

## TRANSACTIONS OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING 2013

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This year's Annual Meeting, held on September 21, 2013, consisted of a day of meetings to consider in depth the state of the association, its mission and accomplishment in relation to it, and to develop plans to meet the challenges of falling membership and the failure to engage the new generation. President Bell drew attention to the fact of the continuing fulfillment of the association's charter purpose to keep the pre-theological works in print and to promote ideas in them. He also addressed the reality of the failure to attract younger generations as members that we and other institutions now face, and said we must find ways to remedy this.

Present at the meeting were President Rev. Dr. Reuben P. Bell; directors Dr. David B. Fuller, Ms. Joanna Hill via phone, Rev. Kurt P. Nemitz, and Rev. Dr. Erik E. Sandstrom; and officers Mr. W. Les Alden, Treasurer, Dr. Erland J. Brock, Publisher/Editor, and webmaster Rev. Amos Glenn. Apologies were received from directors Rev. Stephen D. Cole and Mr. Oliver and Mrs. Rachel Odhner.

Rev. Amos Glenn, the association's new web master, presented ideas about the use of the web site as a means for getting information out about the association and what it does, and talked of ways to engage the new generation, noting that it is not interested in organizational structure and is not interested in membership; college students need to have a sense of ownership and we must try to get them engaged so they do. [Editorial comment: from the mailing of an issue of the journal to the whole college student body this year we received zero response.] He said we need to have the journal online in a searchable format, noting that it includes a rich history of ideas that needs to be accessible.

David Fuller gave an account of the marketing of *Swedenborg and Osteopathy*, expressing gratitude to Lisa Childs, Administrative Assistant, for providing detailed records of sales, including through Amazon.

Nominations for the board: Reuben Bell reported that Dr. Richard Shank needed to resign from the board due to health considerations; and that Dr. Dan Synnestvedt anticipates that he will be able to resume activity on the board when his work-load slackens. Reelected to the board by unanimous vote were Erik Sandstrom and Joanna Hill.

Plans for future annual meetings included an idea advanced by Joanna Hill and Reuben Bell that for meetings we focus successively on one of Swedenborg's scientific and philosophical works to engage people in the contents, seeing them in context and in relation to current scientific thinking; *The Principia* was chosen for 2014. The outcome would be published in the journal.

Erland J. Brock

*Editor*