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-- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE --

**Announcing the 15th Annual
New Sweden History Conference
Power & Politics in New Swden: 1638-1655
Saturday, November 14, 2015 at 9am to 3:30pm
At the Lazaretto Ballroom in Essington, PA**

Philadelphia, PA- This year's New Sweden History Conference will investigate the political powers involved in the New Sweden Colony. The conference will explore the mechanisms by which New Sweden's governors maintained and exercised influence in their enduring struggle for control of the Delaware Valley and its access to the riches of North America. Speakers will analyze the governing styles and effectiveness of political figures such as Peter Minuit, Peter Hollander Ridder, Johan Printz, Peter Stuyvesant, and the influence the Lenape had on political decisions. Magdalena Naum from Oulu University in Finland will moderate what is sure to be a fascinating analysis of political authority in the Delaware Valley during the seventeenth century.

Registration, breakfast, and lunch costs \$45 per person (\$35 for students and teachers. Register by phone at (215) 389-1776 or online at americanswedish.org/calendar.htm. The Lazaretto Ballroom is located at 99 Wanamaker Ave., Essington, PA 19029.



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

About the Speakers:

MAGDALENA NAUM, Moderator

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

MARK L. THOMPSON

This year's Keynote speaker has been a member of the American Studies Department at University of Groningen, The Netherlands, since 2010. His recently published book *The Contest for the Delaware Valley: Allegiance, Identity, and Empire in the Seventeenth Century* received the

Pennsylvania Historical Association's Philip B. Klein Book Prize on Pennsylvania history. Professor Thompson also authored the study on *The Limits of New Netherland: The Dutch in the Seventeenth-Century Delaware Valley*.

TYTTI HALONEN

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

HANS NORMAN

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

KIM-ERIC WILLIAMS

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

JEAN SODERLUND

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

The American Swedish Historical Museum is located in FDR Park at 1900 Pattison Avenue in South Philadelphia, five blocks west of the Sports Complex. The Museum is easily accessible from Route 95 or 76 and has free parking. For those taking public transportation, the Broad Street subway AT&T/Pattison Ave stop, or SEPTA's Route 17 bus is within walking distance of the Museum.

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