

TRANSACTIONS OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Swedenborg Scientific Association took place on April 24, 2004, in the dining room at Cairnwood Village, Bryn Athyn. The meeting was called to order by President Bell at 7:30 P.M. In attendance was a large number of members and friends of the association as well as board members and officers Dr. Allen J. Bedford (Treasurer), Rev. Dr. Reuben P. Bell, Dr. Erland J. Brock (Editor/Publisher), Rev. Stephen D. Cole, Rev. Kurt P. Nemitz, Mrs. Aubrey Odhner, Rev. Dr. Jonathan S. Rose, Rev. Erik E. Sandstrom, Dr. Dan A. Synnestvedt.

President's Remarks

Dr. Bell thanked Mr. Ned Asplundh and Dr. James Pendleton for their years of service to the association. They have retired from the Board. Pres. Bell also thanked Dr. Brock and Dr. Bedford for their work regarding publishing and finances for the SSA. Pres. Bell then reminded the audience about the mission of the SSA and how it relates to the Swedenborg Foundation's New Century Edition of the works of Swedenborg. The SSA, in cooperation with the Foundation, will start planning for a conference to be held in the fall of 2005 on Swedenborg's pre-theological works.

Reports

A. Nominating Committee. Mrs. Aubrey Odhner placed the following names in nomination for seats on the Board: Mrs. Joanna Hill, Mrs. Susan Poole, and Rev. Erik E. Sandstrom. All nominees were affirmed.

B. Treasurer's Report. Dr. Bedford distributed his report to the audience and thanked Mrs. Kirsten Gyllenhaal, Dr. Brock, and Mrs. Lisa Synnestvedt for their help with the SSA's financial operations. Financially speaking, the SSA is in good shape. Dr. Bedford encouraged our supporters to tell us of their hopes and dreams for the SSA and future projects. If they do so, he will collect them and report to the Board.

C. Publisher's Report. Dr. Brock thanked Mrs. Gyllenhaal for her work in formatting. He then spoke about the upcoming issue of *The New Philosophy*, a catalog being produced by New Church Associated Publishers that includes SSA titles, and the work of Swedenborg Publishers International (SPI).

Other Business

Rev. Kurt Nemitz spoke about his participation in a congress on the 18th century philosopher Christian Wolff. This was held in Germany.

Program

At approximately 8:00 P.M. President Bell gave a talk entitled "Scientist to Revelator: Two Swedenborgs, or End, Cause, and Effect?" Comments and questions were taken at the end of the talk.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Synnesdvedt, *Secretary pro tem*

EDITOR/PUBLISHER REPORT

Good evening. I want to report on three things: New Church Associated Publishers; Swedenborg Publishers International; and the journal

New Church Associated Publishers (NCAP)

In the fall of 2003, Rev. Don Rose called together a group of people involved in publishing and marketing in Bryn Athyn. He was aware of the concern many had about the need to do more to market books and other material. So, in addition to representatives of four publishers—the General Church Press, the Academy of the New Church Press, the Office of Education, and the Swedenborg Scientific Association—he invited Tracey

Thomas of the Book Center, Joanna Hill of Templeton Press, Jeb Blair and Stephen Wright for their marketing interests and experience, and Alfred Acton to serve as chairman of this “marketing committee.”

The group has been meeting bimonthly since then, and the upshot is the formation of New Church Associated Publishers whose mission is as follows:

The New Church Associated Publishers’ purpose is to provide a unified overview of New Church Publishers for potential buyers, academics, libraries, and others. This will provide a visual connection among the groups to showcase their individual publications as well as emphasize their common goals. It will not only inform the members of the church and others of our various publishing activities, but will also direct the sales to the Book Center and other outlets for book sales. From this unity can come organization, focus, effectiveness, and a platform for growing our publishing programs and the impact of New Church ideas.

Our first project is the creation of a four-publisher catalog, copy for which is now in its final stages of preparation. This will include about eighty-five titles. Following an opening Introduction and mission statements of the four publishers, four pages will be devoted to each publisher to feature their books on the 8.5 x 11 format catalog. We plan to print 10,000 of these to mail to both New Church and outside targets.

This project is but the beginning. The idea is to continue this effort through both print catalog and E-Commerce tools annually. In this, the General Church Book Center will be a focus for distribution.

Swedenborg Publishers International

SPI has been in operation since 1991, funding translation, publishing and distribution projects and producing a newsletter. It is a loose consortium of New Church and Swedenborg publishers throughout the world, without a particular New Church organizational connection.

Projects being supported this year include the publishing and distribution of the Writings in the Czech Republic together with the preparation and production of the Czech Swedenborg Society’s magazine *Arcana*—

Miss Lenka Machova is the translator and publisher there; the translation into Russian and publishing of the Paulist Press book *The Universal Human* being undertaken by Dr. Valdimir Maliavin, President of the Russian Swedenborg Society; and the provision of support for the translation and publishing efforts of the Dnepropetrovsk and Crimea Swedenborg Society through support of CUCIS (Committee for the Uses of the Commonwealth of Independent States), chaired by Duncan Smith. We are most grateful for the fact that 50% of the cost of these projects is covered by contributions to SPI by its members, the rest coming from SPI member institutions. The budget for these is \$7,000.

The New Philosophy

The Jan.–June issue of the journal goes to press next week. Of special interest in it is a series of what were possibly lectures by the late Bishop George de Charms on the doctrine of reflection. I came across these recently when examining an archive left by Lennart Alfelt, the journal editor prior to his passing in 1981. The series opens with “There are more arcana in the doctrine of reflection than in any other whatever” (SD 733). De Charms then expands on why this is so in nine chapters.

As well, we continue the reprinting of the 1929 journal’s first publication of translations of French and German texts of Swedenborg’s contemporary reviewers. What is especially interesting in these is that we not only get a sense of contemporary reaction to his scientific ideas, but see him at work as a scientist, engineer, inventor and even economist in his contributions to monetary policy.

On the cover is an illustration of processes in fabrication of iron into useful products, taken from the work *De Ferro*. It is noteworthy that this work together with those on copper and salt represented up-to-date accounts of the metallurgy of iron and copper, and mining of salt and extraction of it from sea and spring water, then practiced in Europe. Here we see Swedenborg as a practical man of the world providing scientific and technical information for the service of industry in Europe. The work on iron remains to be translated into English, as we expect it will be for the Swedenborg Foundation’s New Century Edition.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

for year ending December 31, 2003

OPERATING FUND

BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2002 \$10,416.90

Plus Receipts

Contributions	8,544.44
Publication Fund Reimbursements	4,519.00
Dues	4,040.39
Book Sales	1,290.57
Special Events	480.00
Miscellaneous	200.00
Interest	<u>53.52</u>

Total 19,127.92

Less Expenses

Wages	7,503.15
<i>New Philosophy</i>	4,724.10
Special Events	820.00
FICA	573.75
Postage	344.49
Annual Appeal	272.54
Internet	179.40
Computer	100.67
State Registration Fee	100.00
Office Expenses	74.12
Bank Fee	42.50
Telephone	<u>27.32</u>

Total 14,762.04

THE NEW PHILOSOPHY, July–December 2004

BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2003 \$14,782.78

OPERATING FUND ALLOCATION

First Union Checking Account \$9,323.03

Vanguard Fund #30–Prime Money Market \$5,459.75

PUBLICATION FUND

BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2002 \$23,158.90

Plus Receipts

Income from Endowment 7,635.00

Income Dividend 163.94

Total 7,798.94

Less Expenses

Operating Fund Overhead 4,519.00

Wages 324.90

SSA Web Site (Wages) 286.50

Total 5,130.40

BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2003 \$25,827.44

PUBLICATION FUND ALLOCATION

Vanguard Group Investments

Vanguard Fund #33—Federal Money Market \$20,472.95

First Union Checking Account \$5,354.49

ENDOWMENT FUND

BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2002 \$190,753.97

Plus Receipts

Dividends & Capital Gains 3,594.86

Price Gain 50,921.73

Total 54,516.59

Less Expenses

Pay out to Publication Fund 7,635.00

Total 7,635.00

BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2003 \$237,635.56

ENDOWMENT FUND ALLOCATION

Vanguard Group Investments

Fund 84—Total Bond Market \$16,935.39

Fund 29—High-Yield Corp. Bond \$16,454.38

Fund 9—Index Growth \$40,676.74

Fund 40—Index 500 \$50,671.65

Fund 59—PrimeCap \$58,136.30

Fund 114—Strategic Equity \$34,686.92

Fund 52—Health Care \$20,074.18

SPI FUND

BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2002 \$4,561.85

Plus Receipts

Contributions 7,155.53

Dues 1,520.00

Total 8,675.53

Less Expenses

Grants (Total = \$4,576.00)

Swedenborg Boekhuis 3,000.00

Czech Swedenborg Society 900.00

CUCIS 676.00

Printing 2,934.58

Wages 1,028.47

Postage 914.74

Web site 223.39

Office 137.41

Bank fees 60.00

Computer 50.00

Phone 21.67

Total 9,946.26

BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2003 \$3,291.12

SPI FUND ALLOCATION

Petty cash 57.00

HVFS Checking Account 3,234.12

Respectfully submitted
Allen J. Bedford, *Treasurer*