



Contact:
Caroline Rossy
Membership and Marketing Coordinator
Tel: 215-389-1776, Fax: 215-389-7701
Email: crossy@americanswedish.org

-- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE --

Discover the story behind the log cabin at
***The 12th Annual New Sweden History Conference:
The Forest Finns of Europe, New Sweden and North America***
at the American Swedish Historical Museum
Saturday, November 3, 2012 9am-3pm

In the 12 year tradition of highlighting research on the Swedish colonial era in the Delaware Valley, this year's New Sweden History Conference focuses on the Forest Finns, and will take place at the American Swedish Historical Museum in Philadelphia, November 3rd starting at 9am.

The Forest Finns were an important Nordic cultural group that emigrated from Finland into Sweden and then to North America through the New Sweden colony (1638-1655) on the lower Delaware River. The conference will examine Forest Finn culture in Europe and North America, and the broader Finnish material culture legacy for the United States. Five scholars will discuss various aspects of this little discussed group and examine their impact on North America.

Registration, continental breakfast and Swedish inspired lunch provided by the ASHM Auxiliary, costs \$40 per person, \$30 for students and teachers. Registration deadline is Monday, October 22nd. Call 215-389-1776 or visit www.americanswedish.org/calendar.htm to register.

Presentations include:

Maud Wedin "The Evolution of Forest Finn Culture in Finland and Scandinavia in the 16th and 17th Centuries"



Ronald Hendrickson, "'On this shore a home established ... ': An Introduction to the Forest Finns in America."

Jan Myhrvold, "Perspectives on Family Names and Migration before 1821: Studies on the Forest Finn Ethnicity in Dalarna and the Swedish-Norwegian Border Area"

Lu Ann De Cunzo, "The 'Cultures of Agriculture' in 17th-Century New Sweden"

Frank Eld, "Finnish Vernacular Log Structures in New Sweden and North America"

The American Swedish Historical Museum is located in scenic FDR Park at 1900 Pattison Avenue in South Philadelphia near the Sports Complex. Plenty of free parking is available. For those taking public transportation, the Broad Street Subway's AT&T/Pattison Avenue stop is within walking distance, or SEPTA's Route 17 (Naval Base) can bring you right to the Museum.

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