

PUBLISHER/EDITOR'S REPORT

Book Production

While the year 2006 could be described as one of high productivity, 2007 was one of high expectations only. However, with an expanded team of part-time workers, we have good reason to believe that several titles out of stock—*Generation, Psychologica, A Philosopher's Notebook*, Harold Pitcairn's *Concordance*, and a new title *The Doctrine of Reflection* by George de Charms—will appear during this year.

Most of our book sales are through the web site. Our most recent large order came, oddly, from Harrods of London. We are encouraging European buyers to go to our German distributor JOLANDOS or the Swedenborg Society for our books because of the high mailing costs from here.

The Journal

The January-June 2008 issue is in press and the ship date is May 5. It includes articles by Gregory Baker, Sylvia Shaw, Karl Birjukov, and David Gyllenhaal and, I think you will agree, has plenty of food for thought. Copy for the July-December issue is in hand.

London Lexicon Conference, and publishers meeting

Rev. Stephen Cole, Professor Jane Williams-Hogan and I attended the publication launch of the Swedenborg Society's *A Lexicon to the Latin Text of the Theological Writings of Emanuel Swedenborg* held on April 17 in London. Chaired by Rev. John Elliott, speakers included Professor Emeritus Anna Davies of Oxford University and friend and colleague of the late John Chadwick—the editor of the Lexicon—who spoke on lexicography; Professor Dirk Sacré from Belgium who spoke on the current state of neo-Latin scholarship; and Rev. Dr. Jonathan Rose, the appointed successor to Chadwick, who spoke about the newly published lexicon.

It was a delightful day-long conference attended by many members and friends of the Swedenborg Society and the SSA.

On the following day, April 18, a publishers' meeting was held to hear about a new initiative from the Swedenborg Society and the Swedenborg Foundation. Quoting Mr. Richard Lines' notes: "Stephen McNeilly [Society Publisher] said he had proposed to Jonathan Rose [Swedenborg Foundation President] an annual meeting between the Swedenborg Society and the Swedenborg Foundation, to take place alternatively in London and West Chester or Bryn Athyn. Jonathan Rose had welcomed this. It was agreed that all Swedenborg publishers should be involved under the umbrella of Swedenborg Publishers International, even if all could not be present at these meetings. The meetings would give an opportunity to exchange views and share strategies." In addition, the plan includes the launching of new significant works from one or other of our publishers.

Stephen, Jane, and I all spoke in support of the idea; I note that it has yet to be presented to the London council and the West Chester board for ratification.

SPI projects 2008

The slate of projects being supported this year include translation, publication, and distribution work in the Ukraine, the Czech Republic, and Georgia; in addition, funds were provided to allow Lenka Machova from the Czech Republic and me to attend the Lexicon conference in London. As well, SPI is providing funds for Rev. Göran Appelgren to travel to centers of New Church activity in Europe and beyond.

The SSA team

Facing the reality that the Academy Publication Committee and the SSA board has more work than can possibly be accomplished by Kirsten Gyllenhaal alone, a selection committee was formed, representing the ANC PC, the General Church PC, and the SSA, with the charge to find additional part-time workers. Following advertisement in the Bryn Athyn *Post* and a review process, the committee selected Lisa Childs and Freya Fitzpatrick to meet our collective needs. In addition, Kirsten Gyllenhaal continues to work for us as well.

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In addition to attending to the on-going work of publishing books by the three publishers and producing the SSA journal and the SPI newsletter, attention can now be given to an expanded program of web site presence for both the Academy Publication Committee and SSA, and to creating—by scanning—files of books and journals that can meet the needs of the NewSearch program and of the Swedenborg Library's digital library.

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