

November 2011

Dear Friends,

Like many of our board members, the two of us have enjoyed a long involvement with the Swedish-American Historical Society. Phil first joined the board in 1984, and has served as President of the Society continuously since 1989. He has published articles and book reviews in the *Quarterly* since 1989. Kevin joined the Society in 1974, published his first article in the *Quarterly* in 1981, and joined the board in 1993. He now serves in his second stint as Chair of the board. Our lengthy involvement with the Society is a reflection of our support for the Society's work and its focused mission *to record and interpret the Swedish presence in America*.

Some of you have also had lengthy involvements with the Society; others of you may have joined more recently. Regardless of how long your involvement with the Society has been, we are grateful for it and hope it will continue long into the future. And we hope you will help us keep the Society headed for a bright 2012 with a special contribution before year's end.

We've had a great year in 2011. Last spring, our Society welcomed Marion Marzolf to our membership meeting in Chicago. Marion authored the popular book, *Shuttle in Her Hand: A Swedish Immigrant Weaver in America*, the first novel that our Society has ever published. Marion shared with us the background of this well-researched book about Lisa Lindholm, a twentieth-century Swedish immigrant weaver, and much of the under-told story of Swedish weaving both in Sweden and in America.

The Society continued its work in 2011 of bringing new books to print as well. We are pleased to announce the publication of our new book, *Norwegians and Swedes in America: Friends & Neighbors*. Edited by Phil Anderson and Dag Blanck, the Society co-sponsored a conference in 2007 with the Swenson Center at Augustana College on this topic. The Minnesota Historical Society Press is publishing this new volume.

As we have since 1950, the Society continued to publish the *Swedish-American Historical Quarterly*. The *Quarterly* remains the premier historical journal for documenting and interpreting the Swedish presence in America. And, thanks to a grant from the Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation, we have finished digitizing all the back issues of the *Quarterly*, now posted for casual reading and serious research alike on our website at: (www.swedishamericanhist.org).

As this partial description shows, we had a great year in 2011. But we have even more plans for 2012 and beyond. These include:

- Continued publication of the *Swedish-American Historical Quarterly*, edited for the 16th year in 2012 by Dr. Byron Nordstrom of Gustavus Adolphus College,
- Helping to bring to print **new books**, such as the publication of our book on Swedes and Norwegians by the Minnesota Historical Society Press,
- **Book dividends** for our members at the Sustaining level and above; our 2012 dividend will be *Norwegians and Swedes in the United States: Friends & Neighbors*,
- **Archives** work, including continued acquisition and preservation of important records and photographs connected to Swedish-Americana in the greater Chicago area, and making them available to interested researchers, under the professional direction of our archivist, Anne Jenner,
- **Meetings** for our members, with plans for an April 14, 2012, Chicago meeting featuring Bill Beyer and the new film he and Stefan Quinth produced on Scandinavian America,
- **Continued upgrading and updating of our Society's web site** on the Internet, located at www.swedishamericanhist.org.

As you can see from this letter, the two of us remain excited about the work of the Swedish-American Historical Society. We hope the Society will continue its important work far into the future, and we are most grateful for your past support. We hope you can continue that support now with a generous tax-deductible year-end gift. Thank you for your ongoing interest and support.

Sincerely,

Philip J. Anderson
President

Kevin Proescholdt
Chair

(clip and return)

Yes, I want to support the Swedish-American Historical Society with a tax-deductible contribution payable to "Swedish-American Historical Society."

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