, Kenneth Alexy, Kristina Antoniades, MD, Kyle Mason, Marianne Mackenzie, Peg Berich, Marie Boisvert, Edward Root, MD, The Rev. Dr. Kim-Eric Williams. Please refer to page 23 for their SCS titles and positions.



New SCS Fellow

New Fellow Marie B. Boisvert with her husband Peter, sporting the regalia of her new position at Julmiddagen last December. Marie has been active in SCS for many years, serving on numerous committees. She served as the Society's Recording Secretary for many years and was the Chair of the Pennsylvania 350 celebration in 1993. A well-deserved award! Congratulations, Marie.



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2014 Recipients of the American Swedish Historical Museum's prestigious Amandus Johnson Award

Margaretha Talerman (center) and Richard Waldron (right) celebrating with Tracey Rae Beck (left), Executive Director of the Museum. Margaretha is an author and SCS Councillor and Richard is an historian, New Sweden author, and member of SCS. Congratulations and thanks for your long-time support of Swedish-American organizations!

FOREFATHERS Bonny Beth Elwell

Nils Matsson and the Nelson Family of South Jersey

WHEN NILS MATSSON, HIS WIFE MARGARETA, AND THEIR YOUNG SON ANTHONY BOARDED THE ÖRN FEBRUARY 2, 1654, TO SET SAIL FOR AMERICA, THEY LITTLE REALIZED WHAT HARDSHIPS they would endure before finally making a home for themselves in New Sweden. Nils Matsson was a millwright from the town of Torshälla located west of Stockholm in Sweden, although Nils and his wife may have been of Finnish descent, as Finland was ruled by Sweden at that time. When Nils and Margareta decided to immigrate to the Swedish colony along the Delaware River, they traveled to Gothenburg and crowded aboard the Örn (Örn is Swedish for Eagle) with about 350 other immigrants for an adventure that would prove to be far more dangerous than they imagined.

The *Örn* set sail from Gothenburg on a cold and stormy winter's day, with winds so fierce that the ship was driven back. As the sailors struggled with the contrary seas, they discovered that the tiny vessel was leaking, and they were forced to return to port for repairs. The *Örn* finally left the shores of Sweden a second time and successfully headed out into the North Sea. Terrible tempests awaited them there, which tossed the ship and twisted them from their course such that the captain did not know where they were until they found themselves near Calais, France. Here they docked for a moment's respite, located perilously near the sea-battle zone of the First Anglo-Dutch War. Leaving Calais, the *Örn* at Dover encountered three English frigates including *The Pearl* that "thundered off their guns" in warning near the *Örn's* rudder before the Swedes' Dutch captain yielded to the English. They obtained a passport to pass safely through English waters, stopping in both Weymouth and Falmouth for supplies, and then headed into the mighty Atlantic Ocean towards the western lands.²



This house on Daretown Road marks the location of Gabriel Nelson's original homestead on land that remained in the hands of the Nelsons and their descendants until the end of the 20th century. Because the house was drastically remodeled in 1894, the front room is the only remaining portion of the old homestead, which reportedly dates back to the 1700's.

A few weeks later, a horrendous storm again knocked the *Örn* off course, and the disoriented ship discovered itself in the Canary Islands off the coast of Africa. Here the townspeople of one of the islands shot at the ship all night long and threw stones at the Swedes who went

ashore the next day.3 Fortunately, the governor of the island intervened, forbade the people from harassing the Swedes, had the Örn's bowsprit repaired after it was mistakenly fired upon by the Spanish, and welcome the ship's officers with a feast and the weary and sick travelers with refreshments.4 The Eagle left the Canary Islands on March 26th and headed into the open sea towards America. However, more hardships awaited them, as two weeks later disease broke out aboard ship, causing the death of many of the travelers. Yet even the mortally ill men were needed when three enemy Turkish ships were spotted. Propping up every sick man with a gun in his hands, the Swedes were able to convince the Turks that the Örn was too heavily armed to be worth attacking, and the Turks let them pass by in peace.⁵

And so on April 16th, the *Örn* reached the Americas, stopping at St. Kitts in the West Indies for supplies. They were welcomed with a "merry" barrage of gunfire before being received in a

friendly manner by both the English and French governors and allowed to obtain supplies and leave. Two weeks later, as they headed up the coast towards Delaware Bay, another storm ravaged the ship, tearing the sails from the masts, throwing the ship onto its side, and tossing passengers overboard. The sailors were forced to chop off the masts to save the ship. Following the storm, the sailors jury-rigged the ship to continue onwards into the Bay of Virginia (southern Chesapeake Bay). There, yet another storm tore away the last rags of canvas clinging to the makeshift masts, and the ship ran onto a reef. Somehow the *Örn* staggered into Delaware Bay, arriving at Fort Christina on May 22, 1654.

Although about one hundred of the passengers had died during the journey, fortunately Nils Matsson, his wife Margareta, and their son Anthony, survived to reach their new homeland. Nils became an honorable citizen of the New Sweden Colony. Johan Risingh, governor of New Sweden, testified that "the upright and intelligent Nils Matsson...conducted himself as an honorable and faithful subject of the Crown, and willingly assisted in the repair and building of the fort, as well as in other service of the Crown."8 However, only a year after he arrived, the Dutch Armada invaded Delaware Bay in September of 1655. When Nils went to Fort Trinity to defend New Sweden, he was taken prisoner by the Dutch. His home was stripped of his possessions while Margareta helplessly looked on.9 Thankfully, Nils was released and returned to his family.

Nils Matsson settled on 100 acres of land along Crum Creek near present day Eddystone, Pennsylvania, where his son Anthony grew to adulthood, married, and obtained his own tract of 100 acres. However, trouble touched the family once again as Margareta, as early as the 1660's, was accused by neighbors of being a witch. His Finally, in February 1683 (1684 New Style), Nils, Margareta, their son Anthony, and Anthony's wife decided to sell their land in Pennsylvania to move across the Delaware River to New Jersey. In that same month Margareta was brought to trial in Pennsylvania for the alleged witchcraft. As New Sweden was by this time under English rule, the judges included William Penn himself. Fortunately, Margareta was found not guilty, and the family moved to 100 acres of land along Mantua Creek near present day Billingsport in Gloucester County NJ.

Anthony Nelson (his surname anglicized but still indicating he was the son of Nils) was by this time a grown man. He was known as "Long" Nelson, most likely because he was tall. He served in the West Jersey Assembly in 1685, as well as serving as constable of Gloucester County. Anthony and his wife had at least five children: Gertrude (born 1671), Catherine (born May 1, 1674), Anna (born in July 1676), Gabriel, and Abraham. The oldest daughter, Gertrude, married Elias Toy in February 1690 and bore him six children. Anthony died in the spring of 1695, outlived by his father Nils who died in 1701.¹⁴

Both of Anthony's sons settled in Upper Pittsgrove Township, Salem County NJ, in the 1710's. Gabriel lived on a large portion of land along Daretown Road located between Daretown Lake and Pole Tavern. ¹⁵ (See photo page 16.) Abraham owned land east of Gabriel on Monroeville Road near Maple Grove, but later Abraham moved to Pilesgrove and ran a tavern on Kings Highway (See photo of tavern application document on right.) where the Seven Stars Tavern would be built a few years later. ¹⁶

The Nelsons continued to be a prominent part of Salem County history, marrying into many of the colonial families of English descent. Many Salem Countians today can trace their heritage to this brave Swedish family who sailed through many dangers to settle the Delaware Valley in 1654.

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- 1 Amandus Johnson, *The Swedish Settlements on the Delaware*, 1638-1664. (Philadelphia: The Swedish Colonial Society, 1911), p. 720.
- 2 Johnson, pp. 482- 484; Elmer Garfield Van Name, Anthony Nelson: Seventeenth Century Pennsylvania and New Jersey and Some of His Descendants. (Haddonfield, NJ: 1962), p. 1; See Peter Lindeström, Geographia Americae, (Philadelphia: The Swedish Colonial Society, 1925), translated from Swedish by Amandus Johnson, pp. 32, 65, 66; see also "Governor Johan Risingh's Journal, 1654-1655, in its Historical Context," in Stellan Dahlgren, Hans Norman's The Rise and Fall of New Sweden, (Uppsala: Almqvist & Wiksell, 1988.) Johnson in footnote #64 on p. 485 posits that perhaps Lindeström embellished his account for publication using more fanciful language.
- 3 Van Name, p. 1; Lindeström, p. 41.
- 4 Johnson, p. 486.
- 5 Johnson, p. 487; Van Name, p. 1; and Lindeström, pp. 69, 70, recount this Turkish encounter but Risingh does not.

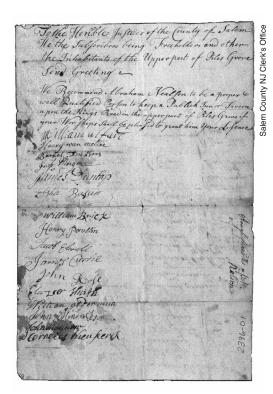
- 6 Van Name, p. 2, quotes Lindestöm, p. 73, that they were 'merrily' shot at. Risingh doesn't mention this.
- 7 Johnson, pp. 488, 489; Van Name, p. 2.
- 8 Israel Acrelius, A History of New Sweden, Or, The Settlements on the River Delaware. (Philadelphia: Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1874), pp. 79, 80.
- 9 Acrelius, p. 80.
- 10 Peter Stebbins Craig, The 1693 Census of the Swedes on the Delaware. (Winter Park, FL: Swedish American Genealogy Publications, 1993), pp. 69, 70.
- 11 Van Name, p. 3.
- 12 Van Name, p. 3.
- 13 Craig, p. 69.
- 14 Craig, pp. 62, 69.
- 15 Van Name, p. 9.
- 16 Van Name, pp. 9, 27.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Bonny Beth Elwell is descended from the New Sweden families of Mattson, Rambo, and Swanson, and the Nelsons intermarried with her Elwell ancestors in 1700's Upper Pittsgrove. She serves as President of the Genealogical Society of

Salem County, VP of Membership and Development of the Salem County Historical Society, Secretary of the Greater Elmer Area Historical Society, and Historian of Upper Pittsgrove Township. She is also the author of the book Upper Pittsgrove, Elmer, and Pittsgrove and of the "Ancestors' Attic" column in the Elmer Times newspaper. More information can be found at www.gsscnj.org and www.salemcountyhistoricalsociety.com.



"To the Honorable Justices of the County of Salem.

"We the Subscribers being Freeholders and other the Inhabitants of the Upper part of Piles Grove Send Greeting--

"We Recommend Abraham Nealson to be a proper and well Qualified Person to keep a Publick Inn or Tavern upon the Kings Road in the upper part of Piles Grove if your Worships shall be pleased to grant him your Lisence."

Signed by 17 persons; date on reverse: 1740.

Swedish Ambasssador Lyrvall opens New Sweden Centre exhibit after dedicating New Sweden plaques

ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2014, HIS EXCELLENCY, BJÖRN LYRVALL, Ambassador of Sweden to the US, pays a visit to what was once the New Sweden Colony.

Stopping first in Salem, New Jersey, Ambassador Lyrvall dedicated two plaques recently mounted inside the Old (1675) Courthouse (picture 1). The plaques are aluminum replicas of the bronze plaques installed on a monument which stands in Riverview Beach Park in Pennsville, NJ. A former Ambassador of Sweden to the US, Jan Eliasson, dedicated that New Sweden Heritage Monument in 2004.

The plaques commemorate the Swedes' and Finns' move to the eastern side of the Delaware River in 1643, when Governor Johan Printz ordered his soldiers to build

Fort Elfsborg. Colonists settled in greater numbers in the 1670's. One plaque depicts a log cabin, the other, a church boat.

Ambassador Lyrvall's second and final destination was the Junior Achievement building on the south side of the Christina River in Wilmington, Delaware. Here the New Sweden Centre's newest exhibit, *A Walk through Swedish American Globalization*, is housed within Junior Achievement's Finance Park. This exhibit was made possible in part by a grant from the Swedish Council of America.

While Ambassador Lyrvall was dedicating the plaques in New Jersey, guests had been assembling at the Junior Achievement building in Delaware. Guests drove from as far afield as Washington, D.C.; Gettysburg, PA; the Philadelphia Main Line; Cecil County, MD; all over "South Jersey" (originally "West Jersey"); "the Jersey Shore" (originally "East Jersey"); and downstate Delaware. Guests included the directors, governors, presidents, a regent, and board chairpersons of numerous Swedish/historical societies. Quite a few of the guests, such as the Apells, the McCoys and the Seppäläs, had already met His Excellency at the American Swedish Historical Museum's "Spring Ting" in May a year ago. Many, such as Cathy Parsells, Executive Director of KNF, and John Morton, Chairman of the Board of KNF, greeted him November 8, 2014, at the Kalmar Nyckel Foundation's "King Neptune Gala."



Picture 1: Ambassador Lyrvall (just to the left of the plaque) at the dedication of two New Sweden commemorative plaques at the Salem County Old Courthouse with four Salem County Freeholders and Aleasa Hogate, NSC, second from right.

New Sweden Centre's coterie of steadfast volunteers welcomed Ambassador Lyrvall at the door of the JA Finance Park. Included was Marianne Mackenzie, Swedish-born widow of Malcolm Mackenzie, the visionary who founded both the Kalmar Nyckel Foundation and the New Sweden Centre over 25 years ago. Another widow, the vivacious June Peterson, arrived early and was given a sneak peak of the exhibit. She was delighted to see her husband's name on the roster of influential Swedes. He was Governor Russell Peterson, who governed Delaware from 1969-1973. Gov. Peterson quieted the race riots tearing Wilmington apart and also protected Delaware's coastline from industrial development.

As the reception was in progress, the Bucks County (PA) Spelmanslag played *nyckelharpas* and accordion. They set an elegant and very Swedish tone.

Guests were treated to classic Swedish fare. The delicious food was prepared and served by the William Penn High School Culinary Arts students, under the direction of Kip Poole. The teen-aged girls looked precious in colonial costume and with floral wreaths encircling their heads.

At 4 P.M. Ambassador Lyrvall delivered a few remarks, which included thanking the attendees for their role in promoting Swedish history and culture. He was certainly speaking to the right audience, for among those sharply



Picture 2: Ambassador Lyrvall, left, lends a hand as he and Aleasa Hogate of the New Sweden Centre cut the ribbon to open the Junior Achievement New Sweden exhibit.



dressed guests were those who raised the money to build the tall ship *Kalmar Nyckel*, as well as those who maintain and sail it. Also present were Tracey Beck, Executive Director of the American Swedish Historical Museum; Sheila Romine, President of the New Sweden Alliance; Michael D'Andrea, Governor of The Swedish Colonial Society and three past Governors—Sally Bridwell, Herb Rambo, and Kim-Eric Williams. The latter three mentioned are also recipients of the Order of the North Star, as is Sandra Pfaff, without whose presence an event wouldn't be considered a success.

With Janet Anderson, President of the New Sweden Centre, on one side, Aleasa Hogate, VP and Education Director of NSC, got a hand from Ambassador Lyrvall cutting the exhibit ribbon (*picture 2*). Flashes of light filled the room as dozens of people took photos and crowded forward to enter the exhibit.

After entering the exhibit, guests followed the timeline at the base of each separate exhibit. At eye level there are ovals, each containing a silhouette and a historical fact or observation (picture 3). The information is delivered in bite-sized pieces, suitable for high school students used to texting. Aleasa Hogate, who created the oval plaques, made certain that the viewers would come away with the feeling that the Swedes and Finns had a flourishing colony long before William Penn arrived on the scene in 1682.

The dioramas, created by Marnie King, were miracles of artistry. The miniature historical figures, dressed as well-known colonists, such as the barber-surgeon Timen Stiddem, were equally amazing. The five charming portraits painted by Ros Stallcup were masterfully executed.

The finale of the afternoon was a short presentation by Sam Katz, President of History Making Productions, and his showing of the sixth episode of the made-for-TV series on Philadelphia. The episode covered the early period of Philadelphia's history—before William Penn!

Both the events in dual locations and the exhibit itself were highly successful, thanks primarily to the yearlong work by Aleasa Hogate. Meticulous planning and careful research left nothing to chance. Although the ambassador's arrival was delayed by traffic problems, he still made a point of meeting as many guests as time allowed. We hope that Ambassador Lyrvall will become as comfortable with the "ancient Sweeds" as his predecessor, Ambassador Jonas Hafström, became during his six year tenure.

Picture 3: Left to right, Swedish Ambassador Björn Lyrvall, Aleasa Hogate and Monica Enqvist (Embassy Head of Public Diplomacy, Press, and Communications) tour the Junior Achievement exhibit A Walk through Swedish-American Globalization.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Christina (Tina) Lassen is a Forefather Member and a descendant of Måns Andersson, Johan Gustafsson, Mårten Mårtensson, Charles Springer, Christina Ollesdotter, Walraven Jansen de Vos and others. She also has 19 Mayflower lines.

Tina enjoys genealogical research and has been "working" with her DNA matches to break through some "brick walls."

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Last Voyage of the Kalmar Nyckel continued from page 13

As the English fleet of 66 capital ships bore down on the 15 escorts circling the fishing fleet, Dutch Vice-Admiral Reinout Veenhuysen of the *Sphera Mundi* opened fire prematurely—and then abruptly fled the scene.⁵⁰ Leading eight frigates of the English vanguard, Captain Taylor of the *Laurel* was the first to answer the premature fire with a broadside of 24 guns, and the battle was begun.⁵¹ Veenhuysen's cowardice was made up for by some of the other Dutch warships that were noted for fighting back fiercely. The Battle Off Buchan Ness turned into a bloody three-hour affair, with the Dutch "selling their skin not cheaply."⁵² Among the English, too, noted Dutchman Pieter Casteleyn, "many gentlemen died, among others Captain Bradley was heavily wounded, and several of her best ships were put out of action."⁵³

Not surprisingly, Captain Vijgh had the *Kalmar Sleutel* at the center of the action. He and his crew were among the most heavily engaged, fighting desperately against overwhelming English firepower. The smaller Dutch escorts, mostly up-gunned and refitted armed merchant vessels, were no match for the English frigates, new purpose-built warships that each carried 36 guns or more and doubled the weight of the Dutch broadsides.⁵⁴ Skilled Dutch seamanship could not for long overcome such a discrepancy in firepower.⁵⁵

In three hours of fighting the English seized 12 of the Dutch escorts and scattered the fishing fleet, taking 30 of the *busses*. Six of the captured Dutch warships were taken into the English fleet; three others were sent to the city of Inverness with the English wounded, some ninety miles away; and three were so badly shot to pieces that they could not be salvaged and were sunk by the English after being seized. For Alas, *Kalmar Sleutel (née Nyckel)* was one of the three "so much shattered" that she couldn't stay above the waterline. On this terminal fact there is no doubt, and we have many contemporaneous sources both Dutch and English, including the testimony of Captain Vijgh, who survived and was taken prisoner, as well as detailed reports from victorious Admiral Blake. For

Aftermath

English Admiral Blake, having scattered the herring fleet and disposed of the "12 Dutch men-of-war lately taken that guarded the busses," headed "southward" looking for Admiral Tromp's main Dutch fleet.⁵⁸

On the Dutch side, the English released all the wounded prisoners and sent them directly home aboard 30 captured herring *busses*. Captain Dirck Vijgh and 900 other Dutch seamen not wounded were taken prisoner of war. They were delivered to Newcastle-upon-Tyne, then paroled and sent to "walk" home by way of English ports along the Channel.⁵⁹ When they arrived home in the Dutch Republic on 24 September 1652, the commander of the fishing fleet,

Admiral Dirck Claesz van Dongen, was arrested for the failure of his objective. 60 Captain Vijgh had his own court of inquiry with the Admiralty Board. Things got messy when Vice-Admiral Veenhuysen, in trying to clear his own cowardly "shat-his-pants" reputation, sued Captain Vijgh for being drunk while leading his men into battle, causing the *Kalmar Sleutel* to sink. 61 Vijgh obtained declarations from his officers and crew that he was in fact sober, and the case was dismissed. 62 Vijgh was reinstated as a captain and given another ship, the *Overijssel*. 63

On the first of October, Cornelis Roelofsen submitted a demand in the form of a request to the Admiralty Board of Rotterdam. Listed in the records as a "merchant living in Stockholm in Sweden" and as "the former owner and renter" of the "sunk ship *Kalmar Sleutel* lost in the encounter with the English on 22 July 1652," Roelofsen requested payment for the sum of 20,100 guilders. The Board noted that it would have the claim examined. Two days later, the 3rd of October, the surviving crew of the *Kalmar Sleutel* claimed reimbursement for their lost possessions on the sunken ship and four months of lost wages. These claims were denied by the Admiralty Board.

Roelofsen came back to the Admiralty Board of Rotterdam on the 30th of October, this time sending an authorized agent, one notary Block. Still listed as a "merchant living in Stockholm in Sweden" but now noted as the "owner and renter of the *Kalmar Sleutel*, formerly commanded by Captain Dirck Vijgh, shot to sinking by the English on 22 July 1652," Roelofsen demanded payment of the rent that had not yet been settled. The Board responded by giving him two month's rent, amounting to 2,200 guilders.⁶⁷

On 13 December 1652, the secretary for the Admiralty Board of Rotterdam⁶⁸ sent a letter to the States General urging the settlement of Cornelis Roelofsen's claim for "the ship the Kalmar Sleutel that was sent to the bottom on 22 July last in the fight under the busses against the English by Captain Dirck Vijgh." The Admiralty of Rotterdam authorized settlement to Roelofsen for 15,700 guilders based on experts who had valued his ship with the aid of the inventory prepared and signed by Roelofsen dated 22 April 1652 (See SCS website Supplement). The Admiralty of Rotterdam expected the States General to have their Lord Collector General, one Philips Doublet, make the payment directly to Roelofsen so that "the loss of equipment at sea will be settled and paid so that the Council of the Admiralty in Rotterdam will be relieved from this and the aforementioned Cornelis Roelofs[en] will have his payment."69

We think Roelofsen was eventually paid the full amount of the 15,700 guilders, because after a final demand to the Admiralty Board through agent Block on the 20th of January 1653,⁷⁰ neither he nor his case is ever again mentioned in the documents. After that, the name *Kalmar Sleutel (née Nyckel)* slips back into the mists of history.

Epilogue

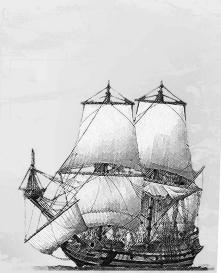
With a death date for our Kalmar Nyckel—22 July 1652—and an approximate gravesite at the bottom of the North Sea just off the Scottish coast northeast of Buchan Ness (now called Boddam), we can begin work on an epitaph for our namesake ship. We offer a draft:

Ordinary in stature and design, KALMAR NYCKEL

was extraordinary for what she achieved.

A mighty ship in deed, she set records for endurance and versatility unmatched in the 17th century. Her exceptional career serving so many so well for so long—and in such different roles as a colonial ship, gun-armed merchant vessel, and warship—still inspires the people who today sail her modern embodiment.

Her pluck and can-do spirit live on.



ANNOTATED ENDNOTES:

- ¹ The present-day reproduction of the *Kalmar Nyckel* was launched in Wilmington, Delaware, in 1997. Built, owned, and operated by the Kalmar Nyckel Foundation, the ship serves as a floating classroom and inspirational platform for a broad array of sea- and land-based educational programs. For more about the ship and the Foundation, *see www.kalmarnyckel.org*.
- ² Famous for making four roundtrip voyages to the colony of New Sweden from 1637 to 1644 (see note 7), she had been purchased from the Dutch by the *Skeppskompaniet* (Ship Company) in 1629 and served the Swedish navy on and off from 1629 to 1651.
- ³ New Dutch name, derived from Kalmar Nyckel
- ⁴ There exists no definitive "birth certificate." No records of her construction or launch have yet been found. She appears in the records for the first time in 1629, when two gentlemen from Kalmar discuss purchasing her from Holland for the Swedish *Skeppskompaniet* (Ship Company). She was listed as a Dutch-built Pinnace, a gun-armed merchant ship displacing about 300 long tons. There is no verified mention of her previous Dutch name.
- ⁵ See, e.g., C.A. Weslager, A Man and His Ship: Peter Minuit and the Kalmar Nyckel (1990), p. 197.
- ⁶ For family and friends, "missing in action" is often worse than knowing the worst; uncertainty brings a special pain and prevents closure.
- ⁷ See Letter from Queen Christina of 13 April 1649 from Stockholm, in the Riksarkiv in Stockholm. Kalmar Nyckel had made four roundtrip transatlantic crossings for the New Sweden Company, to wit: 1637-1639, 1639-1640, 1641-1642 and 1643-1644. The first of these voyages launched New Sweden in 1638 under the command of Peter Minuit, who established Fort Christina in present-day Wilmington, Delaware the first permanent European settlement in the Delaware Valley.
- 8 See Letter from Queen Christina of 19 Juni 1651 from Stockholm, in the Riksarkiv in Stockholm.
- ⁹ The Swedish document spells his name 'Cornelius Roloffson' and the other sources on Roelofsen mention him in different spellings as well, which was common for the era, but it is definitely the same guy.
- One solid piece of evidence we have on Roelofsen is that he sold a shipment of canary birds to the Swedish noble family De La Gardie in 1648 (De La Gardie's account books dd April 1648, in the Riksarkiv of Stockholm).
- ¹¹ Sovereignty over sea lanes and the concept of "territorial waters" was in its infancy at this time, but the issue remains a thorny one even today (see, e.g., lively disputes over rights and resources in the Arctic and conflicts among many in the South China and East China Seas).

- ¹² Quoted in *The Rise and Fall of British Sea Mastery*, Paul M. Kennedy (New York: Scribner, 1976).
- ¹³ Referred to in the documents as "Their High Mightinesses," the States General consisted of the deputies of the seven provincial governments of the United Netherlands who came together every month to discuss a range of matters and resolve on problems in the country. One of their prime responsibilities was to manage and direct the five Dutch Admiralties, which were located in Amsterdam, the Maze (located in Rotterdam), Friesland, Noorderkwartier, and Zeeland. These Admiralties individually took care of a part of the navy to share costs and risk.
- ¹⁴ Whether Roelofsen was motivated more by patriotism or capitalism in his handling of the *Kalmar Nyckel* is hard to know at this remove, but for many of the Dutch at the time the two went hand-in-hand.
- ¹⁵ The National Archives of the Netherlands, in The Hague, (hereafter 'NA') archive 1.01.46 inv. no. 147 dd 3 March 1652.
- ¹⁶ See footnote 13
- ¹⁷ Many sources mention her under different spellings: 'Kalmar' either with a 'K' or a 'C', and the Dutch often use an 'e' for the second 'a;' the spelling of 'Sleutel' differs from source to source as well. Spellings in this period were inconsistent and often written out phonetically. In addition, ships back then did not have their names spelled out on the transom or bow, but they often did have an indication of it on the stern in the form of an image or sculpture. In the case of the Kalmar Nyckel, it might have been the crest of the city of Kalmar and a key on the stern. There is no city, town, or place named "Kalmar" in the Netherlands, further reinforcing that the "Dutch ship" and "Swedish ship" were one and the same. One interesting and early example of the kind of transpositions seen in the records comes from Director (Governor) Willem Kieft of the colony of New Netherland: When he mentions in a letter from April 1638 that the ship has arrived in the Delaware River for the first time with the Swedes, he refers to it as 'Calmer Sleutel,' indicating that the ship's name was already being 'Dutchified' many years before she was bought by the Dutch.
- ¹⁸ NA 1.01.46 inv. 147 dd 23 April 1652.
- ¹⁹ NA 1.01.02 inv. 5551 dd 20 December 1652.
- ²⁰ NA 1.01.46 inv. 147 dd 26 April 1652.
- ²¹ NA 1.01.46 inv. 147 dd 26 April 1652.
- ²² NA 1.01.46 inv. 141 dd 24 May 1646.
- ²³ NA 1.01.46 inv. 444 dd 3 December 1651 and 1.01.02 inv. 5548 dd 24 April 1652.

NEW SWEDEN HISTORY

- ²⁴ Some of the modifications that brought the ship up to the specifications ordered by the States General may have been made later in Rotterdam – after the ship was moved from Amsterdam by way of Texel.
- ²⁵ NA 1.01.46 inv. 147 dd 3 March 1652.
- ²⁶ She was noted to have had 22 guns when she sank (NA 1.01.02 inv. 5551 dd 20 December 1652 and Admiral Blake's list of taken ships dd 31 July 1652 in *French Occurences*, (B.M. Press Mark E, 673, 11), p. 78.
- ²⁷ NA 1.01.46 inv. 147 dd 11 May 1652.
- ²⁸ The first clash, on 22 May 1652, was a brief gun battle off Start Point, near Dartmouth, where three English ships under Captain Anthony Young in the *President* engaged three Dutch warships escorting a convoy of seven merchant vessels bound for the Mediterranean. The second battle, on 29 May 1652, between Tromp's fleet and Blake's squadron, is sometimes called the 'Battle of Goodwin Sands.'
- ²⁹ Two more would follow: Second Anglo-Dutch War (1665-67) and Third Anglo-Dutch War (1672-74).
- ³⁰ NA 1.01.46 inv. 147 dd 23 May 1652.
- 31 Ibid. dd 31 May 1652.
- ³² *Ibid.* dd 1 June 1652: The orders were as follows: Two ships were to 'cruise in the Channel under Vice-Admiral Jan Evertsen', to wit: the *Overijssel* (A province of the Netherlands) and the *Utrecht* (A city and province of the Netherlands); two ships were to 'cruise the North under Vice-Admiral Witte de With', to wit: the *Sint Maria* ("Saint Mary") and the *Vergulden Roskam* ("Gilded Currycomb"); two ships were to 'cruise on the VOC (East India Company) ships that were bound to return soon', to wit: the *Vergulden Beer* ("Gilded Bear") and the *Hollandia* ("Holland"); and two ships were 'to escort the ships of the Great Fishery', to wit: the *Calmar Sleutel* ("Key of Kalmar") and the *Sphera Mundi* ("Globe").
- ³³ See C.R. Boxer, The Dutch Seaborne Empire: 1600-1800 (1965).
- ³⁴ See, Smithsonian's SHIP: The Epic Story of Maritime Adventures by Brian Lavery (2004, DK Publishing, NYC), p. 248.
- 35 See Jan de Vries and Ad van der Woude, The First Modern Economy: Success, Failure, and Perseverance of the Dutch Economy, 1500-1815 1997), pp. 243-45, 419.
- ³⁶ They even got so far off the coasts that they ended up on the other sides of the North Sea, founding little fishing villages in Scotland and Norway, such as Wick on the Scottish coast and Lerwick on the Shetland Islands.
- ³⁷ See, Smithsonian's SHIP: The Epic Story of Maritime Adventures by Brian Lavery (2004, DK Publishing, NYC), p. 258.
- ³⁸ See, Once A Week Vol. 1; Vol. 18 by Eneas Sweetland Dallas (Bradbury & Evans: 1868)
- ³⁹ NA 1.01.46 inv. 147 dd 1 June 1652.
- 40 See footnote 26.
- ⁴¹ NA 1.01.46 inv. 147 dd 4 June 1652.
- 42 Ibid.dd 7 June 1652
- ⁴³ *Ibid.* dd 13 June 1652 Notarial Archives Rotterdam (NAR) inv. 503 document 224/204 says that Cornelis Roelofsen agreed with Dirck Vijgh that the latter had to do a test of adequacy as the captain of Roelofsen's ship the *Kalmar Sleutel*. This is one of the few references that name Cornelis Roelofsen and Dirck Vijgh and the *Kalmar Sleutel* owner, captain, ship in the same document. Another such direct connection comes on the same date, with the same notary (NAR Rotterdam inv. 503 document 223/203), where Roelofsen had Captain Vijgh declare that several of Roelofsen's former crew had disembarked the ship with their possessions in Amsterdam but were "hired in the service of the country." These persons were Roelof Sweersz, bosun, from Gothenburg, Andries [?] from Gothenburg, Daniel Corstensz, gunner, from Marstrand, Sweden, and his mate, the cook Albert, carpenter's mate Willem from Norway and another unnamed sailor.
- 44 NA 1.01.46 inv. no. 147 dd 14 June 1652.
- ⁴⁵ Even though the accounts relating to 22 July 1652 state that 12 warships were taken, the escort fleet must have consisted of at least 15 ships as the States General commanded the Admiralties to send out a joint fleet of 15 renovated vessels (NA 1.01.46, inv. no. 147) to reinforce the ordinary convoying ships that were already there. We know there was a thirteenth ship, the *Sphera Mundi*—which fled after firing the first shot.
- ⁴⁶ Hollandsche Mercurius, July 1652, Pieter Casteleyn, p.84.

- ⁴⁷ The States General had sent a letter to Commander Van Dongen to warn him about the official declaration and the English fleet's moving towards him, but that letter probably never arrived (NA 1.01.02 dd 15 July 1652).
- ⁴⁸ Nowadays Boddam, Scotland, between Aberdeen and Peterhead: Robert Blake, Admiral and General at Sea, based on family and State papers, by William H. Dixon, p. 203 (London, Chapman 1852) and "Hollandsche Mercurius", July 1652, p. 84. NAR Rotterdam inv. 155 document 21/336 says: "They were with Van Dongen at sea to protect the herring fleet south of Fayershil (Fair Isle) when on 22 July, the English warfleet appeared."
- ⁴⁹ The indication of time is derived from the NA 1.01.02 inv. 5550 dd 2 and 4 August 1652. Admiral Robert Blake's fleet had been ordered by the English Parliament to disrupt the Dutch fishery in the 'English' North Sea and had sailed out shortly before 13 July. After having sailed north past the Scottish coastal city of Dunbar on the 19th, they encountered the 15 Dutch men-of-war.
- ⁵⁰ A letter from Admiral Blake s fleet dd 5 August 1652 mentions the first shot of the battle by the Dutch Vice-Admiral (Veenhuysen) and the answer by Captain Taylor. While reporting on the battle of 22 July in the *Hollandsche Mercurius*, Dutchman Pieter Casteleyn called Veenhuysen a "shat-his-pants" and stated he "fled the scene, and was arrested when he came home, but instead of him, a swine was hung to the gallows." Weeks after Veenhuysen returned to the Netherlands he was banished for five years.
- ⁵¹ Letter from Admiral Blake s fleet dd 5 August 1652.
- 52 Hollandsche Mercurius, July 1652, p. 84, Pieter Casteleyn; see also William H. Dixon, in Robert Blake etc., says: "Meeting the great herring-fleet off Bockness, his [Blake's] advanced guard of twenty sail fell furiously on the men-of-war, and after a gallant contest, prolonged by the obstinate valour of the Dutch against superior numbers for three hours...."
- ⁵³ Hollandsche Mercurius, July 1652, p. 84, Pieter Casteleyn.
- 54 See James C. Bender, research about English fleet compiled online at: http://www.kentishknock.com/englishs.shtml (2015). A ship's "broadside weight" is the combined weight of all the ammunition that can be fired simultaneously from all the guns on one side of that ship.
- 55 The authors' correspondence with Carl Stapel, December 2014
- ⁵⁶ Admiral Blake noted that he decided to sink the three ships after holding a "council of war" with his captains (Letter from Admiral Blake s fleet, dd 1 August 1652 and a letter from Leith dd 10 August 1652).
- 57 Admiral Blake noted that he had taken the following ships: The Paul of Rotterdam, Admiral's flagship, the Waterhound, the Sampson of Enkhuizen, the Arms of Holland, the Swan of Amsterdam, the Adam and Eve, the John Baptist, the Land of Promise, the Katharine, the Noah's Ark, the Sampson of Hoorn and the Calmer Sleutel. The sources in the footnotes above mention the division of 12 ships seized: six ships taken into the fleet, three ships sent to Inverness, and three sunk. The Kalmar Sleutel was repeatedly noted in Dutch documents to have been 'shot to the bottom', (NA 1.01.46 inv. 147 dd 1 October, 30 October 1652 and 20 January 1653 and NA 1.01.46 inv. 5551 dd 20 December 1652), making her at least one of the three to have been sunk by the English. The Sampson of Hoorn appeared to be another one to have been sunk. The third ship is yet to be identified.
- ⁵⁸ Letter from Admiral Blake s fleet, dd 1 August 1652.
- ⁵⁹ London is mentioned as one of the ports.
- 60 NA 1.01.46 inv. 147 dd 24 September 1652.
- 61 NAR Rotterdam, inv. no. 503 document 378/371 and 377/370.
- 62 NAR Rotterdam, inv. no. 504 document 477/467.
- 63 NA 1.01.46 inv. 775 dd 3 October 1652.
- ⁶⁴ Roelofsen may have submitted the request in person to the Admiralty Board; no agent is mentioned as appearing for him—as in the subsequent requests made on 30 October 1652 & 20 January 1653.
- 65 NA 1.01.46 inv. 147 dd 1 October 1652.
- 66 Ibid. dd 3 October 1652.
- 67 Ibid. dd 30 October 1652.
- ⁶⁸ See Letter from Secretary W. van Couwenhoven, NA 1.01.46 inv. 5551 dd 20 December 1652.
- 69 NA 1.01.46 inv. 5551 dd 20 December 1652.
- ⁷⁰ NA 1.01.46 inv. 147 dd 20 January 1653.

NEW MEMBERSHIP

LIFE MEMBER

Dr. David R. Dolbow, Hermitage TN

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Lawrence Backlund, Hatfield PA Elizabeth Bankston, Houston TX Paul P. Blackburn, McLean VA Mark Brubaker, Bridgewater NJ Donna Crisp, Fairfax VA Debra Detweiler, Norristown PA Mary Hurst, Summerville SC Justin Jones, St. Johns FL Erin Oberman, Maple Ridge BC, Canada Ann W. Ochs, Kennett Square PA Arthur O'Neill, Bluffton SC Thomas Östlund, Kungsängen, Sweden Tina Railer, Thorntown IN Steven Spinner, Lawrenceville NJ Gretchen Vreeland, Harrisburg PA Catherine Wajda, Schenectady NY John Wenrich, Toano VA



New Members Welcomed!

THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY welcomes new members. No Swedish relative or ancestry

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.

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

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.net. Also on the website is a complete listing of active SCS members and their respective forefathers.

Susan A. Fleming descends from

Garrett Enochs/Enochson and his wife Gertrude, then through their son Enoch Enochs/Enochson who married Susanna Friend, and continues through their son Anders (Andrew) Enochs/Enochson and his wife Catherine, née Jones.

Yvonne Harralson descends from

Peter Larsson Cock and his wife Margaret Månsdotter Lom, then through their daughter Margaret Persdotter and her husband Robert Longshore. The lineage continues through their son Euclydus Longshore and his wife Anna Stackhouse.

Richard A. McGeary descends from

Hans Månsson and his wife Ella Stille, then through their son James Hansson Steelman and his wife Susannah Toy and continues through their son Andrew Steelman who married Judith Alson (Olson).

Linda Marie Peterman Soileau Evan Noel Soileau, Linda's son descend from

Peter Gunnarsson Rambo and his wife Brita Mattsdotter, then through their son John Rambo and his wife Brigitta Cock, and through their son Peter Rambo and his wife Christina Keen.

John Wenrich descends from

Peter Gunnarsson Rambo and his wife Brita Mattsdotter, then through their son Gunnar Rambo and his wife Anna Cock. The line then continues through their son John Gunnarson Rambo and his wife Anna Laicon (Lycon).

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THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY JOURNAL



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Please Help Us with Our 2015 Wish List!

The Swedish Colonial Society's mission is to collect, archive, and publish materials, make early colonial genealogical records broadly available, increase awareness and preservation of monuments at historic sites, acknowledge members' proven descent from colonial records, and to commemorate historic and cultural events and accomplishments relating to the Swedes and Finns in America, especially in the Delaware Valley.

There are numerous opportunities for meaningful giving this year that will help us to carry out our mission and they are:

- The restoration of the John Morton Monolith in St. Paul's Burial Ground in Chester PA. John Morton was a signer of the Declaration of Independence, the only person of Scandinavian heritage to do so. Approximate cost is \$6,500 (see details on page 3).
- Funding for the Peter S. Craig Collection and the Ron Beatty Collection, cost \$9,000.
- On-going funding for historic preservation

Please help us with one of our wishes. Let us know which opportunity sparks your interest. If you have any questions about our wish list, please call Michael D'Andrea, Governor of the Society, at 301.570.3084 or e-mail Michael at J1M2A31@verizon.net. Thank you for considering a donation to our 2015 wish list. Donations of all sizes are welcome to support our wish list. Please send donations to Linda Alexy, our Treasurer, at 438 Regina St., Philadelphia, PA 19116-2405.

Mark your calendars for upcoming events!

SATURDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER: The SCS Council meeting is changing the time on a trial basis, so the September meeting at Gloria Dei will be Saturday, 19 September, with *fika* at 10 a.m. and the meeting from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m.

SATURDAY, 17 OCTOBER: The Swedish Embassy in Washington DC has launched a year-long program "Earth and Space 2015". The Embassy will be represented at a special event sponsored by New Sweden Centre on 17 October. The Cabin to Capsule program will be held at the Junior Achievement Center, 522 S. Walnut St., Wilmington DE. Frank Eld, log cabin builder from Idaho, will be demonstrating the construction of the early log cabins in the Delaware Valley. Also a representative of ILC Dover will bring one of the space suits they manufacture to talk about space travel. A log cabin diorama by Marnie King, will be dedicated there in the New Sweden Centre's exhibit in JA Finance Park. For further information contact info@colonialnewsweden.org.

SATURDAY, 14 NOVEMBER: The fifteenth annual New Sweden History Conference will be held at the historic Lazaretto Ballroom, "the Ellis Island of Philadelphia," Tinicum in Essington PA on Saturday, 14 November. The Conference title is *Power and Politics in New Sweden, 1638-1655*, emphasizing the governing of New Sweden by all five of the Commanders/Governors (Minuit, Ridder, Printz, Papegoja, and Risingh). Four European scholars as well as Professor Soderlund and The Rev. Dr. Kim-Eric Williams will be presenting. This Conference itself will no doubt be historic.

SATURDAY, 19 DECEMBER: Julmiddagen once again at the Corinthian Yacht Club. Details forthcoming.