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If you have ideas or opinions on the content or  
want to write a line or two? Get in touch!  
Remember to notify us any address change!



# Sabelskjöldarn

## 2014



### A word from our president

You now have this year's issue of our magazine Sabelskjöldarn in your hand, and for our new members, it may be the first time you see it. It is seventeen years since our first edition came in 1997. There is a limited number of copies of old issues available. If you are interested - please let us know. Cost is 10 SEK plus postage. In this issue you can read about the "match king" Ivar Kreuger, who also belonged to the Sabelskjölds. Fascinating reading is also the story about the old soldier Nils Peter Flyckt as well as Michael Peterson, who took part in the TV program "Allt för Sweden" (English title: The Great Swedish Adventure) last fall.

We can see a permanent interest in our family among old members but we also see a growing interest among

younger people, who are fascinated by our special twist of genealogy. This is reflected by the increasing number of members, now more than 600. To maintain this interest, we will continue to do our best to make you enjoy your visits to our family reunions and also keeping you updated about what comes out from our genealogy research group and their work together with family members.

It is now 50 years since Karl Rutegård in April 1964 hosted the first family meeting in Blacksta near Flen. There were many who responded to the invitation and 400 people met on June 7 at Blacksta church, so many that the church was overcrowded. A dinner was served in Folkets Hus in Flen. The purpose of the reunion was to commemorate the 300th anniversary of Major Carl Sabelskjöld's death. A wreath was laid on the grave by Carl Nilsson, mayor of Kristdala. It was this event that triggered the interest to form a family association which was done at a meeting in Kristdala in 1967. Of course the board of the newly started society hoped for a long lived association and indeed it was.

Rolf Svensson  
President

## Greta Garbo – current with new book and notes

Many will remember the Swedish-American actress Greta Garbo from movies like Mata Hari, Anna Karenina, Camille, Mary Walewski and Ninotchka. It is easy to recall her veiled and bantering voice and remember her divine smile.

Much has been written over the years about her, some true, some guesswork some pure lies. Many have claimed to know the real Greta Garbo Gustavsson, but few, maybe only a handful, came real close to her. Minnie Pollak, student at the Royal Dramatic school together with Greta in the 20s, was perhaps one of them. Their correspondence over many years suggests that their friendship lived long.

In Lena Einhorn's latest book "Blekingegatan 32" one can read about Greta Garbo as remembered by Minnie Pollak. The book is based on 32 letters written by Greta Garbo home to her friend Minnie Pollak in Sweden.

Greta Garbo (1905-1990) was one of the best known Swedes worldwide. She is also one of the famous people that 2014 will be portrayed on the new Swedish banknotes. Her image will then appear on the 100 - krona banknotes.

Greta Garbo Gustavsson was a descendant of Carl Sabelskjöld senior and Ingeborg Rosenstråle. For more information there is, the Garbo Society in Högsby (www.garbosallskapet.hogsby.se), where you also can visit the Garbo Museum.

Siv Grönwald



## Sabelskjöld genealogy – an ever ongoing work

As a member of the Sabelskjöld Family Society you can buy our CD or USB with the Sabelskjöld family tree. A research group has been formed as decided at the last annual meeting. This group does not do genealogy research in a traditional meaning but updates and adds references to the existing database. The previous release from 2012 was limited to descendants of Carl Sabelskjöld junior and his six daughters from Bråhult. We have decided to expand the database to also include Sabelskjöld generations before Carl and his daughters. Major Carl Sabelskjöld (Carl senior) is now the first generation. We need help finding more of his descendants.

At present the research team cannot do research to find new descendants. To find out facts about these first generations we include material sent to us from other relatives. In order to keep the database manageable, we have decided to include persons married into the family but not such person's parents / ancestors or generations before the Major Carl Sabelskjöld senior who was born in 1590 and died 1663. We would encourage you - new or old member - to update your branch of the family, if needed, showing how you are related to the Sabelskjölds. If the material is extensive we need to have it in GED-COM format.

For further information please contact the research team at forskning@sabelskjold.se

Karin Larsson

## The annual Meeting for 2014



The annual Meeting for 2014 will take place at Julita Farm in Södermanland Saturday September 6.

According to the book "Om ätten Sabelskjöld..." Jöns Mårtensson and Brita Larsdotter, parents of Carl Sabelskjöld, were married in Julita church in 1587. At the meeting on September 6, there will - besides the regular meeting procedures - be an opportunity to take part in an interesting guided tour. We expect high participation, so please book your calendar now. A separate invitation will be sent out in early summer. Julita farm is located in the heart of Södermanland on the Lake Öljaren, approximately 25 km northwest of Katrineholm. Julita farm is owned and operated by the Nordic Museum. It has an extensive park with many varieties of apples and pears ready to be picked in September. Read more: www.nordiskamuseet.se/slott-gardar/julita-gard

## Rent our bridal crown



The Sabelskjöld Family Society keeps a bridal crown which is known as "the Sabelskjöld bridal crown". It was made available to the Society in 1970 by Sabelskjöld Descendants with the intention that it should be used at weddings within the family.

Is there a wedding coming up in your family? You can rent our own unique bridal crown!

Please Contact Staffan Svensson for more information



## Did you watch the TV show

### Allt för Sverige?

The third season of the Swedish TV show Allt för Sverige (English title: Great Swedish Adventure) was broadcast in autumn 2013. In the show ten Americans visit Sweden and seek their roots while taking part in a competition. Only the winner gets to meet his Swedish relatives.

This year Michael Peterson from Texas was one of the participants. He did not win the contest but had the opportunity

### About my journey to Sweden

"What great courage our ancestors had to move to America" I was lucky to be one of the main characters in the family show Allt för Sverige. I was in Sweden for four weeks and it touched me very deeply and it was a journey of a lifetime.

When I was a child I heard my grandfather say the blessing at Thanksgiving and Christmas in both English and Swedish. I really never imagined I would get the chance not only to visit Sweden but go to the actual farm my far-far's farfar Johan Oscar Peterson left to come to the USA!

I have Swedish ancestors on both my mother's and my father's side of my family. But I didn't know too much about my father's family background just that they were Swedish. So when the show asked me about family history I had to start my own research to answer their questions. I had plenty of information on my mother's Swedish family such as the Hakansson's came from Grana and the Larsson's came from Gotland. My great grandmother Hawkinson (Hakansson changed to Hawkinson in the USA) had a family tree that told us where in Sweden our family came from.

But on my father's side there was nothing. So I talked to my 92 year old grandfather Oscar Anyard Peterson. He could not tell me too much because he is starting to lose his memories. He does remember talking with his grandfather Johan Oscar Peterson, who was 20 years old when the family left Sweden, and some of the stories about Sweden. My grandfather also remembers learning to speak Swedish from Johan as a child. Johan Oscar lived to be 99 years old. My grandfather did not have any information about the family that would help the show. I was able to find the obituary for Johan Oscar in an old box with a few pictures and learned that he came from Ramsefall, Södra Vi, Småland Sweden. Thankfully I found that information because if not I may not have been selected for the show!

I spent four intense weeks in Sweden as one of the contestants in the show Allt för Sverige and we got to learn about our Swedish families and Swedish traditions. It also includes different competitions and the final winner is rewarded with a family reunion where they meet unknown Swedish relatives. I did not win the contest but I was still given all the information and research they did on my family and have since contacted them and we communicate weekly with each other. I really enjoyed

to visit his family farm in Södra Vi which was of course just one branch on Michael's family tree. It turns out that he also has deep roots in Kristdala and triple connection to the Sabelskjöld's.

By coincidence, another American couple arrived in Kristdala last summer. The Frosts came from Kansas to look for their roots in Kristdala. Bruce Frost and Michael Peterson are both descendants of the old soldier Flyckt from Lilla Bråbo in Kristdala. We can now present their stories.

my time in Sweden and visiting places like Sigtuna, Söderköping, Motala, Gothensborg and Karlstad and traveling on the Gota canal and learning to Swedish folk dance to Dansband music by Donnez. One thing that I did learn about working on a TV reality show is that I will never be an actor, too much travel and too many retakes! So how did I learn that I was part of the Sabelskjöld Family? Well, someone viewing the show decided to research my family and learned that Johan Oscar Peterson was married to Alida Sofia Anderson (Alida Sofia Andersdotter) and told me she was related to Finish and Swedish nobility. I could verify his information using Ancestry.com, and then I knew it was true. While confirming this information I noticed a crest associated with the Sabelskjöld names and I found out that there was an association called The Sabelskjöld Family Society. I looked at the website and sent them the information I got and Birger Bring verified that I was related to the Sabelskjöld Family. The show took me to visit the family of Ramsefall close to Södra Vi and Vimmerby and I got to see the house were my great, great, grandfather Johan Oscar Peterson lived before he emigrated to Kansas. The house is a summer home and the old barn is still there. I was deeply touched by the visit. They were poor farmers who barely had visited the neighboring village and they traveled first to Gothenburg and then to England and further on to an unknown world overseas. I am proud of all my Swedish family roots which come from Småland, Gotland and Skåne and my trip to Sweden with the show has opened the doors for me to find more of my Swedish family such as the Sabelskjöld Family!

Here is the list that was sent to me:  
Peterson, Michael P (1971 - )  
far: Peterson, Clinton Eugene (1942 - )  
far: Peterson, Oscar August? (1922 - )  
far: Peterson, Carl Emil Oscar (~1892 - )  
mor: Andersdotter, Alida Sofia (1859 - )  
far: Andersson, Nils Peter (1823 - )  
mor: Carlsdotter, Maria (1807 - )  
far: Classon, Carl (1786 - 1878)  
far: Karlsson, Clas (1755 - 1802)  
far: Svensson, Carl (1731 - 1812)  
mor: Nilsson, Elisabet (1709 - 1788)  
mor: Sabelskjöld, Ingeborg (1687 - 1758)  
far: Sabelskjöld, Carl (1665 - 1701)  
far: Sabelskjöld, Jöns (~1630 - 1690)

Michael Peterson

## Nils Peter Flyckt - a strong man

My wife, Peggy and I grew up in a small Swedish community in central Kansas in the USA. Everyone in our area was proud of their Swedish heritage but few had ever been to Sweden. Both of us had grandparents that spoke Swedish and kept many of the traditions of their ancestors, especially at Christmas. For our third trip to Sweden in the summer of 2013, Peg started doing some research on family members she was lacking information on. Her far mor far far was Lars Johan Anderson of Kristdala and who is buried 3 kilometers from Peggy's home. On a previous trip we had been to Kristdala but were unable to enter the church or locate anyone to assist us.

I also had family roots in Kristdala but was limited in the knowledge of who they were. From the internet Peg retrieved a site on the Kristdala church that led her to the Sabelskjöld site and an entry to the "Genealogy" section. Our home entered into a state of excitement as we now had a link to the two things we needed; genealogy history and someone who could assist us. Assist is such a small word for all the help, knowledge and friendship that was provided by Birger Bring.

Lars Johan Anderson's first wife, the mother of Peg's great grandfather, died in Sweden and from Birger we found his second wife was from the Sabelskjöld family. This makes Peg related to her by marriage rather than by blood. As we excitedly told my parents about this information my mother said that she had family from Kristdala so we had more names for Birger to research. We passed this information to Birger and very soon he wrote back to tell us that my mor far mor far Nils Petter Flyckt was of the Sabelskjöld family. According to military records, NP Flyckt was a cavalryman in the Smålands Husarer for 35 years prior to immigrating to the USA. We were now armed with enough information to spend a week in the Kristdala area learning about our ancestors.

We met Birger in the parking lot of the church at Kristdala for one of our most memorable trips of all time. He had arranged a tour of the church by Ingrid, the pastor's wife. We were in awe of being able to see the church where our ancestors worshiped and were baptized in the stone font in the sanctuary. From there we toured the ancestral farms of Lars Johan Anderson's family of Kroxshult, Tråthult and Fallebo, where he was born. The Fallebo farm still had the spring well that supplied all the water to the village of Fallebo in earlier times. We have no idea how he did it, but Birger was able to obtain a copy of the land contract when Lars Johan Anderson sold his farm to have money to move to the USA.

Next on our list to visit was the Sabelskjöld home of Bråhult. Birger enlisted the aid of Peder Nilsson to drive us to the very end of the road to visit the site of NP Flyckt's home. The historical society had placed a marker at this location and we could see where the buildings stood so many years ago. Birger

had another surprise when he took us to where Flyckt's house was moved to. The attached picture displays me as I stand wondrously in front of my ancestor's home. As we drove away we saw sheep running excitedly around the area. Later that day we heard that there had been a wolf attack, the first in many years. From there we went to the lake where the Sabelskjöld manor house stood. It was a beautiful day, as it was each day we were in Sweden, so it was quite pleasant just to stand in the sunlight by the lake imagining what it looked like in the 1600's.

Peggy's eyes still glaze over when she tells our friends about the Sabelskjöld wedding crown. Stephan and his daughter reverently removed the crown from the ancient case to display it for us as we sat in the sun having coffee and cookies. It was almost impossible for Peg to keep her hands off the stunning sunlit gold family heirloom. Upon seeing the photos, our granddaughters want to get married in Kristdala so they can wear that wedding crown.

We thoroughly enjoyed visiting the museum in Kristdala because it had so many treasures of the past. I especially like seeing the uniforms of the Smålands Husarer that Nels Peter Flyckt would have worn. It is wonderful to see these items because the history of the Swedes in this country is only 150 years. The Sabelskjöld family members that left the beautiful forest of Kristdala to live in a hole in the ground in the vast treeless plains of Kansas have little remaining artifacts.

On our final day in Sweden we attended church services at

Kristdala. While we were limited in our translations we could follow along with the liturgy of our ancestral church. It was very moving to be in that setting after we had spent such a wonderful week around Kristdala with Birger and others. We are thankful we have been able to travel to Sweden to visit the old home sites and meet family members. Our American family members retained many Swedish customs and traditions out of respect for their homeland. These pioneers did not leave Sweden out of dislike for the country but for the opportunity to start a new life in a new world. This continuing respect and love for Sweden was evidenced by Nels Peter Flyckt as every day of his life in America he wore a medal that was given to him by the King of Sweden. As you look at the picture of him, please notice that he wears that medal over his heart for his love of his homeland.

Bruce Frost  
Kansas, USA





## Svarta Sara (Black Sara) – a celebrity in Kalmar



“Svarta Sara” and her daughter Emilie. Picture from Länsmuseet in Kalmar

In the last issue of this magazine, there was an article about Alrik Forssmann, our relative who chose to go to South Africa when many others headed for the United States. When he returned to Sweden and Kalmar in the 1860s to set up a labor force, he brought the 17-year-old South African girl Sara Makatemele, who was pregnant. Sara and her daughter remained in Kalmar and Sara is buried in the Southern Cemetery, next to the castle. The well-known Swedish hymn writer Lina Sandell-Berg wrote the hymn about Sara. Many of us seniors remember it well from childhood's Sunday school.

Annica Triberg

## Ivar Kreuger - he also belonged to our family

Ivar Kreuger, one of the most legendary Swedish entrepreneurs and businessmen ever, was descendant in the ninth generation of Carl Jönsson Sabelskjöld and Magdalena Strang. Their oldest daughter Elisabeth Sabelskjöld married Magnus Stråle af Ekna at Åsebyholm in Fliseryd's parish, Kalmar County. Their son Magnus Stråle af Ekna, born in 1688 was father of Daniel Stråle af Ekna born 1720. He had a daughter Martha Magdalena Stråle af Ekna, whose daughter was Anna Katarina Müller, born in 1786.

Anna Katarina's son Magnus Fredrik Johan Forssman was born 1863, and his daughter Jenny Emilie Forssman born in 1856 married August Kreuger, merchant and founder of Kalmar Tändsticksfabrik, Kalmar Match Factory. August and Jenny's son Ivar was born in Kalmar on March 2, 1880. Ivar was to be widely known as the Match King.

### Mathematical talent

Ivar Kreuger displayed mathematical talent already in basic school and was referred to as a mathematical genius. At 16, he graduated from High School and continued at the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, where he at the age of 20 received his Master of Engineering with degrees in both mechanical engineering and civil engineering. Now followed assignments in U.S., Mexico, South Africa, United Kingdom and Germany, where he primarily worked with design work for major construction companies. He came early in contact with the new construction method using reinforced concrete and participated in the construction of several skyscrapers on Manhattan. The years abroad gave him important experience regarding building techniques not used in Sweden at that time. In US he had also carefully studied trading on to the stock market on Wall Street.

In early 1907 he returned to Sweden. The objective was to launch the new construction method according to the so called Kahn system both in Sweden and Germany. His plans were initially to work together with his cousin Henry Kreuger who had been teaching Civil Engineering at the Royal Institute of Technology, specializing in the field of structural engineering with reinforced concrete. But it was instead together with Paul Toll of the construction company Kasper Höglund, that Kreuger on May 18, 1908 formed the new construction company Kreuger and Toll. Henrik Kreuger participated but only as a consultant.

The new construction method with reinforced concrete attracted great attention and Ivar Kreuger also started a company in Germany. He also came early into the banking business where Oscar Rydbeck of Härnösands Enskilda Bank was to play a major role in Kreuger's business development. Ivar Kreuger was however not content merely to work in the construction industry but started buying up real estate and land in central Stockholm, where he made a series of lucrative acquisitions of commercial and residential properties.

When his father's match factories in Kalmar, Fredriksdal and Mönsterås ran into financial difficulties in early 1912, Ivar Kreuger, on recommendations from Oscar Rydbeck, transformed these into a limited company in order to raise capital. This eventually became the starting point for Ivar Kreuger to form the new company Svenska Tändsticks - Aktiebolaget, STAB in 1917. STAB came soon to include all match producing companies in Sweden.

Kreuger's business became throughout the 1920s, in parallel to match production, directed towards the building up

a combined financial and industrial group with STAB as the base. Capital was raised through emission of new shares and so called participating debentures in STAB and in the holding company Kreuger & Toll AB. The company issued debentures with a possible dividend. Unlike a conventional bond there was no tax on the profit, which attracted both small investors and large companies. This was seen as a very good investment in 1929 and spread rapidly across the world. A major part of the big stock of shares was used as collateral for bank loans. Quickly Kreuger got monopoly in match production and became the dominant player. When Kreuger's match empire was at its peak it consisted of 250 factories in 43 countries. In the United States Ivar Kreuger was regarded as one of the world's leading industrial and financial businessmen.

According to the author Sven Olof Arlebäck "Ivar Kreuger had the same philosophy as today's IT industry - expansion is more important than profitability." Then came the great crash on Wall Street in 1929, which also hit the Kreuger group hard. The company's loans in various Swedish banks at that time were up to half the Swedish foreign reserves at the time.

In October 1931, the financial situation in the group was critical and Kreuger was forced to turn to the National Bank of Sweden. The stock value in Kreuger's group had fallen so much, caused by the crisis, that the American banker JP Morgan demanded immediate payment for loans of 55 million dollars from Ivar Kreuger. In addition, Kreuger had become majority shareholder in Ericsson telephone company in 1931, but had to sell to the Ericsson headquarters in the U.S., International Telephone and Telegraph, ITT, for 11 million dollars.

In January 1932, ITT accused Kreuger of having illegally overstated Ericsson's position and demanded via the Swedish government that the transaction should be withdrawn. Because of these and other circumstances Ivar Kreuger ended up in a difficult economic crisis. In 1932 he was forced to buy large amounts of shares in his own company to keep the price stable.

In 1932 the Swedish National Bank backed up by the other main Swedish banks granted Kreuger the necessary loans. In return, the banks demanded a complete review of Kreuger & Toll's financial position. It turned out that as much as 135 million dollars would be needed to meet the claims that now was raised on the Kreuger group.

### Suicide?

Kreuger was called home from the U.S. He returned to Europe and Paris on March 11, 1932 for consultation with, among others Krister Littorin, Vice President of Kreuger & Toll, and Oscar Rydbeck. On March 12, 1932, Ivar Kreuger was found dead in his apartment in Paris. The circumstances of his death have never been fully understood. Next to his body was a 9 mm automatic pistol, causing the police together with an authorized doctor to conclude that Kreuger had committed suicide. According Arlebäck somebody, unclear who, ordered that no autopsy of Ivar Kreuger's body was to be done.

His death triggered the so-called Kreuger crash. Many businesses and individuals had invested large sums in Kreuger's business. These and many smaller Swedish banks went bankrupt. Surprisingly enough, Kreuger's group survived and was taken over by the large banks which had claims on Kreuger. Large parts of the Wallenberg group, Handelsbanken and Stenbeck group originate in Kreuger's business empire.

In his private life Ivar Kreuger was very unobtrusive, he gave very few interviews and avoided publicity. His low pro-

file in private life and great generosity towards his family and friends was considered to be typical of the private person Ivar Kreuger. He was buried in the family grave at the North Cemetery in Stockholm. He left no heirs.

### “The banks are to be blamed”

In the book "Kreuger kraschen – storbankernas verk," (The Kreuger crash - the banks are to be blamed) writes the author Sven Olof Arlebäck that history must be rewritten in vital parts. He argues that the crash was unnecessary and an injustice. The largest creditors, the major banks, failed their responsibility against their client. They created panic and distrust of Ivar Kreuger. AB Kreuger and Toll was far from bankrupt, but the assets were systematically undervalued. Large real estate objects in Paris, Berlin, Amsterdam and Oslo were valued to zero. The bankruptcy, he says, was a lucrative business for the two banks Enskilda Banken and Handelsbanken and those who had received financial support from Kreuger choose to remain silent.

The bank manager Oscar Rydbeck in Skandbanken, Kreuger's only supporter at the time, presented restructuring plan for Kreuger and Toll, but was accused of providing misleading information to the public, and was jailed for a year. Many documents of great significance disappeared according to Arlebäck, and were classified after Kreuger's death. Still today there is one piece of the puzzle missing since Handelsbanken has so far not been willing to publish documents about their role in the crash.

Recently two of the bankruptcy trustees' memory and meeting notes were handed over to the Kreuger archive, documents that have been classified and unavailable for 68 years. These documents verify that Kreuger and Toll was far from bankruptcy in 1932, according to Sven Olof Arlebäck.

Siv Grönwald



## Keeping family traditions alive

” Oh, there you are , look at your ruffled pants! You had just taken your first steps ” - ” And, that little hat with a flower pattern! Looking so cute. And where is Uncle Karl Rutegård standing next to me. My older brother, 17 years older than me wow, I had such respect for him. ”

”Look, there you are running, and your white knee socks have slid down as usual. Remember, as a child you never stood still for a second but you were always a happy child. Wow, so many we were in the picture. See the hat? Imagine how they looked in the 60's !”

As long as my mother lived the photo files from the Sabelskjöld reunions were occasionally brought out. Little Goldilocks appeared in one corner of one image , in the other corner of the next. Sometimes perched in daddy Folke's arms , sometimes peeping out between the legs of an uncle or unknown adult. Years passed and suddenly a grouchy teenager appeared glowering angrily at the photographer. Family Reunion?? Such Crap - who cares? Old fossils getting excited over descendants since long extinct. I certainly will NOT get involved. I will NOT be a part of that, NOT put on a dress and NOT listen to any corny lecture.

So, in my case, there was a gap in family meetings from childhood to adulthood. From having been brought by my parents to later making my own priorities. This was a long period of total disinterest. Maybe that's the way it should be. I now bring this situation back in mind, when the next generation gives me a completely annihilating teenager's gaze when I bring up the subject of family reunion.

“What! You must be kidding, would I accompany you there to rot away ? No way!” It feels somehow familiar ! Well, I persuade myself to believe that one day that all will change. Maybe when they get a family of their own or at least when they are allowed to make own priorities. Anyway, my son participated at Nyköpingshus in September 1998. He was then, on the other hand, just half a year old and could not make another priority.

There are two things parents can strive to give their children roots and wings. The roots represent security, but also family ties. Listening to stories about distant cousins, be it rattlebrains or courageous women, is a part of our family ties. And the wings are of course for the courage to choose their own path. But even there, the ancestors may be helpful: remember grandmother who started a bakery when everyone else would have given up, and remember my grand pa's aunt who emigrated to America with dreams of a new life. They dared to do that! So can You!

I am a member of the Sabelskjöld Society family today, and also on the board, and there is one main reason. In a thick binder which my mother left behind when she died in 2008, there is a line : ”Karl Rutegård founded the Family Society in 1958.” My uncle , born 7 February, 1904 died 22 July. 1971, was an active genealogist and my childhood was full of, places , people, and new discoveries .

The file contains not only images, it is also packed with exciting reading for those who want to cherish their past, it is a bit like jewels in a box. There's Uncle Karl's first letter , old statues for the society , protocol saying that the society was not officially formed until 1968 , faded clippings from various newspapers , a beautiful studio portrait of grandmother Wilhelmina, grandfather Charles Albert and the three eldest children from the early 1900s . Such a grave look! Then a cheerful letter from Brazil , without a date, but probably written in the 1960s , where uncle Aldor Pettersson talks about his life as a missionary. It's hot in Brazil he says, but the family is happy and

he then says that his son Otavio wants him and his wife Gerda to move to him in Rio.

Next page : an obituary from 1970. Gerda and Otavio have died in a car accident in Rio de Janeiro. Otavio was 35 years old and in another clipping stand a crowd of mourning young children around the coffin. It is a picture of silent grief from which my uncle never recovered. He died the following year. Otavio's widow left Brazil with the kids and moved to the United States.

A few years ago, Otavio's daughter Debora visited Sweden . Se must be second cousin or so. Then the old binder came to use again and we talked about our family . She saw the clipping showing her as a little girl standing by her father's coffin.

In a picture, from what I always have been told is ” the first ever family reunion ” in Kristdala in 1955 , we try identify as many faces we can. At the back there is my dad looking proud . Although it is not on his side we are related with Sabelskjölds he always encouraged us to preserve our family bonds. It is also thanks to him the binder which I browse is so rich in content. I see how has put small arrows and filled in names.

In the invitation to the family reunion Blacksta, in June 1964, to commemorate the 300th anniversary of Major Carl Sabelskjölds death , the organizers end with a request :

” Welcome to our common family feast. Keep in mind that it may take 300 years until the next time . ”

As we all know, that was not the case - our Society is in good health . And a year later, just before Christmas in 1965, Karl (or Carl, as he spelled during a period) sent an adorable reading about our forefathers, from the old mythical king Ottar and his son Adlis living in the 500 's up to Ingeborg and Carl Sabelskjöld's seven children . No roman will ever beat this exciting reading? Just listen to this about Borje (Birger) Sabelskjöld: ”After the duel with Lieutenant Olof Höök he was killed in Malmö in 1668. About Ingeborg Sabelskjöld's husband captain Anders Tornerefeldt.”Probably he was killed in Poland 1703”

And how many hardships holds this sentence about Anna Brita of unfamiliar family widow after Svante Sabelskjöld: ” She died in 1683 and was then impoverished and lived in deep poverty with her children.” Svante Sabelskjöld was captain at the queen's guard and died in battle May 2, 1677 and was buried in Kristdala 1680 - three years later! What happened during these three years ?

Uncle Carl's paper is actually a sort of belated ” preface ” to the little book ”Our Family ” which he had printed already 1958. In a covering letter he calls the publication ” incomplete” and comments: ”It's going to continue forever with additions and enlargements.” And then he makes the final remark:

”Let's stick together, keep the good we have inherited from our forefathers and make our contribution to a close and good unity within the family.”

Can it be said better today, 56 years later? Possibly with the addition that the forefathers should be joined by the foremothers ...

*Annica Triberg  
(related to Ingeborg on mothers side)*



## The generations



Apparently, I am one of the few remaining founding members of the Sabelskjöld Family Association. With gratitude and joy, I remember our pioneers, whom I got to know at the first meeting in Kristdala back in 1955. The formal start of our association took place in 1967.

The association's founder Karl Rutegård shared a warm heart for all relatives scattered in all parts of the country. With everlasting persistence, he worked to create the Sabelskjöld Family Association. Herbert Bredhammar with his deep connection in the Kristdala area became the Association's "Grand Old Man" for us all and remained key member in his entire life. Valter Jeansson was a big inspirer in the early days and was

### Genealogy research in Leksand

In 2013 the Sabelskjöld Family Society arranged a special weekend for genealogists, this time in Dalarna. In early spring sunshine a group of Sabelskjöld people headed toward Leksand in late April. We arrived on Friday evening and after a good meal began mapping our ancestry. Saturday morning we had booked a lecture on Genealogists House. Griggus Per welcomed us. He gave an interesting lecture on how to do genealogy research in general and also taught us the tricky art of reading old handwriting and cope with old spelling. In the afternoon we formed two groups. One group took the opportunity to do more genealogy research and the other paid a visit to Hildasholm. This is an exquisite summer home built by Axel Munthe for his wife Hilda and their two sons. Axel Munthe visited Hildasholm only on a few occasions.

This weekend gave us - relatives of the huge Sabelskjöld family - the opportunity to get to know each other. Those of you who didn't have the opportunity to participate but have an interest in Sabelskjöld genealogy; please let us know so hopefully we can repeat the arrangement.

*Karin Larsson  
in the picture together with Robert Söderberg.*



a very important resource. Many more could be mentioned, who was who was instrumental in getting our society started. I remember them all with gratitude.

At the family reunion in 1992, I got the honor to become president. Then followed some years of work together with the other members of the board, Herbert Bredhammar, Bodil Math, Leif Carmhagen and Bernt Josefsson. We were a good team enjoying our work and with a genuine interest in the society. Sometimes we had to make difficult decisions but as a whole my term on the board was very rewarding.

A memory, among many, is from the first large family reunion in Blacksta church. Rutegård had prepared everything. From the bishop in Strängnäs he had received so-called ” Venia” 1) for worship and the preacher. The service was also a memorial service on Carl Sabelskjölds funeral day.

I stood waiting in the sacristy to go up into the pulpit. Then someone came with a note with the text: ”Please pray for a seriously ill relative.” At what point in service, should I read this prayer? The

church warden showed a page in the hymnbook that said that such prayers could take place after the sermon. So, the memorial service also became an intercession service for dear relatives of the Sabelskjöld family. Maybe something to continue? We need each other in every generation.

With warm greetings to everyone in our society! Many have been mentioned in this text and many more could be mentioned. It pleases me that so many people today want to promote our association. Thank you all!

*Curt Adrianzon*

*Translator's note. 1) Venia is originally a Latin term giving permission to preach in the church also if you are not ordained.*