

Rear Admiral John A. Dahlgren standing beside a 50-pounder Dahlgren rifle, on board the USS *Pawnee* in Charleston Harbor, c. 1863-1865. U.S. Naval History and Heritage Command photograph, catalog #: NH 63362

## The Innovator Who Advised a President: John A. Dahlgren

A meticulous, curious man who had an ironic “debilitating tendency to seasickness,” John A. Dahlgren is the most famous Swedish American you may never have heard of.

Born in Philadelphia on November 13, 1809, John A. Dahlgren was the son of Bernhard Ulric Dahlgren, a wealthy Swedish merchant who served as the Swedish Consul General in Philadelphia. From a young age, Bernhard instilled a strong sense of service, education, and hard work in his son, who excelled at math and science. Unfortunately, Bernhard Dahlgren died in 1824, leaving the family in a precarious financial situation. With the family in need of money, John applied for an appointment as a midshipman in the Navy. He was accepted in 1826 and began his career on board the USS *Macedonian*.

After several transfers and bouts of illness, the Navy assigned Dahlgren to the U.S. Coast Survey, where he served as a scientist from 1834 to 1837. During this time, Dahlgren studied naval ordnance and

was tasked with exploring ways to improve weaponry through emerging technologies and more precise engineering. During a medical leave of absence from 1837 to 1842, Dahlgren studied the revolutionary work of French artillery officer Henri Joseph Paixhans, who was designing a novel type of cannon that could fire explosive shells.

By 1847, Dahlgren was regarded by his peers as an ordinance expert and was, as such, assigned to the Bureau of Ordnance and Hydrography at the Washington Navy Yard. It was at the Washington Navy Yard that he would design the weaponry that would later define his legacy as the “Father of American Naval Ordnance.” His first innovations were the small boat Howitzer and the M1861 Whitney-Plymouth Navy rifle for amphibious warfare. His most famous innovation, the eponymous Dahlgren gun, was a shockingly effective design. It featured increased power, accuracy, and penetrative ability alongside a unique contoured shape, which distributed pressure more evenly and made it safer to fire explosive shells.



Commander John A. Dahlgren, USN. Engraving published in the “Soldier in Our Civil War,” Vol. II, page 37. Naval History and Heritage Command, catalog #: NH 58786



Dahlgren gun No. 1133 at ASHM. This IX-inch Dahlgren smoothbore gun is from the USS *Ticonderoga* and was used extensively during the bombardments of Fort Fisher in 1864 and 1865.

## Note from the Director

This fall, we are proud to honor several extraordinary individuals who have played a vital role in shaping the Museum and its community. Behind every exhibit, event, and program are people whose dedication and passion make it all possible.

Some contributions are easy to see—like the iconic cannons designed by John Dahlgren. These are the types of achievements often immortalized in museums and history books. But other equally important contributions are less tangible, yet deeply impactful. Think of the teachers whose influence spans generations, but whose names are rarely remembered.

The same goes for the volunteers and staff who give their time and energy to our Museum. Some inspire collective action and help raise significant support. Others work quietly behind the scenes to ensure that events feature authentic food, preserve cultural treasures, or make books available in visitors' native languages. And then there are people like Frank Sanders, who has worked diligently for 25 years and counting to keep daily operations running smoothly—without fanfare, but with immense dedication.

At the Annual Meeting, we will recognize three remarkable women who have served the Museum for countless hours in many different ways. By celebrating them, we also celebrate the many unsung heroes whose efforts often go unnoticed. We do this to express our gratitude—to them and their families—and to help our wider community better understand the invisible threads that hold our shared story together.

There will never be enough awards to recognize every deserving person. But we can begin by shining a light on a few, and in doing so, acknowledge the many. Let this be a starting point for the gratitude we owe to those who make our Museum—and our community—so special.

*Tracey Beck*

Tracey Beck

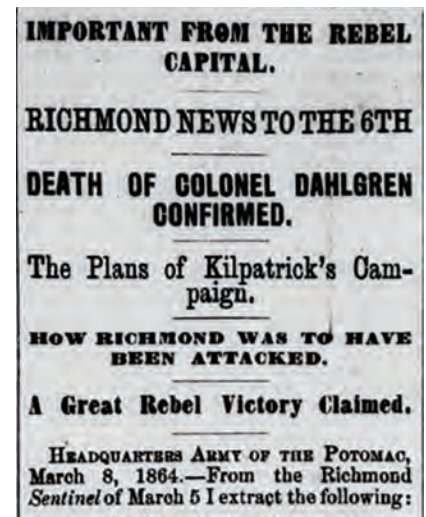
### *Dahlgren continued from front cover*

1861 was a momentous and life-changing year for Dahlgren, as it was for all Americans. Early in the year, he made the acquaintance of President Abraham Lincoln at a wedding. When war broke out, all but three officers at the Washington Navy Yard, including the Commandant, Captain Franklin Buchanan, resigned due to Confederate sympathies. Now the most senior officer in the Yard, Dahlgren was made Commandant by special order of President Abraham Lincoln, with whom he had begun to develop a close friendship. In fact, Lincoln would frequently visit the Navy Yard to chat, sup, and watch Dahlgren test experimental ordnance. Dahlgren's rivals referred to these frequent meetings as "champagne experiments."

As the war dragged on, Dahlgren and Lincoln grew closer still, the latter leaning on the former for his persistence and intellect. In 1863, Lincoln promoted Dahlgren to the rank of Rear Admiral, and Secretary of the Navy Gideon Welles tasked him with capturing Charleston and cutting off Confederate supply lines. However, when Dahlgren was unable to capture Charleston by October of that year, Lincoln came under pressure to replace him. Angered, Lincoln replied that he "would be damned if he would do anything to discredit or disgrace John A. Dahlgren."

In March of 1864, tragedy struck Dahlgren's family. Dahlgren's son Colonel Ulric Dahlgren led a raid on Richmond aimed at freeing Union prisoners. The raid ended in disaster, however, and Ulric was killed while retreating. Newspapers reported that papers on Ulric's body revealed a plot to assassinate the President of the Confederate States, Jefferson Davis.

The "Dahlgren Papers" ignited outrage in the Confederate States, and prompted responses on both sides of the aisle, including from Rear Admiral John Dahlgren, who vehemently defended his son's honor and denounced the papers as a hoax. Regardless of whether or not the letters were real, the "Dahlgren Affair" intensified Southern radicalism. In fact, according to some historians, the outrage brought about by the "Dahlgren Affair" may have indirectly led to John Wilkes Booth's eventual assassination of Lincoln.



*The Weekly Pioneer and Democrat* (St. Paul, Minnesota Territory) published March 18, 1864. Title page features an article about the disastrous raid by Ulric Dahlgren. Ulric Dahlgren was a Union cavalry officer who lost his right leg in the Battle of Gettysburg, then lost his life leading a raid in Virginia at only 21 years of age.

John A. Dahlgren's impact reminds us that the course of American history is often shaped by individuals whose stories fade into obscurity, yet whose influence endures in profound ways. His friendship with Abraham Lincoln reveals the human side of conflict, where trust and friendship can shape a nation's destiny as much as strategy, and his invention of the Dahlgren gun gave the Union Navy a decisive edge, laying the foundation for modern American naval artillery.

In recognition of John A. Dahlgren's impact on both the Navy and the country, ASHM features two great examples of these guns on either side of the Museum's Park-facing façade. Originally on board the wooden, steam-powered USS *Osceola* and USS *Ticonderoga* during the Civil War, these cannons were put into storage in the latter half of the nineteenth century before finally arriving in South Philly in 1938 when ASHM celebrated its grand opening. Stop by the Museum to see the cannons in person and learn more about Dahlgren and other important US Navy figures in the exhibition *And Let Victory Tell the Rest: 250 Years of Shipbuilding in Greater Philadelphia*, on view until January 4, 2026.



## Amandus Johnson Honorees for 2025

This year, the Museum's Board of Governors has chosen two recipients of the Amandus Johnson Award, Fanny Warren and Kristina Antoniades.



Fanny Warren, a familiar and welcoming face around the Museum, has been involved with the Museum for about 20 years. She moved to the area

from Illinois to be closer to her daughter, Margot. One day she tagged along with a friend who wanted to visit the Museum Library. Since that first visit, Fanny has become an integral part of Museum efforts.

Fanny is most known for MorMor's Attic, the Museum's beloved "rummage sale" tables at Midsommar and our Lucia Festival. Donations for the tables pour in, and Fanny and her daughter examine each item, do some research, and price the pieces, as well as manage the tables at the event. MorMor's Attic wasn't always as big or as popular as it is now, but when Fanny took over responsibility for the sale she was able to make it into what it is today. However,

her involvement at the Museum doesn't end there. She has served two terms on the Board of Governors and was chair of the Board for three years. She also currently serves on the Spring Ting Committee and always offers her time to help during Museum events, particularly the Crayfish Dinner!

Her favorite part about working with the Museum is being around all of the other people that make the Museum great, whether that be staff members or other volunteers. Fanny finds the Museum so welcoming; there's always room for another person and more help. And when she volunteers here, she feels like she is contributing to a great cause. Her efforts, and the efforts of all the people involved with the Museum, keep the Museum going and allow the institution to do such great things. For Fanny, that is a cause worth investing in.

For the first time ever, the Museum's Board of Governors has unanimously voted to present a posthumous Amandus Johnson Service Award to Kristina Antoniades who passed away in May 2025.



Kristina was introduced to ASHM shortly after moving to the United States in 1970 when she had her children Kristos

and Helena participate in the Lucia Program at the Museum. After retiring from practicing anatomic pathology at Crozer-Chester Medical Center in 2004, Kristina became involved as a volunteer at the Museum. She was an active member of the Midsommarklubben, Spring Ting Committee, and served 2 terms on the Board of Governors. Behind the scenes, Kristina was always sharing her passion for art—one of the notable things she did was compile a comprehensive list of sculptures in the Philadelphia area by Swedish artists. As a Finland-Svensk, she brought a wonderful understanding of both Finnish and Swedish cultures to her volunteer work at the Museum. In recent years, she was the organizer of the Swedish book sale at each year's Midsommar celebration. Her quiet presence, distinctive laugh, and generous spirit are already missed, but her dedication to the Museum is not forgotten.

## Celebrating 25 Years of Dedication: Frank Sanders Marks a Milestone at ASHM

This year, the American Swedish Historical Museum proudly celebrates a remarkable milestone—Frank Sanders' 25th work anniversary. Since joining the Museum in 2000 as a Facility Assistant and later the Facility Manager, Frank has been a steadfast and essential part of our team. In 2020, he assumed additional responsibilities as the Facility & Rental Manager, ensuring that the Museum remains not only a well-maintained historic treasure but also a welcoming venue for numerous events, weddings, and community gatherings.

For a quarter of a century, Frank's dedication, professionalism, and quiet strength have shaped the daily operations of the Museum in ways both seen and unseen. From managing facility improvements to supporting exhibitions, fundraisers, and educational programs,



Frank is the person behind the scenes, making sure everything runs smoothly.

Staff, volunteers, and our catering partner alike know they can count on Frank for his reliability, calm demeanor, and willingness to go the extra mile. His knowledge of the building's history and infrastructure has

made him an invaluable resource and a pillar of continuity through decades of growth and change.

We are incredibly grateful for Frank's 25 years of service and celebrate not only the work he has accomplished, but the person he is—a trusted colleague, a thoughtful friend, and a true steward of the Museum.

Please join us in congratulating Frank Sanders on this well-deserved milestone!

# Upcoming Events and Registration Info

## To Register For Events

call **215-389-1776**, or visit online at  
**[www.americanswedish.org/events](http://www.americanswedish.org/events)**

There is always something going on at the American Swedish Historical Museum. See below for scheduled events. Please check with the Museum to confirm dates and other details. Refunds will not be granted for cancellations after the registration deadline. To register for events visit [americanswedish.org](http://americanswedish.org) or call (215) 389- 1776.



### Monthly Programs:

#### Toddler Time 10:30 – 11:30 am

The third Tuesday of each month ASHM offers specially designed programs to introduce Swedish culture through

art, science, and literature in uniquely fun and creative ways to children ages 5 and under.

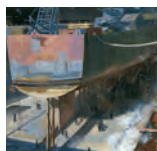
**August 19 – Celebrate Norway!**  
**September 16 – Float Your Boat**  
**October 21 - Sculpture**  
**November 18 – Have You Any Wool?**



### ASHM Virtual Swedish Language Classes Beginning the week of September 8th

Be sure to register for our 10-week virtual Swedish language class program!

Whether you are new to the subject or fluent, there is a level for you. Check our website for more information and to register. \$200 for members and \$250 for nonmembers. Spaces are limited and fill quickly!



### Free Virtual Curator Talk with Gordon Calhoun Friday, September 12th 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Join Gordon Calhoun, Curator and Historian for the National Museum of the US Navy, for

a free virtual talk that highlights the rich legacy of naval shipbuilding in Greater Philadelphia. Delving into the pivotal role the area played in building the might of the U.S. Navy from the Revolutionary War through the 20th century, this virtual lecture explores industrial innovations, the importance of shipyards like the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, and some of the individuals who helped turn blueprints into battleships.



### Annual Meeting Sunday, September 14th 3:00 pm

ASHM members are invited to attend the Annual Meeting to learn about the Museum's achievements in the last fiscal

year, elect new members of the Board, and to celebrate this year's Amandus Johnson Volunteer Service Award winners: Fanny Warren and Kristina Antoniadis, as well as our new Governor Emerita for Life, Sandra Pfaff. This is a free event for ASHM members with refreshments provided. Please help us plan and RSVP online.



### Trolley Tour of Navy Yard Thursday, October 2nd 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Don't miss this unique opportunity for a tour of the historic Philadelphia Navy Yard with CAPT Francis Spencer,

USN (Ret.), former commanding officer, Naval Surface Warfare Center, Philadelphia Division. The tour will highlight both the Navy Yard's U.S. Navy history and its more recent commercial history. Some U.S. Navy activities and related operations still take place in the Navy Yard, and the tour will include information about those activities as well as other commercial ventures occupying the Navy Yard which benefit the Philadelphia community. We will depart from and return to the Museum with an independent lunch at the Shop 543 cafeteria. Check the events page for further information and pricing; seats are limited.



### Shipbuilding Free Family Day Sunday, October 12th 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Join us for a Free Family Day at the American Swedish Historical Museum inspired by ships and shipbuilding!

Explore *And Let Victory Tell the Rest: 250 Years of Shipbuilding in Greater Philadelphia*, and try out engineering and nautical-themed activities in the Museum galleries. This event is supported by SWEA New Jersey.



### Free Virtual Lunchtime Lecture: "Restauration Revisited: A Voyage Through Time and Legacy" with Tom Wolmstead Friday, October 24th 12:00 – 1:00 pm

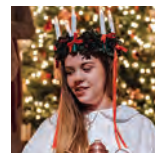
On October 9th, a replica of the *Restauration* will arrive in New York City, retracing the 1825 voyage of 53 Norwegian immigrants seeking religious freedom, including the great-great-grandmother of presenter Tom Olmstead. His presentation follows their journey from Norway to New York, through the Erie Canal to upstate New York, and later migrations to the Midwest, chronicling hardships and resilience. Inspired by family artifacts found in an attic, including an 1825 passport and letters from his great-great-grandmother Sarah, Olmstead's lifelong research honors the courage and enduring legacy of these early pioneers. This lecture will be presented over Zoom. Register on the website to receive the link.



### Virtual Lunchtime Lecture: "USS MONITOR: The Little Ship that Saved the Nation" by John Quarstein Friday, November 7th 12:00 – 1:00 pm

John Quarstein, Director

Emerita of the USS *Monitor* Center, will explore the fascinating history of 19th-century Swedish-American inventor and engineer John Ericsson and the role the first ironclad ship played in the Civil War. Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about this fascinating aspect of naval history! This is a virtual lecture presented over Zoom, with a fee of \$5 for ASHM members and \$10 for non-members. Register online.



### Lucia Rehearsals

**Saturday, November 15th,  
10:00 am – 12:00 pm and  
Sunday, November 23rd, 2:00  
– 4:00 pm**

Museum members are invited to have their children participate in

our annual Lucia performance on December 6th & 7th. They are sure to have fun dressing up as *tomtar*, *pepparkakor*, folk dancers, star boys, and Lucia and her attendants while singing traditional Swedish Christmas songs. Attendance at both rehearsals is required. Please visit our website for more information and to register.



### Save the Date:

**Julbord – Friday, December 5th  
Lucia & Christmas Market –  
Saturday & Sunday, December  
6th-7th**

## Outdoor Saunas Return this December

Back by popular demand, the Ebba Sparre Sauna Collective from Scout will be returning to the ASHM Terrace again this winter for sauna steams starting in mid-December! Book a barrel sauna for you and your friends and relax Scandinavian-style, a perfect holiday gift for friends or family!

Stay tuned for more information about dates and how to book your sweat session.





# Images from Recent Events

Photographs by  
ASHM Staff



▲ Participants at our July Dala Horse Painting Workshop showing off their creations.



▲ Kids at May's Art Exploration Toddler Time looking at art in the Through the Eyes of Philadelphia's New Americans: Art, Resilience, and Community exhibit



▲ Visitors at our May Free Family Day with SEAMAAC creating Mother's Day collage cards with SEAMAAC teaching artist Shira Walinsky. Photo from SEAMAAC.



▲ We sure did a lot of dancing to celebrate Midsummer at the Museum!



▲ Attendees at our in-person April New Sweden Legacy Lecture.



▲ There was something new at this year's Spring Ting – a live auction! ASHM Board Member Anna-Lena Bromberg places a practice bid.



▲ Our 2025 Spring Ting Honoree Oskar Stenmark performing after the dinner.



▲ A vendor from FDR Park's Southeast Asian Market at our May Free Family Day with SEAMAAC. Photo from SEAMAAC.



▲ Our fantastic volunteers at Midsummer making beautiful flower crowns for the event.



▲ Attendees at our Spring Ting Auction placing their last bids before the auction closes.



# Board of Governors Candidates for the Class of 2028

## To serve a first term:

**Per Blomquist** was born and raised in Umeå, Sweden, where he spent most of his childhood. He received his master's degree in Industrial Engineering and Management from Linköping Institute of Technology and started working at Industri-Matematik International (IMI) in Stockholm, Sweden, after graduation. After working there for two years, he transferred over to their growing North American operations in 1999. In 2007, he left IMI and started working in a pre-sales role at SAP America, helping to sell ERP and CRM solutions to Fortune 500 companies. Per is still at SAP where he is now the Director of Solution Engineering for SAP Customer Experience in Canada and the Northeast region of the US. Per is married to Angela Blomquist and they live with their two kids Annika and Patrik in Swedesboro, NJ. Per and his family have been members at the Museum for 18 years and regularly participate in the Lucia Pageant, Midsommar celebrations, language classes, and other events. Per was an exhibit guide for the 2017 *Skål: Scandinavian Spirits* exhibition. He has served on the Board and Buildings and Grounds Committee.

**Helen Ljungdahl Round** is a Swedish-born executive with a global background. Growing up, she spent summers in New York City with her father, fostering a lifelong connection to both the US and Sweden. She has lived and worked around the world, while maintaining these countries as her base. Helen is an experienced life science executive with a proven track record of strong performance. During 27 years with Merck & Co, she held roles of increasing responsibility, including product development, strategy, P&L, marketing, scientific affairs, digital transformation, and partnerships. As SVP of Commercial Operations at GN Store Nord in Denmark, she revitalized global marketing and commercialization. Recently, she served as CEO of Amnicell, a pre-clinical biotech at NYU Medical Center, and as President & CEO of Acarix, a public Swedish MedTech company targeting the US market. She is a member of the Board at AcuCort, a public Swedish pharmaceutical company, and advisor to SonicCloud, a California-based software company. Previously, she was Vice Chairman of the Board at Pearl S. Buck International and served on the International Osteoporosis Foundation's Corporate Board. Helen holds a BSc in Economics from Uppsala University and an MBA from Thunderbird School of Global Management. She resides in Doylestown, PA, and Halland, Sweden, with her husband.

**Fanny Warren** graduated from Tufts University with a BA in history and economics. Immediately after college she worked for Wedgwood China, Xerox Corporation, and Conde Nast. After taking a hiatus to raise her three children, during which time she lived in 5 states, including Massachusetts, Connecticut, Georgia, and Illinois, she worked for 25 years as a sales

rep for Amscan, a party goods company. Her heritage is Scandinavian as she has a Norwegian grandfather and three Swedish grandparents. Her father was born in Sweden but grew up and was educated in Denmark. Her interest in the American Swedish Historical Museum began with the genealogy club as she researched her family's history. She has been active in the Auxiliary, the Museum shop, and the Spring Ting Committee, which she chaired for five years. Fanny previously served and led the ASHM Board as Chair. Fanny volunteers at The Women's Exchange, a West Chester consignment shop, and several committees at her residence at Hershey's Mill.

## To serve a second term:

**Karin Bergqvist** was born in Stockholm, Sweden, and moved to the Philadelphia area as a child when her dad's job transferred the family here. ASHM has always been a part of Karin's life – she attended numerous events with her family while growing up, and she saw firsthand how much the museum meant to both her late parents, who served on the Board and committees. Today, she lives in Bethesda, MD, outside of Washington DC, and works as a marketing director for AstraZeneca. Karin is looking forward to serving her second term on the Board of ASHM. She is honored to carry forward her parents' legacy by serving on the ASHM board and being a part of the Museum at this incredibly special time.

**Greg Brown** retired from a 40-year career in higher education and government finance, most recently serving as the Vice President for Finance and Administration at Swarthmore College. Throughout his career, he has overseen complex financial organizations, investment portfolios, facilities, and grounds, as well as numerous construction projects. He previously held similar positions at Hebrew Union College and Barnard College and served as Controller for the University of California, Berkeley and the City of New Haven, Connecticut. He holds a BA from Wesleyan University and an MPA from the University of New Haven. He is currently a Trustee of the Swarthmore Centennial Foundation and the president-elect of the Swarthmore Rotary Club. He traces his interest in Scandinavia to his mother's side of the family, who emigrated to Chicago in the 1880s. His mother and her sisters were all outstanding cooks and enjoyed sharing traditional Swedish food with friends and family. Greg and his husband, Linton Stables, reside in Palm Springs, California with their two rescue dogs.

**Kristina Johnson O'Doherty** is an active member of the American Swedish Historical Museum and a member of the Board of Governors, having previously served as Chair of the Development Committee. Kristina is currently a member of the ASHM Auxiliary, the Spring Ting Committee (former Chair), the Development Committee, and the Swedish Genealogy Club (current President). Prior to her involvement with the ASHM, Kristina spent 23 years as a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI),

with extensive investigative and supervisory experience in the Philadelphia and Albany Field Divisions and in Washington, D.C. at FBI Headquarters. Kristina has a Bachelor's degree in Education from Millersville State College (University) and a Master's degree in Counseling from Villanova University. Kristina and her husband, John, live in Blue Bell, PA.

**Julie Johnson** has held various positions supporting key executives in the arts, higher education, and investment management industries in Philadelphia, Boston, and Chicago, including the Philadelphia Museum of Art, The Glenmede Trust Company and The Barnes Foundation. She is a graduate of the University of Delaware and has been affiliated with the Museum since the 1980s. Julie's great-grandfather, Dr. O. J. Johnson, former long-serving President of Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN, and friend of Museum founder Amandus Johnson, was present at the American Swedish Historical Museum in 1938 to celebrate the 300th Anniversary of the Swedes landing in America. Fifty years later, in 1988, Julie was able to mark the 350th Anniversary of the same at the ASHM, in celebration with Their Majesties, King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden. Julie has acted as Board Secretary to the ASHM Board of Governors, and was an exhibit guide during the museum's 2017 *Skål! Scandinavian Spirits* exhibition. She is very proud of her Swedish heritage and has had many wonderful experiences taking part in Museum events including Swedish cooking classes, volunteering during the PHS Flower Show, and a visit to the Swedish Embassy at the House of Sweden in Washington, D. C.

**Erik Muther** is Senior Vice President at Real Chemistry which provides marketing and strategic advisory services to the pharmaceutical and life sciences industry. Prior to joining Real Chemistry in 2017, he served as the Managing Director of the Pennsylvania Health Care Quality Alliance at the Health Care Improvement Foundation and spent 12 years in Accenture's health care consulting practice. He has over 27 years of healthcare experience and is a recognized industry expert in quality and performance measurement. Erik has served on the Board of Governors for the ASHM since 2001, is the current Board Chair, and has also chaired the ASHM Finance Committee for most of his tenure. Erik also serves on several nonprofit boards in finance and treasurer roles. Erik is a dual citizen (US/Sweden) and graduated from Sigtunaskolan Humanistiska Läroverket in Sweden before settling in the Philadelphia area to attend Haverford College.

# Contributions

## New Members

April 1 – June 30, 2025

### Sustaining

Helen Ljungdahl Round

### Organizational

Moorestown Library

### Household

Ann Gilje  
Bengt Jansson  
Christine Mullen  
John Thorell

### Individual

David Blaisdell  
Gabrielle Bosnic  
Addie Broyles  
Michael Desalvo  
Emma Hansson  
Daniel Wassmer

### Senior/Student

Evelyn Johnson

## In Memoriam

*The ASHM community lost some very special members in the last few months. We send our condolences to their friends and family.*

Kristina Antoniades  
Jere Paddack

## Contributions

April 1 – June 30, 2025

### Serafimer

Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation  
Philadelphia Cultural Fund  
John & Carin Foster  
Midsommarklubben  
Tracey & William Beck  
Martha Clark Goss  
A. Monica Kruse  
Susan Ryska

### Vasa

Sons of Norway  
Mary McCoy  
Merck Foundation  
Julie Johnson  
George C. & Ester Ann McFarland Foundation  
Wade Sjogren  
Eunice Winters

### Gold

Anonymous

**Do you want to make a contribution?** There are several easy ways to support us. Visit our web page [americanswedish.org/support](http://americanswedish.org/support) or call **215-389-1776** for more information.

Matthew Lund  
Margaretha Talerman,  
*in memory of Kristina Antoniades*  
Cynthia & James Traverso

### Silver

Anonymous  
Gould Family  
Fanny Warren  
Roger Loughney  
Sons of Norway Restauration Lodge 3-555  
IK Start USA  
Ingrid Cagan  
Jens & Allison Clausen  
Jill M. D'Andrea  
Kristina & John O'Doherty,  
*in memory of Kristina Antoniades*  
Elsa Orescan  
Abby Shaw  
Kristina H. Smith

### Bronze

Anonymous  
William Clemens  
Jorgen Flood  
Mary Anne Carlson Morgan  
Deborah Belusa  
Mia Lehmann  
Sandra Brown  
Alice V. Christensen  
Margaret Churchill

Hilma Cooper  
Claudia Curtiss  
Thomas & Mary Ann Hudson  
Kristina & Charles Kalb,  
*in memory of Jere Paddack*  
Karin Kornaga,  
*in memory of Kristina Antoniades*  
Marlin R. Mattson  
Harry Mazurek  
Erik & Nicole Muther  
Margot Patterson  
Ian Samways  
Shirley Stengel  
Ann Charlotte Storer  
Britt Winte

### Friend

Görel Bengtzon & Roman Hrycushko  
Elisabeth Brown  
Robert Fedick  
Alice Hurwitz  
Margaretha Joelsson  
Karen McKillip  
Diane Sandvik  
Nancy Tuttle  
Inger Zeller  
Kristen Widham  
Rae Ellen Hinken  
Selma Olson Tepper  
Juliet & Kurt Wunsch  
Carl-Erik Sundberg

## Sandra S. Pfaff appointed Governor Emerita for Life



The Board of Governors is proud to announce that Sandra Pfaff has been appointed a Governor Emerita for Life in recognition of her lifetime of extraordinary

service to the Museum. In her role as Governor Emerita, she may attend Board meetings and may advise and consult with the Board as the Board may request.



This honor is a recognition of Sandra's decades of service to the Museum, especially as a member and Chair of the Board of Governors. In her nine terms on the board, she has served as the Chair,

Vice Chair, and Treasurer. In addition, she has been the Chair of the Development Committee, 90th anniversary co-chair, and 75th anniversary chair. But, of course, her contributions cannot be measured by titles alone. Sandra has been involved in the Greater Philadelphia philanthropic community and has served in active leadership at many organizations. She brings her wealth of experience to the table as she advises the Museum in many areas, but particularly in the areas of finance and fundraising. She is never daunted by a challenge and faces every new goal with joy and spirit.

Join us at the Annual Meeting as we honor Sandra!



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## Call for Objects: Nordic 100 Exhibit



Opening in Spring 2026, we are excited to announce an exhibit that is an invitation to a world where Swedish meatballs meet pop music, where minimalism and functional design redefined modern living, and where Nordic ingenuity brought about life-saving innovations like Google Maps and the three-point seatbelt.

This exhibit explores the ways in which Nordic craftspeople, artists, chefs, and thinkers brought their values, visions, and expertise to American soil: building churches, skyscrapers, and bridges in the 1930s, revolutionizing childhoods with

playful yet purposeful toys in the 1960s, and transforming entertainment through cinematic storytelling and best-selling games like *Minecraft*, *Battlefield*, and *Candy Crush*. From the chart-topping sounds of ABBA to the domestic prevalence of IKEA, discover how Nordic impact has shaped tastes, technologies, and everyday life in the United States from 1926 to the present day.

We invite community members to participate by submitting objects, photographs, and memorabilia that help us tell the story of the last 100 years of Nordic innovation and impact.

### What We're Looking For:

- World War II Uniform and Equipment (Must have been used/owned by a Nordic American) We are particularly interested in 99th Infantry Battalion.
- Furniture items made by Arne Jacobsen, Alvar Aalto, or Hans Wegner
- IKEA furniture from the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s
- Nordic Ware Bundt Pans, pre-1980s
- Memorabilia and ephemera relating to sports figures like: Paavo Nurmi, Don Larsen, Björn Borg, Ingemar Stenmark, Morten Andersen, Pia Sundhage, Annika Charlotta Sörenstam, and Henrik Lundqvist

All submissions must include a brief description of the item and its history. Please include clear photographs of the object(s). Please email your submissions to [bpeters@americanswedish.org](mailto:bpeters@americanswedish.org).