

# Sabelskjöldarn

2009

## Our President's Message

Dear relatives!

Welcome to this year's edition of our Member Journal! Now, we have put the year 2008 behind us. A year when the world's economy made a deep scar in our so-called welfare.

2008 was also the year when we in the family association began using a computerized member and accounting system, which will facilitate much of the work for our treasurer Peder Nilsson. Some time ago he told me how easy he could take out financial reports. In any case, I still think that the association's economy needs someone keeping an eye on income and expenditures.

We have continued the work to review and update our member records, a large and demanding work that has taken many hours. It turns out that changes in addresses and more is not always communicated to us, which in turn has meant that we have not reached all of our members with our information. Weronicha Svaleng's detective work, with some help from other members of the Board, has come a long way to an updated member record. We are now above 1600 registered family members since the association was formed in 1967. Matilda Kiteborg from Lindesberg, who became member number 1600, was honoured with a Sabelskjöld badge.

Many relatives have visited our website to find information about the association. Over the past year, we had a net increase in membership of 45 people.



It is possible that the website has been a contributing cause to the increasing interest for the association, so I'm happy to report that we are currently 480 members.

Expectations of us, from both old and new members will increase, which includes, as stated in our first paragraph, to defend common interests, create activities and more. We promise that we shall do our best!

We'd love to have more stories and pictures to publish in Sabelskjöldarn and also material to be published on the website. That would make it easier to share the Sabelskjöld story with others. Please, contact any member of the board, our addresses and phone numbers can be found above. English speaking members may contact Gary Jacobson, see separate article.

*Nyköping in April 2009*  
*Rolf Svensson President*

## Invitation to a meeting August 29 at Nyköping Castle

Saturday August 29, 2009 are you all invited to a "between meeting" on Nyköpings castle. These meetings, between regular family meetings, has been much appreciated by many members, because it gives lots of opportunities to converse and socialize with other members of our wonderful family association.

The day promises good food as well as amusing entertainment. We will return with a written invitation with information about times and prices, but place a mark in your calendar for Saturday August 29 a day for a family gathering!



## Gary Jacobson to represent Släktföreningen Sabelskjöld in the U.S.

In recent years, the number of members abroad, particularly in the U.S. has increased. Our main communication channels are our reunions, the newspaper Sabelskjöldar'n and now our website. In order to make the information more accessible to our members abroad, we intend to make a summary of Sabelskjöldar'n in English. Furthermore, we have appointed Gary Jacobson to represent us in North America.

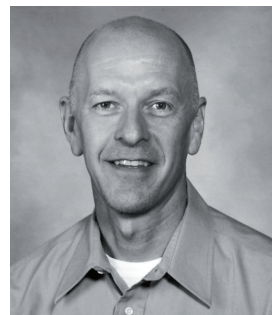
Gary is longstanding member of our association and a devoted genealogist. He has participated in annual meetings and is familiar with the history of the Sabelskjölds.

His knowledge of the Swedish language will of course be useful. We will use Gary as the first contact for members of the United States and Canada. Gary lives in Rochester, Minnesota and works as a nurse at Saint Marys Hospital.

Contact Gary by e-mail: [jacobsongary@yahoo.com](mailto:jacobsongary@yahoo.com)

Gary has since long been running a Sabelskjöld Web Page in English.

<http://www.geocities.com/sabelskjold/>



## Skogshyddan gave us a whole family



In the early 1970s I came with my parents for the first time to Kristdala. We spent some fine summer days in a house in the woods, "according to me that grew up in a suburb of Stockholm. I understood much later that it was the home of my grandmother's parents. The house was called Skogshyddan, which I thought was a proper name. Now, in 2009, me and my partner, Marie are about to buy this great house!

In the Spring of 2008 my mother came to visit. Over a cup of coffee the subject turns to Skogshyddan, a few memories appear and then the discussion is in full swing. Marie and I had long been looking in the northern part of Sweden for a summer house, but nevertheless we decided to make a trip down to Kristdala, after some persuasion from my mother. We went down to watch, but didn't expect to buy a house deep in the dark forests of Småland. However, our perspective of Småland changed as we drove down through Ankarsrum, Hjorted and Ishult. We began to see broadleaves and a lot of lakes. Småland is perhaps not so dark after all!

When we arrive, we see a house that need love and care. Despite this, we felt great warmth for both house and landscape. After some time in the house with cleaning and things, neighbors start coming by, saying hello. They all have stories to tell about the house and the people who lived here.

At this moment my curiosity is awakened and I feel I want to find out more about my family in Småland. I didn't expect my family to be big.

Kristdala is a small community and when people do not recognize us they curiously ask us where we come from. When we tell them that we are from Skogshyddan we get still more stories about the house and their own relationship to it. Later, Anders comes for a visit. For the first time I hear the name Sabelskjöld. Anders is married to my aunt and a few years ago started to do genealogy research. We decided that Anders would send the material over Internet as soon as possible.

In December 2008 we visited the Christmas fair in Kristdala. There we were lucky to meet Inga Siv and Staffan and it turned out that Inga Siv is a Sabelskjöld descendant. Once back in Stockholm I didn't have the patience to wait for more material from Anders, I began to search the web about the Sabelskjöld family. Then things happen fast and I got in contact with Weronicha Svaleng who quickly verified my connection to the Sabelskjöld family.

Now when I have received the book on the Sabelskjölds, I find it exciting with all the sites in the Kristdala area with connections to the Sabelskjöld history. Much to discover! Småland took us by storm and it gets even more exciting with such a family.

## Jöns and Brita's family history.

My father left a book behind, which begins with the words "Jöns Mårtensson, reeve of Julita 1582 - 1587".

With this phrase as a guide my husband and I drove from Finland to Julita castle, by the lake Öljarén in Sweden in 1995. We exited from the highway, and drove on a small road in the middle of a dense forest. Finally a rich landscape opened up before our eyes with and in front of us there was a three-storey stone castle, old and beautiful, with wings. Above the castle huge oak trees had been cut leaving stumps large enough to serve as tables. Had they perhaps been tiny young trees when Jöns Mårtensson, served here under Gustav Vasa's youngest son Karl? The impressive building originally served as a monastery since the beginning of the 1180's. But what was it like in July 1587 when Jöns Mårtensson and Brita Larsdotter wedding was held? One can only guess.

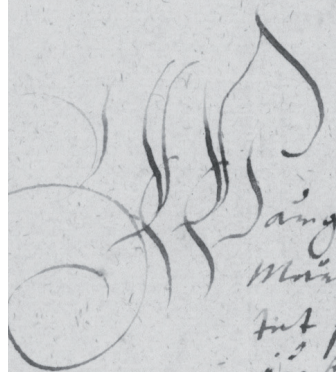
I tried to understand why Duke Karl of Södermanland, who in Finland was known as a very strict and stingy man, wanted to pay for the wedding costs for Jöns and his bride. Perhaps the Duke was pleased with Jöns work, and perhaps also pleased for the choice of bride. Brita's father, pastor Laurentius Andreae, or Lars Andersson, had for many years served in Karl's own church, Allhelgonakyrkan, and as vicar in Nyköping. Lars Andersson and his family were much trusted by Karl.

Apparently Brita proved to be a knowledgeable and energetic young woman, because already the following year 1588 she became responsible for the kitchen staff and their work at Nyköping Castle. Brita Larsdotter now became foreman, in charge of a bunch of keys, with the main responsibility of the castle everyday household. On Gustav Vasa's orders the castle started to keep records. Textiles had to be stored in enough quantities for what was needed at the castle, and if there was not enough in the castle's repository, additional quantities were ordered from the Duke's other castles.

*David Berg*



Kristina, minn og Guð minn, Drottning Svíedra  
Wende Finland, Karelia, Lapland, Cai-  
jan and Estonia likewise Duchess of  
Holstein  
Du mig befam Jontyinnu till Skuff mig Delfna  
Linnu



Angnuss tilförmu. Det är min vilja og befalning Jons  
Månssons at du skall sända mig allt det Guld som  
du har i din kassa i Wibysholm i för mig, och som  
du berättat. Du skall sända till Jonsförmu allan, sänd  
mig befal at du sända mig till Jonsförmu allan, sänd  
13 July år 1614  
Christina R S.

In the archives there is a letter from 1614 which was sent to Jöns, where Queen Kristina orders Jöns to send as much linen there is at Wibyholm castle, and mentions that there should be 500 alnar (aln is an old Swedish unit of length equal to about two feet. translator's note)

The letter reads:

To our servant and reeve at Wibyholm manor Jöns Mårtensson.

Receive our favour. Christina, ruler by God, Queen of Sweden, Giöthe, Wende Finland, Karelia, Lapland, Caijan and Estonia likewise Duchess of Holstein Gottorp.

It is our will and command, Jöns Månsson, that you shall send us all the linen which you have there in store at Wibyholm. And that I have been told amounts to five hundred alnar.

We order you to see to that this is here in (missing text) latest (missing text)

Nyköping July 13, year of 1614  
Christina RS

First Jöns Mårtensson and Brita lived on the Nyköping castle premises, where their eldest son Carl Jönsson was born in 1590, probably, he was named for the Duke.

The friendship between Queen Kristina and Jöns Mårtensson's family again proved useful. The queen, who enjoyed arranging marriages among her friends and acquaintances, used her talents as matchmaker for Carl Jönsson. In 1616 he married Magdalena Strang daughter of Hans Strang officer in the cavalierly. The Strang family was wealthy and came originally from Scotland. Strang had lent money to the king Johan III. As pledge he had received several farms in Kristdala and other places in Småland. The pledge was never resolved but remained with the Sabelskjöld family. The most significant farm was Brähult in Kristdala. The couple did have two daughters before Magdalena suddenly died in October 1628. Later, in 1634, Carl Jönsson married again, now to Ingeborg Rosenstråle, belonging to an old Swedish noble family.

Duke Karl, later King Charles IX, died in 1611, but his son Gustav II Adolf, was not crowned king until August 1617. However, already as a young man Gustav performed the duties expected of a king and eagerly took part in war preparations.

These preparations were also attended by Carl Jönsson who now decided to start his military career.

In 1616 Carl Jönsson had reached the rank of second lieutenant and was then in the year of 1617, in connection with Gustav II Adolf's coronation, knighted with the name Sabelskjöld.

Why was he knighted? There have been many speculations, such as Carl, in a critical battle situation, should have provided the king with his own horse, or perhaps escaped on horseback together with the king. One version says that Carl, with his shield and sabre, defended the king when the enemy with bayonets tried to throw him out of the saddle. More likely the knighthood was a reward to the family for serving the Duke and his son for two generations. The Sabelskjöld Coat of Arms can still be seen on the wall of the great hall in the House of Nobility in Stockholm, numbered as number 150.

Raija Sabelström Leppänen, Finland

The full text of this paper is available on [www.sabelskjold.com](http://www.sabelskjold.com) (Swedish language)

<b>President:</b>	Rolf Svensson, Skålvampvägen 3, 611 63 Nyköping phone: +46 155 268 454, chrolf@bredband2.com
<b>Members:</b>	Birger Bring, Oskarhamn phone: +46 491 730 21, birger.bring@telia.com Peder Nilsson, Kristdala phone: +46 491 711 21, humleryd@telia.com Annika Sabelsjö, Kristdala phone: +46 491 710 91, annika_58_@hotmail.com Weronicha Svaleng, Högsby phone: +46 491 766 165, weronicha@svaleng.se
<b>Alternates:</b>	Anna-Lena Hagsell, Nyköping phone: +46 155 287 879, hagsell@msn.com Thomas Erlandson, Kristianstad phone: +46 704 403 587, thomas.erlandson@swipnet.se Staffan Svensson, Oskarhamn phone: +46 491 845 05, staffan.svensson@byggebo.se Annica Triberg, Kalmar phone: +46 480 195 80, triberg@telia.com
<b>Auditor:</b>	Gerd Ireman, Oskarshamn phone: +46 491 165 33 Christer Andersson, Hultsfred phone: +46 491 740 35
<b>Nominating Committee:</b>	Karin Larsson, Kalmar (sammanställande) phone: +46 480 296 25, karin@karlstorp.nu Bernt Josefsson, Sävsjö phone: +46 382 108 69, bernt.josefsson@iogt.se Thina Rydell, Kalmar phone: +46 733 544 569, thina@karlstorp.nu Inger Wallenskiöld-Ragnarsson, Tranås phone: +46 140 415 35

Association Board - 2007-2010

Text processing and layout:  
Annica Triberg  
Mobile: +46 705 611 407  
e-mail: triberg@telia.com

Thin Rydell  
Mobile: +46 733 544 569  
e-mail: thina@karlstorp.nu

Do you have ideas about the content? Want to write something? Please let us know!

## How many Sabelskjold descendants are there?

Släktföreningen Sabelskjold has about 400 members. This is only a small part of all descendants of Karl Jönsson Sabelskjold. On the association's CD there are over twenty thousand, but even that is just a small part of the family.

It is of course impossible to come to a precise number of Sabelskjold descendants, but one can through simple mathematics show that the number is large.

Today we have 14-15 generations between us and Karl Jönsson Sabelskjold. During the first three centuries families were big. One can recall that Karl Jönsson Sabelskjold had eight children, his son Jöns had seven, and his son Carl had six daughters.

Assuming four children per family, which is probably low counts, the number of descendants grow by a factor of four for each generation. After a generation we have 4 descendants, after two generations 16, after three 64 and so on. After 14 generations, we will reach the amazing figure of more than 200 millions!

Now we are in reality not so many, when the number of descendants grows, we begin to marry between Sabelskjöldare. Then we have people with double or multiple familybonds. If you are a member of the Sabelskjöld family, and would like to become member of our association please visit the associations home page [www.sabelskjold.com](http://www.sabelskjold.com)

The membership fee is 100 SEK per year for a single person and 150 SEK per year for couples. Exchange rate is 1 US\$ = 9.18 SEK (March 2009)

## Greetings from a former President

With these lines I want to send a warm greeting to all known and unknown in our fine family. During the years 1986 to 1995 I had the pleasure to be member of the Board, and during five years as the president. We were a good working team which implemented a number of decisions.

One recurring issue was the so-called "name theft", where a person took the name Sabelskjöld with the permission of PRV (Swedish Patent Authority who regulates name issues, translators remark). Our response was strong, because the family association should have been consulted by the PRV. We hired a lawyer Bo Adrianzon and Judge of Appeal Claes Uggla, Stockholm, but despite extensive investigation, the chances to repeal the "name theft" were small. Yet, the annual meeting in Norrköping

in 1995 took the decision to continue investigation. That was when I left the board, I felt that my time and effort was not enough to continue the fight on the name issue. More recent efforts have turned out to be without success, so our association will have to work on other tasks.

My interest for the family has been strong ever since the first family meeting in Kristdala 1955, when I, among others, got to know our pioneers Carl Rutegård, Valter Jansson and Herbert Bredammar. Prior to our big family meeting in Blackstad in 1964 Carl and I had many contacts. I preached in the church and Carl was the excellent host at the big dinner in Flen.

Now we have a new board with Rolf Svensson as chairman. Many of us are happy with the Board's work. Good luck, from a previous president. Our forefather's life and work is well worth remembering.

*Curt Adrianzon, Jönköping*

*Birger Bring*