

## TRANSACTIONS OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH ANNUAL MEETING

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The Annual Meeting of the Swedenborg Scientific Association was held on April \*\*, 2006, in Heilman Hall, Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania. Dinner was served at 6:00 PM, and the meeting was called to order at 7:30. The President, Rev. Dr. Reuben Bell, welcomed members and friends of the association and spoke of the current progress in print-on-demand publication of out-of-print works. Then, following reports from the publisher/editor and treasurer, President Bell invited Dr. Al Gabay of La Trobe University, Victoria, Australia, to address the meeting on "The Rev. Jacob Duché and the Advent of the New Church in England." Following questions from the floor and discussion, President Bell expressed appreciation to Dr. Gabay for his address. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00PM.

## PUBLISHER/EDITOR REPORT

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### The journal

You may have noticed a change in the July–December issue of the journal, with the cover stock at least. Well, if you did, you are right. We are now using a POD company (Fidlar Doubleday) to produce the journal; the quality is good and the price is five cents per page versus eleven by our previous printer—photocopying versus offset printing makes for the difference. While our members and the board are happy with this, we'll stick with Fidlar Doubleday.

We continue to enjoy new writers coming to the plate, as well as our familiar ones. Articles in the 2005 issues involved thinking about various fields—environmental ethics, physics, mathematics, and ecology—from Swedenborgian perspectives, and this pattern will continue in 2006.

### Books

We have had sufficient production from Fidlar Doubleday to feel confident about their ability to produce good quality books—*The Brain*,

*The Cerebrum*, and *On Tremulation* for the SSA, and the Schmidius Bible for the ANC Press. We are nearly ready to proceed with production of several required reprints, but await cover designs to make them more attractive. While we need to avoid professional designers for economy's sake, we are capable of producing, in house, simple designs to meet our needs. We are hopeful that all out-of-stock titles will be available by the end of summer; these include *The Five Senses*, and *The Soul's Domain* (formerly *The Animal Kingdom*), and *A Philosopher's Notebook*. As well, we will be producing George de Charms' *The Doctrine of Reflection* once an index is produced and cover design chosen.

## NCAP

New Church Associated Publishers is now working under the co-chair of Bishop Brian Keith and SSA board member Joanna Hill. Recent agenda items include marketing of the forthcoming new edition of NewSearch, and rendering searchable online special editions, in particular, the Latin editions of the Writings published by the ANC Press.

What makes the NCAP group so valuable is the variety of people working together on it, each with special capabilities and knowledge to share with the group. This cannot but help to make our publishing work more effective.

## SPI

Swedenborg Publishers International, now in its sixteenth year of activity, is supporting an enlarged slate of projects this year: the operation of the newly-established Swedenborg Center in Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine; the work of Lenka Machova in the Czech Republic, particularly her marketing, distribution, website activities, and translation of collateral literature; Elaine Kim's continuing translation of the Writings into Korean; and the work of Rev. Sylvain Agnes in Ivory Coast in scanning and editing the Le Boys Des Guay's translation of the Writings to make them newly available for people in French West Africa. Grants from several publishers as well as the generous support of the SPI membership make all this possible, for which the SPI Projects Committee is most grateful.

## Website

The SSA's web site—"swedenborg-philosophy.org" and "the newphilosophyonline.org"—continues to attract visitors, most obviously through the catalog and book sales, either as orders through email contact, or through PayPal online credit purchases. In addition, sales continue through Swedenborg bookstores, mainly the General Church Book Center and the Swedenborg Society's store in London.

## Thanks to our part-time staff

Administrative Assistant Kirsten Gyllenhaal continues at the forefront of the SSA's publishing activities and general operations; she formats books for the ANC Press as well. This dual role requires of her a delicate time-balancing trick to keep everyone happy! Assistant Treasurer Lisa Synnestvedt does very professional work keeping our financial operation in good shape. Webmaster Louis Woofenden maintains our online presence and is looking for ways to improve it, both in terms of its general appearance and as a vehicle for book sales. We extend hearty thanks to Kirsten, Lisa, and Louis for all the fine work they do for us.

We are losing Allen Bedford as our treasurer. I can't let this pass without expressing the gratitude of the association for what Allen has done over the years in establishing a firm framework for our finances—both in respect to the investment portfolio and provision of operational funding. Thank you Allen!

In conclusion, I think it is safe to say that the association's publishing activities are alive and well, and we look forward to a very productive year in 2006.

Respectively submitted  
Erland J. Brock, *Publisher/Editor*