



Swedish Colonial News

Volume 1, Number 10

Fall, 1994

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

Recently I had the opportunity to represent our Society at the Conference of Swedish America in Minneapolis, MN held by the Swedish Council of America on May 13 and 14 at the American Swedish Institute, the former Turnblad Mansion, and the perfect setting for a memorable evening of Swedish culture, food and entertainment. We were served a fine herring dinner in the Sillbord style followed by music of Swedish fiddlers. I enjoyed the evening with Erik Tornquist, former SCS Governor, and his wife Linnea, daughter of Carl and Alice Lindborg.

The following day I attended a series of interesting workshops including "Using Libraries for Swedish Genealogical Research" and "The Genuine Swedish Smörgåsbord".

The highlight of the weekend was the Great Swedish Heritage Awards Dinner. This year's recipient was Richard E. Oldenburg, Director of the Museum of Modern Art in NYC and the Swede of the Year Award was presented to Håkan Hagegard, the famed Swedish lyric baritone. Ambassador Henrik Liljegren gave the concluding remarks.

I compared notes with several members of the Swedish Colonial Society who were present—Robert and Vicki Peterson, Paul and Betty Cornell, and Ann Barton Brown, Director of the American Swedish Historic Museum. We all agreed the conference was first rate.

John C. Cameron 🐾

HISTORIC SITES

The John Hans Steelman House At Elkton, MD Falling To Ruins



The John Hans Steelman House with the original front door facing west towards Little Elk Creek. The door has been filled in because of flooding from the river.

John Hans Steelman (1655-1749), the eldest son of Hans Månsson and Ella Stille, was born on his father's Aronameck plantation (West Philadelphia) and moved with his parents in the 1670s to the north side of Pennsauken Creek in Burlington County, NJ. In 1687 he moved to Red Clay Creek in New Castle County, DE where he married Maria, daughter of John Andersson Stalcop. By 1693 he had moved to "Sahakitko" (now known as Elkton) in Cecil County, Maryland, where he acquired a 200-acre

tract at the "Head of Elk" on Little Elk Creek. Here he launched a 50-year career as an Indian trader and Indian interpreter that earned him the distinction of being the foremost Indian trader of his times on the frontiers of northern Maryland and Pennsylvania.

In 1697, three new ministers sent by Sweden to fill the empty pulpits of the Swedish churches on the Delaware, arrived in America in the Chesapeake Bay and

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FOREFATHERS

Hans Månsson and His Steelman Family

Hans Månsson chose to go to New Sweden with alacrity. His alternative was death by hanging.

In the autumn of 1640 a young trooper called Hans Månsson from Hanaskede, Skaraborg län, Sweden, entered the Crown's garden at the monastery in Varnhem "and there ruined 6 of the best apple trees and 2 of the best cherry trees in order to obtain material for some mane combs." At his sentencing on 31 May 1641 he was given the choice of being sent to New Sweden with his wife and children or of going to the gallows.

Born about 1612, Hans Månsson was not yet 30 years old when he departed from Göteborg on either the *Kalmar Nyckel* or the *Charitas* in July 1641. It is probable that his wife and children accompanied him, although no later reference to them has been found. Arriving in New Sweden in November, Hans served for at least five years as a convict laborer before gaining his freedom. He then settled on a tract of land on the west side of the Delaware known as Aronameck with Peter Jochimsson, a former Swedish soldier who married Ella Stille, daughter of Olof Stille.

In 1653 Hans Månsson joined Peter Jochimsson and 20 other freemen in signing a petition to Governor Printz raising objections to the harshness of his rule. Printz labeled the petition a "mutiny" and then abruptly returned to Sweden. When Governor Rising arrived in 1654 to assume command, both Hans and Peter joined other freemen in pledging their allegiance. Peter Jochimsson then agreed to go to New Amsterdam to deliver a letter of friendship from Rising to Governor Stuyvesant and to bring back the Dutch governor's reply. However, Peter became ill in Manhattan and died there in the summer of 1654, leaving the young widow Ella and their two infant children, Peter and Elizabeth. Hans Månsson, then 42, married Ella Stille, then 20, and started his second family.

Hans Månsson became a respected leader of the up-river Swedes living within

the jurisdiction of the "Swedish Nation," later known as the Upland Court. He succeeded Sven Skute as captain of the militia and served as spokesman for settlers in his area who in 1660 successfully opposed Stuyvesant's plan for them to move to a single, fortified village. His 1100-acre plantation fronted on the Schuylkill between present Woodlands Cemetery and about 60th Street and extended westward as far as Cobb's Creek.

In the mid-1670s, Hans Månsson also became the first white settler on Pennsauken Creek in present Burlington County. He moved permanently to this site by 1681 when he sold his Aronameck plantation to his stepson, Peter Petersson Yocum. Hans returned to Pennsylvania on occasion. On 25 June 1684, at the request of William Penn, Hans Månsson, aged "72 years or thereabouts," joined Peter Cock, 74, and Peter Rambo, 72, in signing an affidavit relating facts designed to show that Lord Baltimore recognized the right of New Sweden to occupy lands on the Delaware.

Hans Månsson died at Senamensing, Burlington County, about 1691. In the following year his property was taxed to "Widow Hance."

By 1693 Hans Månsson's widow and his six sons (known as Hansson, or son of Hans) adopted the surname of Steelman, undoubtedly derived from her maiden name of Stille. Old Ella Steelman, born in Sweden, was buried in Gloucester County, NJ, 22 Jan. 1718 at the age of 83.

Ella's known children, all but the first two born to Hans Månsson, were:

1. **Peter Petersson Yocum**, born 1652, who married Judith Jonasdotter, daughter of Jonas Nilsson of Kingsessing, in 1676 and had ten children, seven of them sons, before his death at Aronameck in 1702.

2. **Elizabeth Petersdotter**, born 1654, who married John Ogle, an English soldier. They resided on White Clay Creek in New Castle County and had two sons before Ogle's death in 1684. She died in the early 1690s.

3. **John Hansson Steelman**, born 1655, moved to New Castle County by 1687 and married Maria, daughter of John Andersson Stalcop. Moving to Cecil County, MD, by 1693 he became an Indian trader and died in present Adams County, PA, in 1749. He had at least two sons,

possibly more.

4. **Christiern Hansson Steelman** followed his brother John to New Castle County. By 1708 he was the second husband of Mary Cann, a Quaker, widow of James Claypoole, Jr. Thereafter, until at least 1737, Christiern was an active communicant at Holy Trinity Church. Children, if any, are unknown.

5. **James Hansson Steelman** married Susannah Toy by 1690. In 1695 he acquired lands at Great Egg Harbor in the area of present Atlantic City. He died in 1734, survived by six sons and two daughters.

6. **Peter Hansson Steelman**, born c. 1674, married Gertrude Keen, daughter of Hans Keen, c. 1695. He, too, acquired lands in the Atlantic City area, where he died after 1737, survived by five sons and two known daughters.

7. **Charles Hansson Steelman**, born 1679, married Anna, daughter of Anthony Nilsson, c. 1702. He died six years later at Senamensing in Burlington County, NJ, survived by one son and two daughters, all of whom moved to New Castle County.

8. **Eric Hansson Steelman**, born 1681, married Brigitta [parents not identified] and acquired land in Gloucester County, NJ, from Gustaf Lock in 1715. He died of smallpox in 1731, survived by two sons and four daughters.

It is not unlikely that Ella Stille, who was bearing children for almost 30 years (1652-1681) had additional daughters who have not been identified.

Dr. Peter S. Craig

NOTE:

Dr. Peter Craig's book, *The 1693 Census of the Swedes on the Delaware* may be ordered for \$37.50 plus \$2.50 postage and handling from:

SAG Publications
P.O. Box 32790
Winter Park, FL 32790

If autographed copies are desired, your order and check should be directed to:

Dr. Peter S. Craig
3406 Macomb Street NW
Washington, DC 20016

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were ushered to Sahakitko to be met by John Hans Steelman and his Swedish neighbors. One of these Swedish ministers, Ericus Björk, would later marry Steelman's niece, Christina Petersdotter Stalcop, in 1702.

John Hans Steelman provided over one half of the capital necessary for the construction of Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church, through loans of £320. When he forgave a loan for £100, he was promised a burial spot within the church — an offer that was never exercised.

The impressive new Swedish church on the Christina River probably motivated Steelman to replicate the building on his own property at Sahakitko. Hiring the same Swedish craftsmen who had worked on Holy Trinity (blacksmith Matthias Matthiasson DeFoss and carpenter Hendrick Jöransson Snickare), Steelman's stone mansion was built around 1700 and became a favored place for Steelman, as Maryland's "Interpreter-in-Chief," to negotiate peace treaties with the Indians.

Through the initiative of Dr. Richard H. Hulan, folklorist of Arlington, VA, the imposing stone structure at Elk Landing on Little Elk Creek was listed on the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service ten years ago. Dr. Craig assisted in providing historical documentation. On the National Register it is listed as "Old Stone House, Elk Landing," as the reviewing committee deemed the evidence "insufficient" to prove that the house was built in the period of Steelman's ownership of the land.

In 1735 the property was acquired by the Hollingsworth family, which later added the top floor and operated the property as a tavern. The Hollingsworth family itself lived in a newer 18th century house built to the northeast of the Steelman house.

The "Old Stone House" as it appeared in 1984 is shown by the photograph accompanying this article. The house measures 28 x 36 feet and features three corner fireplaces on the main floor. The basement, level with the bottom of the slope, was used for storage of furs and other goods. The former front door and basement doors have been closed up by stone through the years as a defense against periodic floodwaters from Little Elk Creek.

The house has been unoccupied for several decades. Dr. Hulan reports that he

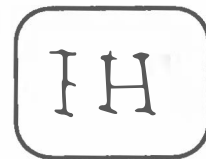
visited the property in the spring and found that the roof had fallen in and that all of the interior was now exposed to the elements. The property where the house stands is still owned by descendants of the Hollingsworth family.

The stone house on Little Elk Creek remained Steelman's primary home until the 1720s when he moved westward to follow his principal customers, the Indians. In 1737 he was one of the signers of the infamous "Walking Purchase" treaty between Pennsylvania and the Delaware Indians. In 1740, he testified on the Penn family's behalf in its dispute with Lord Baltimore on the boundary between Pennsylvania and Maryland. John Hans Steelman died in 1749, at the age of 94, in Lancaster (now Adams) County, PA. The sale of his property after his death netted only £23. He never collected on his £220 loan to Holy Trinity Church. Most of that money was exhausted in the early 1700s under court orders in order to pay Steelman's creditors, including the two Swedish craftsmen who had helped to build his stone house on Little Elk Creek.

Dr. Peter S. Craig

NOTE:

There are no plans to save the building at this time. If you have a special interest in this building and would like to do something about it, please contact Peter Craig.



This is John Hans Steelman's special mark with which he signed important documents. In Swedish it is called *bomärke*. This is Steelman's signature from an Indian deed signed in 1737.

BOOK REVIEWS

The 1693 Census of the Swedes on the Delaware

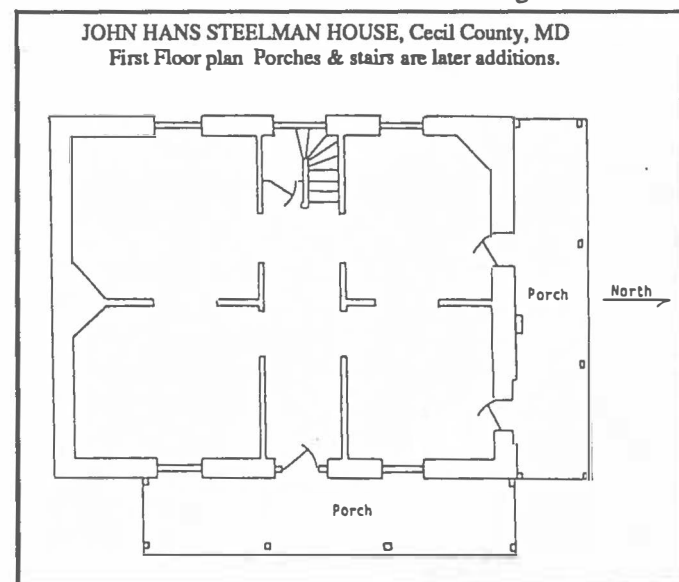
by Dr. Peter S. Craig

"While Weslager has tended to present a more general view of the early Swedish, Dutch, and English settlements of the Delaware Valley and Gehring has concentrated on editing the manuscript collections at Albany, New York, relating to these settlements, Craig has focused his attention on the Swedish settlers themselves. In this extraordinary book he provides for the first time an accurate transcription of the 1693 census. But Craig is not content with merely transcribing the census; through painstaking and assiduous research, utilizing an astonishing array of sources in both America and Sweden, he has crafted biographical sketches of the 195 heads of households listed and has reconstructed the households themselves. At the same time, he demolishes many of the absurd claims and egregious errors made by generations of care-

less researchers.

"Craig has provided an immense service to historians and genealogists alike and has demonstrated, at a time when family reconstruction is immensely popular but often carelessly done, that meticulous research should be the rule, not the exception. Craig has also included two excellent maps that he commissioned for this project."

Craig W. Horle,
Pennsylvania Magazine of History & Biography



EDUCATION



Stacy Mayhew, Mrs. Axelson and her daughter Sophia.
PHOTO: BETH LINNERSOON-DALY

New Jersey Students Visit Sweden

At the end of August, long before most American schools had begun, 16 teenagers from Upper Pittsgrove School in Salem County, New Jersey were attending school in Sweden. It was part of an exchange begun by computer in their classroom. The students were chaperoned by Tom Jones, their Social Studies teacher, and four other adults.

They stayed in the homes of students and teachers at their sister school—Talavidskolen. Their itinerary was jam-packed. In addition to attending classes in the Jönköping schools they spent two days in Stockholm and one in Gothenburg.

At a barbeque held on the last night of their stay the US youngsters enthusiastically discussed their eventful trip. Brian Clark, 13, considered the trip a great learning experience. "Sweden was completely different than I expected," he said. "I thought it might be something like Disney World—sort of a tourist attraction but its more homelike. More like New Jersey."

Stacy Mayhew said, "It's a lot nicer than I expected, a lot different. It's cleaner, prettier, the people are a lot nicer. I was surprised at how beautiful it was. I love it here."

Both Jennifer Comely and her twin sister Cynthia were struck by the beauty of Stockholm and loved the adventure swimming pools but they were not taken with the Swedish breakfasts. "They eat different

here," said Cynthia.

Prior to the visit the students were introduced to their young hosts by computer and sent letters and photos back and forth over the summer.

The two Swedish coordinators were teachers from Talavidskolen, Monika Ljunggren and Lena Winald-Moller who have been "on-line" with Tom Jones and his students since 1990. Both Talavid organizers visited Upper Pittsgrove in June 1993 for the 350th Anniversary celebration of Governor Printz's arrival—"Kids Celebrate".

Contacts were set up through the New Sweden Project, the school-to-school computer exchange program sponsored by our Swedish Colonial Society of Philadelphia.

Fast friendships have been made, a larger view of the world has begun, children have been informed and inspired and the Swedish students count the days until they can visit America.

Beth Linnerson-Daly



Monika Ljunggren, Tom Jones and Lena Winald-Moller, coordinators for the trip.
PHOTO: BETH LINNERSOON-DALY

American Kids and the Governor

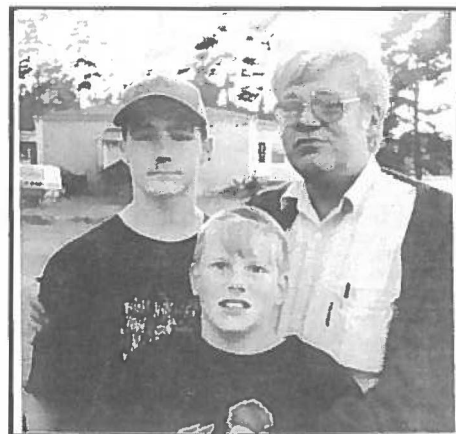
Old Johan Printz would surely have smiled on this group of Americans in Jönköping this summer. Over the past few years they and their friends at the Upper Pittsgrove School in Salem County in southern New Jersey had been studying about Governor Printz and the New Sweden Colony. It was especially appropriate since the land on which they now live was once governed by "Big Belly" himself.

The tales of Johan Printz and the New Sweden Colony were not forgotten as the sixteen young middle school children vis-

ited his home, Gunillaberg, and his final resting place in Bottnaryd. Who could say if he heard them as they tapped upon the floor above his grave or tried to quickly catch a glimpse of his ghost passing through the halls of his mansion.

No, it is not so! For the children know his body may lay beneath these boards, but his heart and soul have returned to America. On those warm and misty mornings on the banks of the Delaware they can still hear his roar and see his boat with flag unfurled as he makes sail for Fort Elfsborg and adventure.

Tom Jones, Assistant Vice Principal
Upper Pittsgrove School, Salem County, NJ



Brian Clark with his Swedish hosts, Mateus Inlander and his father. PHOTO: BETH LINNERSOON-DALY

Swedish Teachers and Students Visit N. J. School

For the second consecutive year The Samuel Mickle School (formerly named The East Greenwich School) in Mickleton, NJ, was privileged to host five Swedish teachers and five of their students from Barnarpsskolan, in Jönköping, Sweden. This visit was an extension of the on-going New Sweden Project begun in 1990 connecting Barnarpsskolan and the Samuel Mickle School through computer link.

The students stayed with local families during their eight day visit. The Swedish guests shared their culture through a slide presentation, songs, folk dancing and sports. During the week they traveled to New York City, Washington, D.C., Lancaster, PA, and the Jersey shore. Of particular local interest to the teachers was the Nothnagle Cabin in Gibbstown, NJ and the Old

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Swedes Church in Swedesboro, NJ.

The Swedish guests wanted to understand American school life better, so the Swedish children attended classes with their American student hosts, and their teachers observed and participated in Language Arts, Special Education, Science, Physical Education and Art classes.

During the stay friendships in the two schools deepened relationships that have been four years in the making. The many participants continue to reap the rewards that come from a better understanding of each other's culture,

The Swedish teachers' trip was funded by the Swedish Institute in Stockholm.

Elaine Myers, Linda Turk and Keith Webb,
Teachers, The Samuel Mickle School
Gloucester County, NJ

In Memoriam - 1993-1994

The following is a listing of the deaths of valued SCS members during the past year. It sadly includes a number of long-standing Forefather Members as well:

Mrs. Martha Helms Bates,
Wallingford, PA
descended from Israel Åkesson Helm
Member since 1937, Age 99

Mrs. Jane Bester
Sun City, Arizona
descended from Rev. Lars Carlsson Lock
Member since 1936, Age 82

Edmund D. Curtis, Jr.
Ardencroft, DE
Member since 1975

Paul J. Holsen, Jr.
Naples, FL
Member since 1983

C. L. Koebel
Grosse Pointe Shores, MI
Member since 1946

Mrs. Irene Lewis
Paoli, PA
descended from
Peter Gunnarson Rambo
Member since 1926
Age 105, our oldest member.

(Obituary in next issue)

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OBITUARY

Dr. C. A. Weslager Dies At The Age Of 85

Dr. Clinton Albert Weslager, noted historian of the early Swedish settlements on the Delaware and an Honorary Councillor of the Swedish Colonial Society, aged 85, died of a pulmonary embolism August 5, 1994, at Christiana Hospital near his retirement home in Newark, Delaware.

In his writing career that spanned 50 years, C. A. Weslager, as he was known to his readers, wrote 15 major books and over 100 pamphlets and articles on history and archaeology, especially on topics relating to the Delaware River Valley.

Raised in Pittsburgh, "Wes" (as he was known to his friends and colleagues) graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 1933. After more than 30 years with the DuPont Company, he took early retirement in 1968 in order to devote full time to his interests in history. He later taught Delaware history at Wesley College and the University of Delaware before joining the Widener University faculty, from which he retired in 1983.

Weslager's first book, *Delaware's Forgotten Folk*, about the Nanticoke Indians, was published in 1943. This was followed by *Delaware's Buried Past* (1944) and *Delaware's Forgotten River* (1947), both of which touched upon early Swedish settlement in New Castle County. *The Richardsons of Delaware* (1957) devoted its opening chapter to the settlement of Anders Andersson the Finn and his associates on Little Mill Creek. *Dutch Explorers, Traders and Settlers in the Delaware Valley* (1961) and *The English on the Delaware, 1610-1682* (1967) provided useful companions to Dr. Amandus Johnson's 1911 classic, *Swedish Settlements on the Delaware*.

Weslager's *The Log Cabin in America* (1969) is the definitive work establishing that the Swedes and Finns introduced the log cabin to America. His last three books, *The Swedes and Dutch at New Castle* (1987), *New Sweden on the Delaware* (1988) and *A Man and His Ship: Peter Minuit and the Kalmar Nyckel* (1989), firmly established Dr. Weslager as the foremost historian of his time on the Swedish settlers of the Delaware Valley in the 17th century.

Wes' death comes as a particular loss to this writer. For the past dozen years he has been my mentor and best critic, and I owe him especial gratitude for writing the foreword to my 1993 book, *The 1693 Census of the Swedes on the Delaware*, which he reviewed and critiqued in manuscript.

Dr. Peter S. Craig ❖

NEW FOREFATHER MEMBERS

Eldon A. Angelo, Puyallup, Washington, descended from **Israel Åkesson Helm** via his son **Åkenus Helm** and the latter's daughter **Deborah** who married **Benjamin Angelo**.

Daniel M. Brown, Collings Lakes, NJ, descended from **Matts Hansson** via his son **Peter Mattsson** of Gloucester County, NJ.

James R. Yocom, Tacoma, Wash., descended from **Peter Jochimsson** via **Peter Petersson Yocom** and **Andrew Yocom**.

Raymond Michael Borland, Colora, Maryland, descended from **Johan Grelsson** (alias Jan Cornelius) via his son **John Archer** and **Jacob Archer**.

Lawrence Mattson, Macedon, NY, descended from **Matts Hansson** via his son **Peter Mattsson** of Gloucester County, NJ.

Herbert R. Rambo, Berlin, NJ, descended from **Peter Gunnarsson Rambo** via his son **John Rambo** of Gloucester County, NJ.

James A. Friend, Edison, NJ, descended from **Nils Larsson Frände** via his son **John Friend**.

Walter Albert Muller, Camarillo, California, descended from **Jürgen Keen** via his son **Hans Keen**.

Denis Higginbotham, Mobile, Alabama, descended from **Olof Stille** via his son **Andrew Stille** and **Jacob Stille**.

David E. West, Peoria, Illinois, descended from **Peter Gunnarsson Rambo** via his son **Peter Rambo** of Philadelphia County.

In Memoriam (Continued from page 5)

John Morton
Media, PA
descended from *Mårten Mårtensson*
Member since 1975, Age 77

Joseph S. Rambo
Philadelphia, PA
descended from
Peter Gunnarsson Rambo
Member since 1965

Mrs. Mary G. Roebling
Trenton, NJ
descended from *Johan Scoggin*,
Member since 1938, Age 89
(Obituary in next issue)

James A. Sutton
Bryn Mawr, PA
descended from *Peter Jochimsson*
Member since 1965, Age 81

Robert R. Van Gulick
Newtown, PA
descended from *Peter Claesen Wyckoff*
Member since 1968, Age 67

Dr. C. A. Weslager
Newark, DE
Honorary Member, Age 85
(See obituary on page 5)

Fred W. Yocum, Sr.
Aldan, PA
descended from *Peter Jochimsson*
Member since 1980, Age 67

Upcoming Events

St. Lucia's Festival & Dinner
American Swedish Historical Museum
Philadelphia, PA
Friday, Dec. 2nd & Saturday, Dec. 3rd

Julmiddag
Swedish Colonial Society
The Merion Cricket Club
Haverford, PA
Sunday, Dec. 4th, Reception 11:30, Dinner 12:30

Swedish Colonial Christmas
Cumberland County Historical Society
Greenwich NJ
Sunday Dec. 4th, 12 noon and 5 pm

Holiday Ethnic Festival
Nothnagle Cabin
Gibbstown, NJ
Sunday, Dec. 4th, 2 pm to 4 pm

St. Lucia's Day Ceremony
Trinity Church, Parish Hall
Swedesboro, NJ
Sunday, Dec. 11th, 6 pm

Past Events 1994

April 10
FOREFATHERS' LUNCHEON, held jointly with the Delaware Swedish Colonial Society (see details on page 7).

April 24
CONSUL GENERAL OF SWEDEN, Honorable Dag Ahlander and his family visited historic Swedish sites in the Delaware Valley region (see details on page 7).

April 30
TWO LECTURES were delivered by Dr. Peter S. Craig to the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society in Jessup, Maryland. "The Antient Sweeds on the Delaware" and "Relations Between the Swedish and German churches in the Middle Colonies in the 18th Century."

May 26-27
THE PENNSVILLE TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY in Penns Grove, Salem County, NJ held a meeting focused on information on the 17th-century Swedish settlements in Salem County given by Dr. Craig. Interest was high on his new book and several local historians were delighted to get autographed copies.

On the following day John Warner, former commissioner of the New Sweden Commemorative Commission, gave Dr. Craig a personally-guided tour to several historic sites in Swedesboro including "Stratton Hall," built on the Fishing Place plantation of Olof Dalbo, one of the founders of the log church at Raccoon (now known as Swedesboro).

July 10
AN SCS OFFICERS AND COUNCIL RETREAT was held at Clifford Holgren's lovely historic home in Bryn Mawr. Plans for the coming year as well as long-range plans were on the agenda.

July 24
The **LOWER SWEDISH CABIN** was the site of a tree planting ceremony dedicated to Carl Lindborg. Guests of honor were Alice Lindborg and



Governor Cameron chats with Esther Chilsrom Meizner, author of The Governor's Daughter at the DuPont Country Club.
PHOTO: LENA CARLSSON

Katarina Sheronas, representatives of Upper Darby Township and the SCS.

August 18-30
TWENTY SEVEN TEACHERS visited Swedish schools in Jönköping as part of the Hands Across the Water Educational Exchange. Beth Linnerson-Daly, education coordinator for the SCS, was the delegation leader.

September 18
"17th CENTURY MILL SITES OF THE ANTIEN SWEEDS" was Dr. Peter S. Craig's address, sponsored by the Mills Project, at the annual meeting of the American Swedish Historical Museum, Philadelphia.

September 20
THE DELAWARE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY in Wilmington, DE invited Dr. Craig to speak. The discussion centered on the four-state New Jersey-Pennsylvania-Delaware-Maryland area during the 17th century.

October 4 & 6
THE AMERICAN SWEDISH HISTORICAL MUSEUM had a program for a week long Elder Hostel study trip called "Before William Penn" at which talks were given by Dr. Peter S. Craig and John Cameron, this society's current governor.

Consul General and Historic Sites

On Sunday, April 24th, 1994, the SCS hosted special visitors, Consul General Dag Ahlander and his family, introducing them to the early Swedish landmarks which still remain of New Sweden along the Delaware River. Twenty-six other SCS members also joined the party including the Executive Director of IKEA, Göran Carstedt and his wife.

The tour began at **Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church**, the oldest church in Pennsylvania, founded in 1677 by the Swedish/Finnish settlers. Reverend David Rivers led the morning service.

After the worship service the group traveled to Delaware County, an area rich in many Swedish historical sites. The first stop was the **Lower Swedish Cabin** on Creek Road in Upper Darby, lovingly restored and maintained by Friends of the Swedish Cabin.

The next site was the **Morton Homestead** in Prospect Park. Mayor Donald Cook greeted the party at this famous property. The cabin is said to have been built in the 17th century by **Mårten Mårtenson**, ancestor of John Morton, one of Pennsylvania's signers of the Declaration of Independence in 1776.

A short distance away in Essington, they gathered at **Governor Printz Park** on the banks of the Delaware—the site of the first permanent settlement in present Pennsylvania, then called New Gothenberg. **Printzhof**, the governor's mansion, was constructed on Tinicum Island in 1643, some four decades before William Penn arrived. The group lunched at the neighboring **Corinthian Yacht Club**.

The group then journeyed on to Chester, the second oldest settlement in Pennsylvania, originally named Upland by the Swedes. The group visited the **Old Swedish Burial Ground** at Third Street and the Avenue of the States. John Morton (1724-1777) and Isaac Culin (1750-1826), descendants of the early settlers, are buried there. Culin is an ancestor of our present Governor, John Cameron.

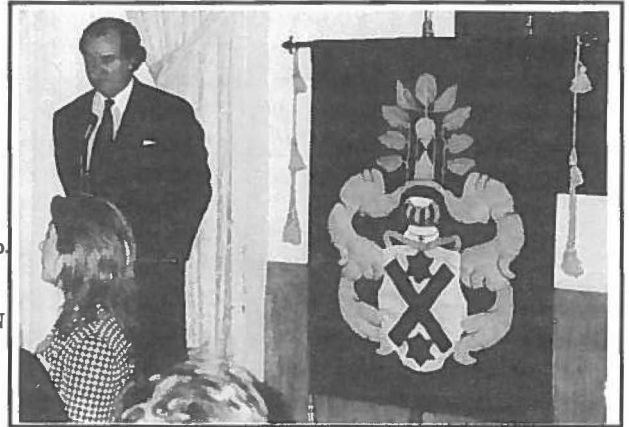
The last stop of the day was the **Hendrickson House** on the grounds of Holy Trinity Church in Wilmington, Delaware. This house, known as the "Old Swedes House," originally stood on the east side of Crum Creek in Eddystone,

PA, near the Culin and Morton properties.

If you were unable to join the group on this most interesting tour, you might follow their path some quiet Sunday morning and pay homage to those settlers who have gone before.

Ambassador Liljegren delivers his address to the combined members of Swedish Colonial Societies. On his left is the Johan Printz family Coat of Arms. The banner was made for the 1993 celebration by Jean Roll, direct descendant of Peter Gunarsson Rambo. Four generations of her family attended the June 11th ceremony.

PHOTO: LENA CARLSSON



Ambassador Liljegren, Mrs Liljegren, John Cameron, our Governor, and Connie Metcalf, Governor of the Delaware Swedish Colonial Society.

PHOTO: LENA CARLSSON



Forefather's Luncheon

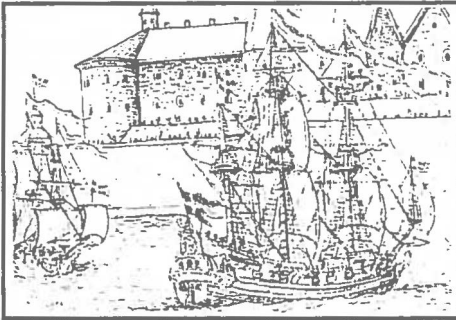
The Swedish Colonial Society in conjunction with the Delaware Swedish Colonial Society held their annual meeting and luncheon at the DuPont Country Club, Wilmington, on April 10th.

The guests of Honor were His Excellency Swedish Ambassador to the United States and Mrs. Henrik Lilejgrem. In the morning, a worship service was held at the Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church. A wreath laying ceremony was attended by members of the organizations at "The Rocks" in Fort Christina Park.

The following officers were elected for 1994-95:

John C. Cameron, Governor
 John W. Widtfeldt, Sr. Deputy Governor
 Mrs. George C. McFarland, Jr. Deputy Governor
 Tamall L. Hillman, Treasurer
 Doris Ryall, Recording Secretary
 Wallace F. Richter, Registrar
 Gordon L. Keen, Jr., Counselor
 John Ramee, Color Guard
 Lena Carlsson, Events Chairman
 Rev. David B. Rivers, Secretary
 Rev. Reed Brinkman, Chaplain
 Peter S. Craig, Historian
 Beth Linnerson-Daly, Education

MEMBERS



CONGRATULATIONS

The Kalmar Nyckel Foundation recently announced it soon will begin construction of the Kalmar Nyckel replica of the 115-foot man-of-war which brought Peter Minuit to the Rocks" in 1638, leading to the establishment of the New Sweden Colony.

This long-awaited moment has been made possible by a \$100,000 grant from the General Assembly of the Delaware State Government which brings the first building phase goal of raising \$250,000 near to completion.

The shipbuilder, Allen Rawl of Bradshaw, MD, will work with student and volunteer labor as well as skilled artisans. They hope to finish this first phase building of the keel, stem and stern by spring 1995. The second phase, the addition of the ribs and planking, will continue into the next year.

Anyone interested in contributing to this exciting project either financially or through volunteer labor should contact Peggy Tigie Fillos at the Kalmar Nyckel Foundation in Wilmington, DE. (302)429-SHIP.

The Swedish Colonial Society applauds these efforts and would like to again publicly thank the Kalmar Nyckel Foundation for the use of "The Little Key" for the Kids Celebrate ceremonies in 1993.

Beth Linnerson-Daly ❖

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The Swedish Colonial Society
Membership Application Fee:

| | |
|---------------|----------|
| Individual | \$20.00 |
| Family | \$30.00 |
| Life: | \$300.00 |
| Organization: | \$30.00 |

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SWEDISH COLONIAL
NEWS

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