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## Literature

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# Literature

**Våra första amerikafarare: Historien om finlandssvenskarna i Nya Sverige.** By Karl-Gustav Olin. Jakobstad: Ab Olimex Ltd., Storgatan 17/27, 68600 Jakobstad, Finland, 1988. 144 pp. Maps, illustrations, index. Paperback: \$27.00 surface, \$30.00 airmail; hardcover: \$39.00 surface, \$43.00 airmail.

This altogether new and different work about New Sweden appeared during the last weeks of 1988. Having carefully reviewed the manuscript before type was set, I was glad of the opportunity both to offer constructive criticism at a number of points, and to sign my name to a wholly favorable notice. The publisher made use of this notice both on the back cover of the book and in promotional flyers. Thus, while the author is equally responsible for the book's merits and its demerits, I am sensitive only about the latter.

If we could weigh this study on some sort of balance, with its good features on the left and bad ones on the right, there wouldn't be much on the latter side. What I see as flaws in the work are just a few old chestnuts. These have been inherited from S. Ilmonen, E.A. Louhi, R. Goethe, A. and Y. Rauanheimo, and perhaps a few others whose Finnish nationalism outweighed their facts. I must say that Olin has gotten rid of more errors from these sources than he has kept; but a few tales have crept into his volume that may be traced to this literature (and, to the best of my knowledge, no farther back in time). Most of those that are retained have to do with tentative identification of such men as Captain Hans Amundsson Besk as a Finland Swede. We have only undocumented assertions as evidence for it; on the other hand, we have so far no evidence whatever against it.

Olin adds to the excesses of the earlier Finnish nationalists an icing of his own ethnic and regional pride: he belongs to the small Swedish-speaking minority in the population of modern Finland. One could perceive this book as a nostalgia trip, by and for the dispossessed. There used to be a tour of stately homes in Natchez, Mississippi, whereon the guide would inform you that these homes were built at a time when a majority of the millionaires in America lived in this town, in these homes. It was a little hard to believe the wistful guide in Natchez. In the same way, it is a little hard to picture a Finland dominated by Swedes, and an integral part of that kingdom.

Still, facts are facts, and Olin has assembled more new ones than almost anyone working over the much-tilled soil of New Sweden in the 1980s. If that be the case—and I assure you that it is—how critical should one be about his objectivity, or lack thereof? In the absence of any passion for the subject, he would not have spent all those hours (and all those Finnish marks) reading microfilm, visiting sites, corresponding with other scholars, and chasing to earth a great number of very elusive foxes, the Finland Swedes who came to America in the seventeenth century.

There really were quite a few of them. Some, like Governor Peter Ridder (from Ekenäs) and Captain Sven Skute (from Kronoby), were already known to American readers. They are much better known, now that Olin has put some flesh on their formerly bare bones. He did it by finding them in tax lists, court cases, military rosters, church burial registries, and the usual sources of interest to genealogists.

These sources were available in Finland; if nobody else in 350 years has bothered to look at them perhaps we could use more, rather than less, special pleading of this quality. From similar sources Olin has added materially to our already well fleshed portrait of Governor Johan Printz; the leading specialist on that ample figure today is Joseph Rydén, who has given this book a favorable review both in print and in correspondence. And there are some three dozen lesser figures, more or less credibly identified as Finland Swedes, but in every case more fully discussed here than they have been elsewhere.

This is first of all a book about people. Some of them stayed here in America, becoming our ancestors. Some died trying, as did the hapless passengers and crew of *Kattan* in 1649. And some returned to pursue distinguished careers back in Sweden—which then encompassed Finland, several of the present Soviet republics, and other promising career fields to the south.

As a newspaperman who regularly writes what we call “human interest” features, Olin knows how to tell a story. He has told this one extremely well for his primary audience, today’s Finland Swedes. If those whose interests lie elsewhere overlook this book because of its minor errors, or its market-driven provincial character, they will deprive themselves of much that is new, that is fascinating, and—most importantly—that is the truth.

—Richard H. Hulan  
Arlington, VA

**The Rise and Fall of New Sweden: Governor Johan Rising’s Journal 1654-1655 In Its Historical Context.** By Stellan Dahlgren and Hans Norman. Published by University of Uppsala Library 1988. Distributed by Almqvist & Wiksell International (P.O. Box 638, 101 28 Stockholm, Sweden). Cloth, 303 pp., including 41 illustrations. 300 kronor (\$49.00). Can also be ordered from SAG Publications, P.O. Box 2186, Winter Park, FL 32790.

One of the most significant (and lasting) features of 1988 as the “Year of New Sweden” has been the publication by Swedish and American scholars of quality books commemorating the colony on the Delaware founded 350 years ago. Among these is the long-awaited translation of the 1654-55 journal of Johan Rising, the last governor of New Sweden. Rising (rhymes with “leasing”) or Risingh (as the authors prefer to spell it) had been sent to America to be second in command under Governor Johan Printz. On his arrival, however, he found that New Sweden had been reduced to 70 souls and that Printz had abandoned it eight months earlier. With about 250 new colonists (another 100 had died at sea), Rising brought the colony to its peak, in both number of colonists and geographic area, only to suffer humiliating defeat in September 1655 when he was forced to surrender to Peter Stuyvesant’s numerically superior expeditionary force from Manhattan.

Rising’s own account of the rise and fall of New Sweden in 1654-55 was discovered by the American scholar, Amandus Johnson, in 1906 and liberally cited by him in his classic, *Swedish Settlements on the Delaware* (1911). Subsequently, Johnson translated the writings of Johan Printz (*The Instructions of Johan Printz*, 1930) and of Rising’s engineer assistant, Peter Lindeström (*Geographia Americae*, 1925). But Johnson’s promise to complete this trilogy by translating Rising’s own journal was never fulfilled.

This void has now been filled by professors Stellan Dahlgren and Hans Norman, historians at Uppsala University, with a significant assist by Marie Clark Nelson of Uppsala, who translated the journal into English. The text is attractively presented. Dahlgren and Norman’s transcription of the journal into modern Swedish spelling appears on the even-numbered pages; Nelson’s English translation is shown on the facing odd-numbered pages. 181 footnotes (in English) explain obscure words or references and help identify place names and personal names. They also highlight differences in Rising’s final text compared with the first draft of his journal sent back to Sweden in July 1654.

The journal makes fascinating reading. Through its pages parade a number of Swedish colonists whose progeny became families of prominence in colonial America: Hans Månsson (Steelman), Olof Stille (Stilley), Peter Gunnarsson Rambo (Rambo), pastor Lars Carlsson (Friend), Nils Matsson (Nelson), Constantin Grönberg (Constantine), Ivar Hendricksson the Finn (Evertson). The list of familiar names would have been longer had the authors taken to heart their own admonition that the basic text was not in Rising’s own hand but was the product of a copyist who sometimes misinterpreted the original text. Thus, the Finn Måns Pålsson (progenitor of the Mounson family) is recorded in the journal as Måns Månsson; Rising’s skipper Abbe Claesen from Dokkum (Netherlands) is identified as Abbe Larsson; and the tobacco inspector Johan Scoggin is identified as Johan Skragge.

But these oversights are relatively few. In general, the authors have done a superb job in tackling, understanding and explaining the names of places and persons that were familiar to the 17th century Swedish and Finnish settlers on the Delaware. In this they were assisted by several American scholars, notably Dr. C.A. Weslager and Dr. Richard H. Hulan. As a result this book is destined to serve as a classic reference book for serious students of New Sweden and its environs in the mid-17th century.

The reader is also treated with an excellent selection of 41 illustrations (nine in color plates), including eleven maps (both contemporary and modern), portraits of many of the principals mentioned in the book, and contemporary drawings of such places as Stockholm, Gothenburg and New Amsterdam.

Supplementing Rising's journal itself, the authors also submit two extensive introductory essays. Stellan Dahlgren's 43-page section, entitled "New Sweden: The State, The Company and Johan Risingh," includes brilliant chapters on Johan Claesson Rising's career (pp. 26-34) and an in depth analysis of the evolution of the journal (pp. 34-43). The latter includes several surprises, including information from Peter Lindeström's unpublished autobiography and the revelation that Lindeström's *Geographia Americae* was based, in large part, upon the first draft of Rising's journal.

Hans Norman's 82-page section, entitled "The Swedish Colonial Venture in North America 1638-1655," presents a balanced overview of the history of New Sweden from its inception to its aftermath under Dutch and English rule. He ably synthesizes previous scholarship by Amandus Johnson, C.A. Weslager and others to produce a clear summary of the significant events dealing with the colony. Some of his discussion will come as a surprise to American readers. Thus, relying on Alf Åberg's recent findings, Norman points out that the ship *Kalmar Nyckel* made four (not three) trips to the Delaware. In addition, Norman's discussion of Rising's 1655 purchase from the Minquas Indians of the lands between Chakakitque (Elkton, Maryland) and Amisackan (near Cobbs Creek in West Philadelphia) is the best treatment of this event that this writer has encountered.

This publication of Rising's Journal in English translation was made possible by the grant of financial assistance from the Swedish Council of America. That grant has yielded excellent dividends. This book will become a standard reference in American libraries and should be a valued addition to the library of anyone having an interest in the colonists of New Sweden.

Peter S. Craig  
Washington, D.C.

**Sweden: The Nation's History.** By Franklin D. Scott. Southern Illinois University Press 1988. With an epilogue by Steven Koblak covering the last ten years of Sweden's history. 688 pp. Maps, illustrations and index. Paperback: \$24.95; cloth \$45.00. Order from SAG Publications, P.O. Box 2186, Winter Park, FL 32790.

When Franklin D. Scott's history was first published in 1977 the *Scandinavian Review* stated that "the student, the scholar, and the average Swedish-American in search of roots can find in excellent prose the one-volume account of a modern nation."

Now the Southern Illinois University Press of Carbondale, IL has published an extended and revised edition of this superb book and has expanded the original work by including an epilogue which seeks to analyze the last decade of modern Sweden.

Scott's broad examination of Sweden covers political, social, economic, military and religious history. Producing both a narrative and an interpretive view of Sweden, Scott shows how and why that country progressed from backwardness to military greatness. He delineates two centuries of cultural development, a relapse into poverty followed by a sudden outburst of productive energy, and the creation of an exceptionally prosperous welfare state.

Scott covers everything from the role of the nobility in the intellectual, economic and cultural development of Sweden to the way the common people raised crops, mined ore, and harvested the forests to keep the economy afloat.

Dr. Scott is emeritus professor of history at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL. He is now curator of the Nordic Collections, Honnold Library of the Claremont Colleges. Dr. Koblik is professor of history at Pomona College, Claremont, CA.

**New Sweden in the New World, 1638-1655.** Edited by Rune Ruhnbro. Translated by Richard E. Fisher. Höganäs: Färlags AB Wiken, 1988. 169 pp. Maps, illus., index. \$49.95 postpaid from Alfred J. Nicolosi, 7 Delaware Ave., Penns Grove, NJ 08069. Also published in Swedish (illustrations and pagination the same), *Dei Nya Sverige i Landet Amerika: Ett stormaktsäventyr 1638-1655*.

The New Sweden 350th jubilee has produced more than a dozen books, several of them substantially new in content and most of them rather expensive. This is among the most expensive, its only rivals in the \$50.00 range being *The Rise and Fall of New Sweden* (a scholarly edition of Governor Rising's journal) and *The Rambo Family Tree*, previously reviewed here by Peter S. Craig. More than any of the others, Ruhnbro's is what we term a "coffee-table book," beautifully produced and lavishly illustrated. But unlike most coffee-table books, it was also carefully planned as a contribution to scholarship. In most respects these plans were realized.

The book is organized as a series of essays by specialists, on topics assigned by the editor toward the end of 1986. These essays were completed by May, 1987. Owing to the usual pitfalls of publication (highlighted in this case by labor troubles in Italy, where the book was printed), the volume did not reach the American market until just after the major celebratory gatherings of March and April, 1988. Like several other good books, to which I shall refer in my closing paragraphs, this one has suffered from an extreme volatility in this market.

In his foreword—which takes the form of a slightly surrealistic letter to Axel Oxenstierna—Rune Ruhnbro claims that this book "can be seen as a summing up, employing various approaches, of what we already know about this remarkable Swedish enterprise, a historical essay free from the coloration of national romanticism that has tinted the previous anniversaries." The emphasis in the last phrase is interesting, particularly since the several authors were not informed of it in advance. Or at any rate I was not—and I believe mine is the only essay in the volume that actually calls this phenomenon by name. (After the usual Anglo-American fashion, I call it Romantic Nationalism, on p. 155.)

I feel sure that I am not alone among the represented authors in feeling relatively comfortable when accused of romanticism, and relatively uncomfortable with nationalism. If I were a nationalist I wouldn't in any event be a Swedish one, as I assume most of the others would be. But almost all of these writers are honest and objective men; even if a few of us do occasionally wallow in poetry and music, we seem capable of keeping our respective nationalisms in check. One of the charms of this book is the fact that, unlike most of the "New Sweden '88" hoopla, it consistently acknowledges Finnish elements in the population and character of the colony. Since no money and no authors from Finland were involved, this reflects well on the generosity and integrity of the contributors and the editor.

Many of the authors of chapters are represented elsewhere in the recent literature on New Sweden. The first two essays are by Hans Norman and Stellan Dahlgren, whose volume *The Rise and Fall of New Sweden* is considered by some to be the high-water mark of scholarship on the colony since Amandus Johnson's time. Norman surveys New Sweden with special emphasis on its settlement history. His colleague Dahlgren (both teach history at Uppsala) describes the "great power" time in Sweden's history, primarily the mid-seventeenth century. The third essay is a sweeping overview, by Professor Göran Rystad of Lund, of North American colonization. Here New Sweden is, so to speak, put in its place.

Next comes an excellent brief biography of Johan Printz, by Josef Rydén, currently President of the National Association for the Preservation of Home Districts and Local History. Rydén has published many newspaper and yearbook articles on New Sweden topics, especially those relating

to Jönköping County (of which Printz became Governor after returning from New Sweden). He has also been most kind and helpful in assisting me, and others in America who depended on me, in obtaining obscure and hard-to-locate original documents from Swedish archival sources.

Ulf Beijbom, well known to Swedish Americans as Director of the Emigrant Institute in Växjö, has contributed a careful essay titled "Sweden's First Voyagers to America." Incidentally, in the Swedish edition his heading is "Våra första Amerikafarare"; this precise phrase is the title of Karl Olin's new book about colonists from the Swedish-speaking parts of Finland. Beijbom and Olin use the pronoun (*våra*) with quite different antecedents.

At this midpoint of the volume Rune Ruhnbro contributes his own chapter, a report on his 1987 quest in search of visible traces of the colony in the Delaware Valley. Journalistic and ironically humorous in style, it is titled "Voyage to a Vanished Destination." In the absence of any other attribution, I give Ruhnbro credit also for the "vignettes." At least one of these illustrated mini-essays appears with each chapter of the book, except Ruhnbro's own. They are distinguished with captions in a larger typeface and are printed over a darker screen, in various shades of tan or taupe.

Speaking of the absence of attributions, I deplore the casual approach to picture credits throughout this collection. Börje Gustavsson, who took most of the beautiful original photographs, gets a tiny credit alongside the copyright notice; but the rest of that line, "unless otherwise attributed," covers a tremendous range, from good through inadequate to nonexistent. The uncredited artwork begins with the inset of Oxenstierna opposite this notice; complaints from American artists might begin at p. 6 with a picture apparently representing the Swedes' landing at the future site of Ft. Christina. From the Swedish edition I learn that Robert Shaw is the artist, and the New Jersey State Museum the source; if it is a book illustration, I still don't know what book that may be.

The attribution "After Bryant" on p. 53 does not really convey the message that this illustration is from William Cullen Bryant's *Picturesque America* (1872); indeed, I am only guessing it. The beautiful painting by Jakob Hägg on p. 55 is credited to the museum that owns it, but not to the artist; we may know his name if we also own the Dahlgren and Norman volume whose cover it adorns. (Another Hägg painting of the same ships is properly credited, on p. 9, as is his reconstruction of ship's lines in the front endpapers.) Further examples of inadequacy are on pp. 14, 45, 49, 51, 108, 109, 120, etc. The "1677" watercolor on p. 131 was done on commission, in the 1820s, for John F. Watson's "Manuscript Annals" of Philadelphia, a fascinating miscellany located for the last century or so in the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Photos on pp. 147 and 164-65 were taken before Börje Gustavsson was born, but are "not otherwise attributed."

Returning to the essays themselves, the next one is about Indians, and it is surprisingly fresh. Most of the writing about the Swedes and Indians is either appallingly ill-informed, or by C. A. Weslager; this is neither. I should have liked to see something about the Swedish Indian traders, and Weslager would like never again to see the illustrations from Lindeström and Holm; but overall it is a creditable job on a difficult subject. The author, Nils Erik Baehrendtz, teaches at Stockholm University.

The next essay is in some respects the most unique thing in the book. Like several others, it aspires to contextualize something about New Sweden. But this author, Jan Öjvind Swahn, takes as his subject the myth, or one might say the unreality, of America: not so much what actually lay before the emigrating Swedes and Finns, but what they thought, hoped or feared *might* lie there. The chapter is titled "A World of Riches and Monsters," and it is not for the squeamish.

The book concludes with chapters by three more writers familiar to those who have been keeping up with the New Sweden literature. Robert Murray has a dozen pages—not enough space, by a long shot—to write about "The Churches of New Sweden." He saves a little room by giving just two sentences to the Moravians (Swedes who founded several churches in eighteenth century America). I have only a few quibbles with what he does say. I don't think Lars Lockenius was Finnish; and I think that pastor's decision to stay in America had to do first with family ties, and second with the fact that he had been indicted for insurrection against Printz (now Governor of Jönköping and a near neighbor to Lock's home turf, Leksberg and Mariestad). Jonas Aurén

from Ekshärad was a better man, and a more significant figure in Swedish American history, than Murray or others from the ecclesiastical establishment have seen fit to acknowledge. On the other hand, the pastors and the laymen Murray does emphasize are all worthy of the praise they get.

Nils William Olsson contributes an essay titled "An Impressive Awareness" (spelled "impressiv" at the top of every other page), basically a survey of American families that descend from New Sweden colonists and—rather atypically—know it. Regular readers of this journal probably know more than they will learn from this essay, but it is a good exercise to run through. Olsson remembers to name the Moravians Murray omitted, and he discusses lineages of several of the more orthodox clergymen. Another linkage among the last three articles is established by Gustavsson's photography. For example, the church on p. 130 is a stone's throw from the house on p. 145, built by an ancestor of the author on p. 153, me.

The last chapter is about the lasting impact New Sweden had, or may have had, on American culture. Modesty forbids me to say how good it is, but two things might be mentioned objectively. The wilder theories advanced therein are credited to, or blamed upon, a variety of other writers on the artifacts of American pioneer life; their cited works date between 1914 and 1986. The other thing I want to say is that I know that neither the Swedes nor the English in Pennsylvania melted iron ore with cabbage; my misspelling (kålbruk for kolbruk, p. 160) was caught in May of 1987, but was corrected only for the Swedish edition. It's always something.

I want to close with reflections on the New Sweden bookshelf as a whole. Because of the very transitory audiences, many of which gathered only once to coincide with the visit of the Swedish royalty last April, a very few early books (by C. A. Weslager and Algot Mattsson, with Alf Åberg a distant third) were perceived in the New Sweden region as the cream of the crop. Without intending to detract from the works of those writers, I must point out that in the early spring of 1988, much of the crop had yet to reach the barn. The Rising journal, the New Sweden issue of *Lutheran Quarterly*, a new folklife study by Terry G. Jordan and Matti Kaups, and the volume under review are among the high-quality publications in English that have come out since.

Good catalogs of exhibitions were produced in Philadelphia, Trenton, Newark (DE), Stockholm, and Turku. The forthcoming volume of proceedings from the March, 1988 New Sweden conference at the University of Delaware promises to be quite substantial. Weslager, Craig and I are among the American scholars with significant works still in progress or in press. For readers of Swedish, I should also recommend Pehr Kalm's journals and Karl Olin's new book (both published in Finland), the New Sweden special insert of *Jönköpings Posten*, and the Stockholm reprint of Thomas Campanius Holm's 1702 history of New Sweden.

—Richard H. Hulan  
Arlington, VA

Herb Drake, Jr., **Roots III: Software to Make History**. Mountain View CA: Commsoft, Inc., 1988. With user's manual by Susan Porter. System requirements: IBM PC or compatible computer with DOS version 2.0 or later.

For the genealogist, the leap from notecards and pencil to software and computer is roughly equivalent to the transition from memorized, oral genealogies to ones that are written. Some pretty good genealogies have been transmitted orally in various parts of the world, but they lack the precision and detail of written records. Likewise, lots of information can be stored away on notecards and typed manuscripts, but the computer organizes it and links it together in unimagined, tremendously expansive configurations. Among the advantages of the computer for genealogical work are these: it is quick, systematic, has a massive capacity, and allows many forms of feedback from the same body of genealogical data.

Roots III is a genealogical software package. If you are familiar with computers, you know that you need a computer before you can use a software package, and also a printer to prepare printed reports. The software package consists of three 5 1/4" diskettes and a 565-page manual to explain how to use them. In addition, there is a ninety-page manual for installing the program to operate properly on your computer and printer. There is also a sixty-page booklet explaining Tiny-Tafel, a rather advanced procedure for analyzing your genealogical data in Roots III.

Getting started is really quite easy. Four or five pages in the installation manual will lead you, step by step, as you set up the basics that allow your computer and printer to understand the software program. Then you insert the Roots III program diskette and work your way, step by step, through the Tutorial section of the Roots III manual. You can complete the tutorial session in an hour or so. When you have done it, you will have entered into the computer your own record and those of your parents, and linked them together. You will also have learned the basics of Roots III and will be ready to begin using it in your genealogical research. As new situations give rise to new problems coming out of your work, you look in the extensive Reference section of the manual to learn how to solve them. In this way, you learn the ins and outs of the program as you are using it, and it really does go pretty fast. If you have never had any previous experience with a computer, however, you should have on hand a knowledgeable friend or other expert to help you get started.

Roots III works like this. The equivalent of an individual record sheet appears on the computer screen. It has space for a record number and other standard information about the individual: name, sex, occupation, name of parents, date and place of birth, death, baptism, burial, graduation, immigration, census information, the current address of living individuals, and so on. You customize the format of each record sheet to include the information you want. There are blanks available for all kinds of special information, including LDS Ordinance information or several census records for the same individual. The program also asks you to rank the reliability of each bit of information on a scale of 0-3. This constant reminder to evaluate the quality of your information is salutary. Linked to the record sheet is space for footnotes, bibliographical citations, and additional biographical material. After you have used the program for a few days, you discover that information can very quickly be entered and stored, retrieved and corrected. There are also a number of special codes on the record sheet, asking you to evaluate such things as your ancestral or descendant interest in a given individual on a scale of 0-3. The computer links up individual data sheets by ancestry, descent, and marriage. Once this is done, the Roots III program will generate an amazing variety of charts and tables. It will tell you the blood relationship between two individuals, stating the degree of consanguinity in words and in degrees of civil and canon law. It will print a list of all the relatives of any given individual, arranging them under the headings of parents, children, grandchildren, second cousins once removed, and the like. It will print pedigrees in the form of an ancestral chart or a tabular ahnentafel. It will print sheets organized by family groups, and it will produce several varieties of extensive genealogical tables.

Roots III can also segregate individual categories of data from the file. For example, it will find everybody with any connection to Växjö or San Francisco, list all birthdays of living individuals, or all the birth, death, marriage, and other anniversaries in the month of June. It will print long lists of everything under the genealogical sun, compile an index, and even produce a full page of heredity statistics for any given individual in the file.

In short, the secret of Roots III is that it encourages you to evaluate your data and enter it in concise, standardized form, and then it takes your data and links it all together, to produce an amazing amount of genealogical feedback. At the press of a button, for example, you can make an ahnentafel chart listing all known ancestors, with all the basic information about each and every one. I have had information of this kind in my files for years, but I was never able to put it together the way I can with Roots III.

This does not mean that the Roots III software package is perfect, though it is certainly one of the best available to the genealogist, possibly the very best. It is rather complicated, and the manual is not clearly written. Sometimes it is easier to set aside the manual and simply use the instructional "menus" that appear on the computer screen. The "menus" are very clear and easy to use. With a little practice, you can follow them, step by step, through many of the more complicated procedures. According to the manual, Roots III is supposed to allow the use of the special letters and diacritical marks in the Scandinavian languages, such as ö Ö ä Ä å Å é É æ Æ ø Ø ü Ü. Using special letters on a computer can sometimes be a bit complicated because the software has to instruct the computer to send the printer a signal it can understand. There are



plenty of opportunities for electronic misunderstandings along the way. So far, I have not figured out how to get my Roots III software, Zenith SupersPort computer, and HP ThinkJet printer to work together and come up with Ö Å å Ä É æ Æ ø Ö Ø, although my equipment does just fine with ö ä é ü. I have not given up on this problem, however, and think that I will eventually be able to solve it.

Enter the computer age with your genealogical studies if you have not already done so. You will not be disappointed. In order to avoid having to change over at some later time and transfer huge amounts of data from one system to another, you should start with the most powerful program you can find, even if it seems a bit formidable at first. Roots III would not be a disappointment: it's a good one.

—J.R. Christianson  
Luther College, Decorah, IA

## Back Issues on Sale

In order to clear out remainders of back issues of *SAG* which are not needed to complete runs of the journal, we are offering our readers back issues at half price, or \$2.50 per copy. Please add 75 cents for postage for one issue or \$1.50 for two or more. The contents of each issue are listed below. In addition, each issue contains features such as ancestral tables, queries and occasional book reviews.

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