

The 2018 theme will explore the influential relationships between Swedes and Germans in the greater Delaware Valley and east coast region. Although divided by language and congregations, Swedes and Germans were both ethnic minorities within the predominantly English-speaking colonies of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania. Ties between individuals and groups have traditionally been viewed through a religious lens, but the NSHC presentations will examine the collaboration occurring within cultural, political, and social spheres as well. The speakers will explore interactions between individuals or groups that lead to better understanding of the experiences of Mid-Atlantic Swedes and Germans between 1638 and 1783.

### PROGRAM PARTNERS

American Swedish Historical Museum, The German Society of Pennsylvania, 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.

### PROGRAM SPONSORS



## SCHEDULE

- 8:30 AM **Registration Opens**  
Breakfast Available
- 9:30 AM **Welcome Address**
- 9:45 AM **Gregg Roeber:** *Pious Swedes, Provocative Germans, and their Critics in the Early Modern Atlantic World*
- 10:40 AM **Linda Rugg:** *Gustavus Hesselius and the Moravian Brotherhood*
- 11:20 AM **Break**
- 11:30 AM **Lisa Minardi:** *German and Swedish Relations in Early Pennsylvania*
- 12:00-1:00 PM **Lunch**
- 1:00 PM **Kim-Eric Williams:** *Four Swedish Priests and their German Colleagues*
- 1:40 PM **Trevor Brandt:** *Joining Traditions: Cabinet-making among Swedes and Germans in the Colonial Mid-Atlantic*
- 2:20-2:45 PM **Speaker Panel Q&A Discussion**
- 2:45 PM **Closing Remarks**

*Announcing the 18th Annual  
New Sweden History Conference*

## Sojourning Strangers: Swedes and Germans in the Mid-Atlantic Colonies

Saturday, November 10  
8:30 am - 3:00 pm

The German Society of Pennsylvania  
611 Spring Garden St  
Philadelphia, PA 19123

## SPEAKERS

**Reverend Dr. Gregg Roeber, Professor Emeritus of Early Modern History, the Pennsylvania State University:** *Pious Swedes, Provocative Germans, and their Critics in the Early Modern Atlantic World*

Most of us think of the historic identity of being “Swedish” with that people’s connection to the Lutheran Reformation of the 16th century. In fact, however, already by the 18th century, challengers had arisen to contest that claim. The conversion of Queen Christina to Catholicism in the previous century had alarmed Swedes, but it was the arrival of German-trained Moravians and Halle Pietists in the 1700s that permanently unsettled the easy identification and self-understanding of Swedes on both sides of the eighteenth-century Atlantic with the Lutheran Reformation. The lecture examines the deep, eighteenth-century roots of this plural identity and explores why Swedes have not followed (so far) other European populations in a retreat to a national-ethnic-religious understanding of themselves on either side of the Atlantic.

**Linda Rugg, Ph.D. Professor of Scandinavian Studies, Berkeley University:** *Gustavus Hesselius and the Moravian Brotherhood*

Dr. Rugg’s talk will look at Gustavus Hesselius’s connections to the Moravians: his commission to build the first organ for their meeting house, but also his theological interest in the community, which was shared by a portion of the Swedish population of the region.

**Lisa Minardi, University of Delaware Ph.D. Candidate in the History of American Civilization:** *German and Swedish Relations in Early Pennsylvania*

Drawing on the journals of German immigrant and Lutheran minister Henry Muhlenberg as well as architecture, tombstones, and other material culture

evidence, Minardi’s talk will focus on the complex relationships between German and Swedish settlers in early Pennsylvania. While many Pennsylvania German and Swedish families shared a common Lutheran heritage, they also had distinct cultural traditions. These commonalities and differences contributed to the “great mixed multitude” of people who settled in early Pennsylvania.

**Reverend Dr. Kim-Eric Williams:** *Four Swedish Priests and their German Colleagues*

Despite the long-establishment of Swedes in the Delaware Valley by the early-18th century, newly-arriving pietist Germans were not always at home among these strangers. The fact that Swedish priests in America could converse and preach in German made them natural allies, but the Germans did not know Swedish, were unfamiliar with Swedish traditions, and were strangers to the Mid-Atlantic colonies. This talk examines the successes of four Swedish pastors in overseeing German-speaking parishioners.

**Trevor Brandt, M.A. The Winterthur Program in American Material Culture:** *Joining Traditions: Cabinetmaking among Swedes and Germans in the Colonial Mid-Atlantic*

Drawing on his background in the material culture of colonial German-speakers and Swedes, Brandt examines the dominant cabinetmaking traditions of both groups in the Mid-Atlantic. By comparing the construction and decoration of select pieces, Brandt explores the presence of specific material ethnic markers vis a vis the demands of regional markets and individual preferences. With its focus on specific objects within government collections, museums, and private collections, this talk will be of special interest to antiquarians and collectors.

## REGISTRATION

Please register early - space is limited! Use the form below, or register online at [www.americanswedish.org](http://www.americanswedish.org)

Conference registration, breakfast, and lunch costs \$60 per person (\$35 for students and teachers with ID).

**Early bird registration by October 12th, \$50.**

Registration deadline is Friday, November 2nd.

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Please print; use a separate form for each person registering.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (city, state & zip) \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail payment and form to American Swedish Historical Museum, 1900 Pattison Avenue, Philadelphia PA. 19145

For registration questions, please call ASHM at (215) 389-1776

Make check payable to ASHM and write NSHC 2018 on the memo line.

You may also pay by credit card:

Mastercard  Discover

Visa  AMEX

Account #: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Conference fee: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_