

# Sabelskjöldarn

## 2018

[www.sabelskjold.se](http://www.sabelskjold.se)

### A few words from our chairman

Greetings Dear Members,  
as I sit here and look out my window, the snow, glistening and white, beautifully covers the wooded lands. Much like the previous times I have sat down to jot down a few lines for our magazine, I fondly look back on this past year.

What a delightful party, the 400-year anniversary of Carl Jonsson being knighted. We started the festivities by a tour of Ridarhuset (House of Nobles) September 1st. I was personally able to welcome everyone in attendance, which was lovely but resulted in a few sore bones the next day. It was well worth it, however! In grand total we were about 180 people in attendance for these festivities and among those around 20 people who had traveled a few extra miles, some even from the United States. During our tour we were told about the different noble families and their coat of arms, in total a staggering number of 2331. Of these, number 150 was the object we gave the most attention to as that is our very "own" coat of arms. The day ended with supper for some of us at Restaurant Lanthandeln/Millesgarden on Lidingsö island.

Saturday commenced with a social mingling session at hotel Faresta. As always in these gatherings, there was a great mix of old and new faces. While there are quite a few members in our association, sadly all of us don't have the time to attend all these functions but I hope to have the privilege to see more of you in the coming year. Post mingling, we had the joy of listening to our young and talented member, Vanda Mantefors,

give her rendition of Froding's lovely song "Strovtag i Hembygden". We couldn't be more grateful. Christopher O'Regan also enlightened us during the course of the evening with stories of Sweden during the 16th century - very interesting. Included in this information was medical advice from the 1700's on how to revive a drowned person.

The evening ended with an anniversary dinner at the hotel, paired with entertainment from Johan and Gunilla Sigvardsson. The day was long and the hour was late but we had such fun, and a heartfelt Thank You to all of you who were able to partake in making it a night to remember!

With this successful party behind us, the board will recharge our batteries and start planning the next annual gathering in Kristdala September 1st 2018 (see attached info). I hope to see you there!

Before wrapping this up, I want to pass out a hot tip for a possible outing: Odekyrkogården in Lemnhult, located between Aseda and Vetlanda. This is the burial place of Brita Sabelskjöld Ulf sax (Died 1676). This is the very same burial place we have referred to earlier in this publication and is now complete with a roof, to be able to withstand the hard and trying weather for many generations to come.

*I Thank You for your time,  
Staffan Svensson, Chairman.*



### Welcome to 2018's Annual Gathering in Kristdala

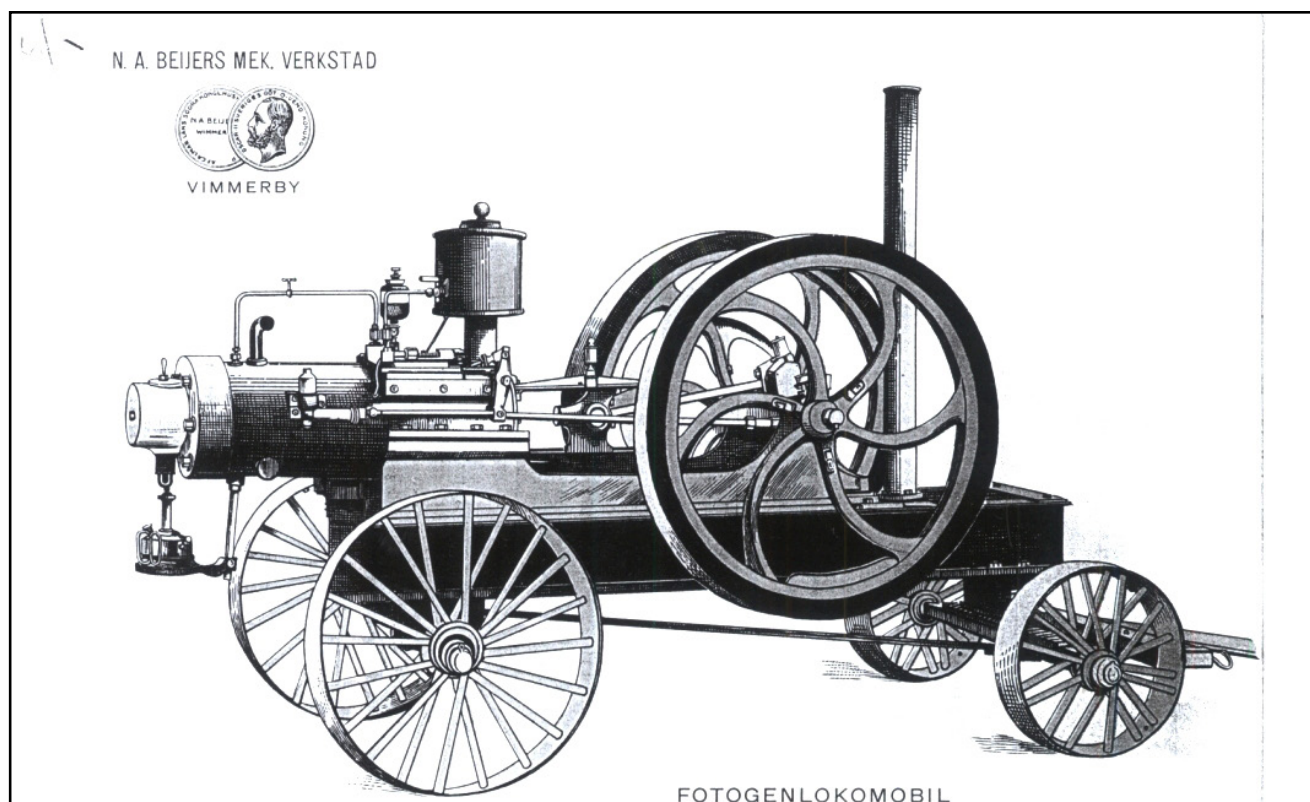
Please feel free to set time aside on Saturday, September 1st 2018 for the next annual gathering. We will meet in Kristdala for customary discussions but will also have time for a meal together and a visit to Kristdala church. Vocation and invitations will be sent at a later time.

*Members of the Board*

Kristdala church and its medieval predecessor were centers for members of the Dureaus and Meurling families - both related by marriage. From 1582 to 1952, they held the role of Reverend in Kristdala until the last of the Meurlings, Reverend Eric Meurling, retired. The Meurling family left a long-lasting impression on the town. The observed glass art in the chancel of the church was created in 1960 by noted artist Bo Beskow.

*Photo: Thina Rydell*

# Nobles and other folks around Kristdala



*From Rubens Maskinhistoriska Samlingar, Götene*

Hagerums manor, just outside Kristdala, is today an important property but has, in the past, held even bigger significance. Its history dates back to medieval ages and among its previous owners, we find members from the noble families of Slatte, Cappel, Aminoff and Weidenhielm. The fact that the Sabelskjold family name by marriage is also included in that list comes as no surprise - marriage between noble families was routine.

Early on, the Sabelskjold family branched out among the non-noble inhabitants, due to the privileges of nobility being lost when Carl Sabelskjold junior, the last male family member to hold the name Sabelskjold, died during the campaign of Karl XII. However, Carl was of the third generation of the Sabelskjold family, so during the course of the 15th century the family had married into a number of the old noble families. This is how we became related to the Weidenhielm family. It was none other than Eleonora Katarina Ehrenstrahl who married Erik Gustaf Weidenhielm, owner of Hagerum from 1805 – 1837.

Eleonora Katarina was through the families of Adelberg and Hammarhielm descendant of Elisabet Sabelskjold, oldest daughter of Carl Jonsson/Sabelskjold.

It's fairly easy to follow noble families, but it's a bit harder to do genealogy on families of non-noble status, especially prior to the introduction of catechetical meetings. It's even harder still when you come upon the term "Father Unknown" or "Bastard".

Karl Johan Beijer became a soldier at the Stensjomala home-stead in Kristdala parish, born in 1833 at Kulltorps manor as a "bastard son" to the maid Lena Larsdotter Brandt. Family traditions claim that Karl Johan was the illegitimate son of Karl Wilhelm Weidenhielm, son of previously mentioned Erik Gustaf. Karl Wilhelm was born 1803 and was the owner of Hagerum from 1838 – 1862. He was married to Emilia Lovisa Herkepe, but it was far from a happy union. Emilia Lovisa practiced charity through orphanages and homes for girls at Hagerum and upon her death, she left the majority of her assets to servants and house keepers of the manor. Karl Wilhelm, on the other hand,

was rumored to be a notorious ladies man and of low morals.

The Weidenhielm family was the only noble family in Kristdala at this point in time. The closest families of noble status were located in the Tuna and Misterhult parishes. These included Tuna manor, Misterhult manor, Farbo manor and Kulltorps manor, where the Cedercrantz family lived and Lena worked as a maid. It is safe to wager that these noble men would socialize with each other and it is not too far-fetched to assume that this would have been how Lena and Karl Wilhelm met.

The author Veine Sjöo writes in his publication "History of Five Villages of Kristdala Parish" that Karl Johan Beijer's kinship to Weidenhielm has been confirmed by a legal geneology society, as well as Karl Johan's son, who followed in his father's military footsteps and received a pension from the Weidenhielm's retirement fund.

Relatives of the same Karl Johan have told me via email that the resemblance between Karl Johan and Karl Wilhelm was striking and of the existense of a ring with the inscriptions "80" along with the initials "E F W". While it's tempting to speculate that the "W" stands for Weidenhielm, then presumeably "80" would stand for 1880, and speculations end there as Karl Wilhelm died in 1862. Exciting, nonetheless.

Two of Karl Johan's sons began manufacturing ignition bulb motors in Kristdala and went on to become successful entrepreneurs and their products today are sought after by collectors and would sell for a lot at auction.

We may never fully prove that the Beijer family are related to the Sabelskjold family, but there are many indications that they could be. When all is said and done, we may have to put a question mark around our heritage. Someone said jokingly that every tenth child does not have the father their mother would have them believe. That may well be, but we firmly believe in our kinship to good old Carl.

*Birger Bring*



## Wanted: Seasoned Genealogists

Descendants of Karl Sabelskjold decided in 1967 to form a family history association. Karl Rutegard who took the initiative, had done his fair share of research into the descendants. Valuable information was also provided by Moody Erlandsson and was gratified according to protocols from 1968. We know they didn't sit idle but continued their research to uncover more descendants.

Today we have a research group and a database with names totaling roughly 24,000 names. Naturally, some information and some of these names have been entered in error and it is these errors that bring more and more genealogy. We'd happily welcome more members to join our research group and we'd like you to be experienced in genealogy, be handy with genealogy software on your own computer, and be knowledgeable in how to search our original sources - church records. If you are interested please send an email to [forskning@sabelskjold](mailto:forskning@sabelskjold).

*Karin Larsson, the research group*



*Karin Larsson answering questions from curious relatives.*

## Tales from a wedding photo

Sometimes we receive contributions from our members. This one was from the research group in the form of a wedding photo.

The lovely couple pictured above are Susanna and Johan Bjelkered, who wed in 1996. Susanna descends from the Sabelskjold family through her mother.

Susanna writes:

We got married in Nashults church June 25th, 1996. Initially the idea of wearing the crown didn't occur to us. Big statement crowns weren't exactly fashionable and I had decided on just a veil and flowers to go with my dress, of my own design. But as our wedding day approached, I couldn't let go of the idea - a crown and a family heirloom crown, nonetheless! How often do you get a change to wear that? And you don't get married every day. It's a big deal! A few days before the wedding, we went to Kristdala to at least look at the crown. We were graciously welcomed with coffee by wonderful people who allowed us to borrow the crown and bring it home. It rested in a beautiful gray/blue wooden box. Once home, I tried it on and instantly knew that I wanted to wear it on my wedding day.

My hair stylist got the surprise the morning of our wedding as I showed her this beast of a crown and I told her that if she'd be able to mount it on my head, I'd love to wear it. It was not an easy task, considering the crown only has one diagonal "iron thread" to fasten hair pins into. But we prevailed and you see the result in our wedding photo. Weighing in at 500 grams, I planned to take it off in time for the reception, but it stayed on all through the evening. Despite a sore scalp the next day, it was well worth it!

I'm (we both are) so glad I decided to wear this wonderful, beautiful, and amazing bridal crown, which made me a princess, no queen for a day. What a luxury, isn't it?

Thank you for caring for it, for presenting it, and for lending it to us!

*With regards,  
Susanna och Johan Bjelkered*



*The bride is wearing the beautiful Family Crown.*

## Wedding in the future?

Rent our own unique bridal crown. Contact Staffan Svensson of the board to obtain more information.

The family history association cares for a bridal crown, referred to as the "Sabelskjold bridal crown". It was donated to the association in 1970 by descendants with the intention of being used by other Sabelskjold descendants for weddings. We consider this heirloom part of our family history and gladly see it used for family weddings for many generations to come.

## The 400th jubilee was a great event



*We are waiting in the grand ball of the House of Nobility to listen to the Oscar Langenskiöld who will tell us about, Swedish nobility.*

September of 2017 couldn't have gotten off to a greater start! On Friday afternoon, around 180 guests gathered to visit the House of Nobles in Stockholm, and a little extra pride was shown to our own coat of arms, number 150, strategically hung to the right. There were plenty of us who took the opportunity to pose for pictures next to it after the lecture, entailing both how the House of Nobles came to be and several anecdotes on mostly verbal arguments over the decades.

Saturday was the big party day, held at hotell Foresta on Lidingo Island, with the opening act of our musically-gifted member Vanna Mantefors. At the young age of 16, she dazzled us with talent! Remember, if you were there, that you saw her perform before glory and fame! And those of you that couldn't attend, do give her track on Spotify a listen by searching her name.

Christopher O'Regan followed that performance with a humor-packed segment on life in Sweden in the 16th century - his area of expertise. One noted story told us about the frugal man of whom people said "his pockets are deep for someone with such short arms"! That's a quote I've gotten a fair amount of use out of already. Right before dinner, we summarized the events of 1617, the year our ancestor was knighted Sabelskjöld.

- ▶ January 20th - Parliament opens in Orebro. January 24th - Gustav II Adolf issues the order of the social classes assembly, often referred to as Sweden's first order of Parliament.
- ▶ February 17th - Sweden and Russia enter a peace treaty at Stolbora after a war raging on since 1610. Sweden



*Hazze Malmgren entertains at the grand piano.*



*Evening conference Annica Triborg and chairman Staffan Svensson.*





*Christopher O'Regan in front of our association rollup.*



*Vanna Mantefors and David Kronström who accompanied the grand.*



*3-course dinner in the banquet hall, ducked for 170 guests.*

acquires Ingermanland and Kexholms county in the Gulf of Finland. This means Russia loses its access to the Baltic Sea. Estonia and Livonia are already under Swedish rule, however Sweden will have to recognize Romanov as Tzar of Germany, instead of a Swedish candidate, as was the idea.

- ▶ In February - The Orebro law is also finalized and put into use. This means that Catholicism is strictly outlawed and its practitioners are to be punished by death and have their property seized.
- ▶ The summer is surprisingly slow, so let's jump to October 12th - Gustav II Adolph is formally crowned in Uppsala.
- ▶ During the course of the year, the Bishop of Strängnäs, Laurentius Paulinus, publishes his theological work "Ethica Christiania", warning of fortune-telling, astrology, magic, and witchcraft - among other subjects
- ▶ And our ancestor, Carl Jonsson, was knighted Sabelskjöld.

We have more musically-inclined family members and before we were seated, Hazze Malmgren entertained us on the grand piano. During and after dinner, several speeches were made, songs and music were performed by Johan and Gunilla Sigvardsson along with spontaneous dance, and it finally ended when staff members of the establishment started to flicker the lights.

To all members who participated: A heartfelt thank you for coming and adding to the impressive attendance list. I am particularly delighted that so many of our American members were able to join our anniversary party.



*Many discussions about the family became, Bert Myde is also part of the research group.*

# Pictures from the jubilee in September



*Outside the Riddarhuset, the participants were welcomed by the chairman Staffan Svensson and inside of Thina Rydell who made sure that all 180 were notified a specially ordered band to their name badge.*



*Amanuens Oscar Langenskiöld och Annica Triberg i Riddarhuset.*



*The shield no. 150 has a nice location high on one long wall and almost in the middle. Can you find it?*

*Photographers - Jubilee pictures:  
Tommy Raminder, Gunbritt Sabelstierna,  
Thina Rydell et al.*



*Joban and Gunilla Sigvardsson entertained with songs and music.*



## Coffee time and celebration on a local level

In old protocols, we see a discussion of separating the country into four regions so the members wouldn't have too far to travel for our gatherings. This idea was discussed for few years, but nothing ever became of it.

In Kalmar, we have started having regular coffee get-togethers on a local level. Perhaps we are the first to have started this? For example, we got together to celebrate the Sabelskjold's day October 26th, in observation of the ennoblement of our ancestor in 1617. We hope to be able to turn this into a tradition, in the same way we celebrate the cinnamon bun or any other holiday - this is as good of a reason as any. All are of course welcome, locals as well as family visiting. Dates and times for our small get-togethers will usually be announced on our Facebook group, so keep an eye out (and join if you haven't already).

Gustav II Adolf was crowned in Uppsala December 10th 1617. The noble family 150 Sabelskjold was ennobled October 26th - according to Elgenstierna. The patent of nobility is signed October 28th - according to Bankestrom.

*Karin Larsson and Annica Triberg*



*På Länsmuseets kafé:*

*Thina Rydell, Karin Larsson, Margit Hermansson och Marie Larsson som visar sin släktkarta. Foto: Annica Triberg.*

## How the Sabelskjold's came to the island of Oland

Many islanders of Oland live in the area around Oskarshamn and even more people stemming from Oskarshamn now live in northern Oland. Why? How did the Sabelskjold's end up there?

Today the central area of northern Oland is Lottorp and many of us may have spent our summers there. Roughly a century ago, prior to the railway being built, Lottorp consisted of only a few homesteads. Where there were markets, hotels and mercantiles was instead Alvedsjöbodar - a place that today is a small, quaint fishing area with a few boathouses, but in 1887 juryman Nils Peter Olofsson started the construction of a proper wharf in Alvedsjöbodar. Nils Peter came from Kristdala and perhaps he was also of the Sabelskjold family. I don't know, but perhaps someone else knows the answer?

As soon as the wharf was finished, the steamboat traffic started. During the periods when there was no ice, they could now follow a schedule transporting both passengers and freight. Depending on the boat traffic, stops would include Borgholm, Sandviken, Oskarshamn, Västervik and sometimes even Stockholm. Due to the poor conditions of the roads, travel and freight by sea made the most sense.

Oland Islanders would go to dances and markets in Oskarshamn while the people of Oskarshamn would make outings to Oland. During a time in which the bicycle was the most common form of transportation, particularly when scouting for a new beau or belle, one can imagine that the steamboat traffic added some further ground to one's territory. Romantic moonlight tours to Bla Jungrun, the island off of Kalmar bay, were not unheard of.

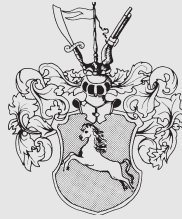
Most likely, my great grandfather Theodor Axelson and his wife, Herta, arrived by this boat to northern Oland in 1914. For a few years he would come to rent Lottorps farm before taking over. Noted as the first man to acquire a tractor, he was also a man who strived for progression, particularly within the agricultural field. Theodor was born in Risinge, a crown-funded cottage in Kristdala. Herta, whose real name was Hattie Valman, went by Herta until her death. Her tombstone reads "Herta" and her children knew her as Herta. The exact time when she made the official change from Hattie to Herta is unknown. Much like her husband, she hails from Kristdala and her maternal grandmother was Stina Kajsa Andersdotter. Theodor and Herta were both from the Sabelskjold family and produced eleven children together. Many of these children remained on Oland, as well as their children and grandchildren, myself included. Two of Theodor's brothers also relocated to Oland. Herman Axelsson settled in Fora parish and Erik Karlsson in Persnas parish with their families.

So thanks to Nils Peter from Kristdala and his decision to erect a newer and better wharf to serve as an aid to the steamboat traffic, a vast number of Sabelskjold descendants ended up on northern Oland.



*Alvedsjöbodar*

*Marie Larsson*



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Do you have suggestions or opinions about the content of this magazine? Would you like to write a line or two? Get in touch!  
Remember to notify us any change of address!

## Our own family estate?

Soon after the forming of this geneologic family association, there were ideas to aquire an estate in the Sabelskjöld name. In protocols from 1971, we can find entries and motions from members in regards to forming a fund for several purposes, such as: the publication of a family book but also as a means to aquire a family estate. We know that these funds were used to publish such a book, written by Sven Bankeström and Sture Heiding, published in 1982.



So in conclusion, that only leaves an estate! While publishing a book is no cheap process, it holds no comparison to purchasing an estate, so for this collective dream to become reality we would all need to combine our monitary efforts. Nevertheless, it remains a lovely idea - a piece of real estate available to all Sabelskjöld descendants.

Some of our American members in particular harbor a warm disposition to the idea and we have received a donation of 1000 USD from Chuck Johnson, which treasurer Gunnar Malmberg has deposited into an account, ear-marked for the future. Even with this gracious and kind donation, the reality of this dream is years away and is still in need of more funds. The board has accepted the donation and it will not be refunded.

*Karin Larsson and Annica Triberg*

## Ask the family?

**Question:** What happened to the plans for Karl Rutegårds fund?

*From a sibling*

**Answer:** Reading old protocols a decision was taken at the regular family meeting in Eksjö 1971, that the board should form a fund whose purpose should be specified later. 1972 at a family meeting in Kalmar, Karl Rutegård's memorial fund is discussed. Then it was decided that the next regular family meeting may decide whether the money should be donated to the Cancer Fund.

In 1967 Karl Rutegård who was the initiator of the formation of the Sabelskjöld family association had passed away in July 1971. At the ordinary family meeting in Gränna 1974, there was discussion about the possibility of placing a memorial board at K. Rutegårds gravvård. The meeting took no decision but would first talk to Karl's relatives. In 1975, the family Sabelskjöld is gathered in Hedemora and at a ceremony the family association's first, now deceased, chairman Karl Rutegård is honored with a memorial plaque placed on the grave care. In the local paper in Hedemora you can read about this event. In my opinion, Karl Rutegård's memorial fund was used in a good way.

*Karin Larsson*

## Nobility ring or family seal

During our jubilee in Stockholm in September, a number of members, Stig Berglund and Tommy Raminder among others, inquired about the interest of producing a copy of the nobility ring or the family seal. As of now, we don't have any price points but if you would be interested, kindly send an email stating so to: styrelsen@sabelskjold.se

*Annica Triberg*

