

the Timen Stiddem Society

NEWSLETTER



ISSUE 83
WINTER/SPRING
2025

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Looking forward to our 16th National Stidham* Family Reunion



A group sail on the Kalmar Nyckel will be the main feature of this reunion.



President's Message



Richard L. Steadham
President



Greetings members and friends of the Timen Stiddem Society!

Reunion plans have now been finalized, the itinerary schedule set and now we await to see who and how many attendees will sign up.

Our 16th National Stidham* Family Reunion will be here before you know it. Once again, we will be gathering in Wilmington, Delaware, June 27-29, to take in the many New Sweden sites — and this time — enjoy a group sail aboard the Kalmar Nyckel which is something we have dreamed about for many years and are finally getting the opportunity to do. As the ship holds a maximum of 49 passengers, we are limited to that many reunion attendees this time.

Once again this year, our reunion headquarter will be the DoubleTree Hotel in downtown Wilmington. Tom Stidham checked around with many other hotel options, but this was still by far the least



COURTESY OF THE DELAWARE HISTORY MUSEUM

The 1671 Lovelace deed to Tymen Stiddem.

expensive. Another plus for this hotel is it's situated close to the many New Sweden site we will be visiting.

An interesting site we haven't visited since our Second National Stidham* Family Reunion back in 2000 is the Delaware History Museum. Of special interest to our group is we will be able to view the Francis Lovelace deed to Tymen Stiddem dated May 3, 1671.

For more on the reunion, please go to page 18 to see some photos of sites we had toured during past reunions and take note of a detailed itinerary on page 21.

—Richard L. Steadham, President

the Timen Stiddem Society

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The *Newsletter* is the official publication of The Timen Stiddem Society. It is published two times a year: Winter/Spring and Summer/Fall. It is distributed to all members as a benefit of membership.

The objectives of the Society are to encourage and promote the accurate recording of family data, vital statistics and individual accomplishments of Dr. Timen Stiddem and his descendants and to disseminate such at regular intervals to those interested. Further, to instill a feeling of kinship and pride in the descendants of Dr. Stiddem and his progeny through learning of their ancestors' history which can be gleaned from the recorded past.

Membership dues are \$20 annually (January through December), for which a member receives two issues of the *Newsletter*. All members are classified as either Descendant or Associate Members based on lineage from Dr. Stiddem or not. Anyone with an interest in this Society is eligible to join as an Associate Member. Note: Stidham* followed by an asterisk, refers to all spelling variations of the surname when speaking of Stidhams in general. This spelling is the most commonly used form of the name by Timen Stiddem's descendants today. ID numbers [in brackets] are from *The Descendants of Dr. Timothy Stidham, Volumes 1, 2 and 3*.

Disclaimer: The Society and its officers disclaim responsibility for any errors or omissions, although accuracy is always strived for. It is each researcher's own responsibility to verify any data presented in these pages against the original evidence, if that is of importance to them. Each contributor is responsible for their own material and that it does not violate existing copyright laws.

The Timen Stiddem Society is a family association member of the National Genealogical Society (Arlington, VA), an organizational member of the Swedish Colonial Society (Philadelphia, PA) and a life member of the Old Swedes Foundation (Wilmington, DE).

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On the web at: www.timenstiddemsociety.org and www.stidhamfamilytree.com

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Official 16th National Stidham* Family Reunion T-shirt



FRONT

BACK



Closeup of front of shirt



Closeup of back of shirt

All reunion attendees receive this T-shirt as part of their paid reunion registration fee, however, the design is so sweet, we are printing additional shirts for those who won't be attending, but would like one—or several—for themselves and other family members. If interested, fill out and send the 2025 Reunion Shirts Form insert in this issue to Treasurer Kristin Randels. Make your check payable to: The Timen Stiddem Society and write "2025 Shirts" on the memo line of your check.

Mail to: Kristin Randels, TSS Treasurer
2631 Gerald Ave., Rochester Hills, MI 48307

Looking forward to our 16th Nat



The 16th National Stidham* Family Reunion will be unique in that the number of attendees will be limited to just 49 people as that's the maximum number of passengers the Kalmar Nyckel will hold. Our group sail on that ship will be the culmination of years dreaming about our reunion group experiencing a group sail on the ship and this year it's actually happening!

The sail itself will take place from 10:00 to 11:30am on Saturday, June 28. Upon arrival back at the dock after our 90 minute sail on the Christina River, we will enjoy a boxed lunch at the Copeland Maritime Museum and Kalmar Nyckel Shipyard followed by a tour of the Maritime Museum.

When we are finished at the museum, we will walk the few short blocks from there to nearby Old Swedes Church and Graveyard

where the staff will treat us to a program designed specifically for us as descendants of Timen Stiddem, a prominent member of the New Sweden colony whose descendants were instrumental in building and worshiping at this very church. The church was completed and dedicated in 1699, which was after Timen died in 1686, so he himself never had the opportunity to worship there, but his descendants did and even had their own pews which they rented from the church.

Timen Stiddem *may* be buried in the graveyard, but if so, would be in an unmarked grave. There are, however, many of his descendants who *are* buried there and you can learn who they are and where their final resting place is by reading their names and following the graveyard map in the article, "Hallowed Ground" in Issue 45, Winter 2010 of the Timen Stiddem Society Newsletter.

After spending an informative time at Old Swedes, we'll take a short drive over to the Delaware History Museum in downtown Wilmington. The last time we visited that site as a reunion group was way back in the year 2000 at our second National Stidham* Family Reunion. They'll have original Stidham* documents we can view such as deeds and wills, including Governor Lovelace Deed to Tymen Stiddem dated May 3, 1671.

We're honored to have Joseph Mathews, Governor of the Swedish Colonial Society, give our Saturday evening banquet presentation regarding the reconstruction of the Swedish Farmstead Cabins in Essington, PA.

The reunion is shaping up to be an exciting one and we hope to see you there. Note, please find the Reunion Registration Form insert in this issue.

—Richard L. Steadham, President



ational Stidham* Family Reunion



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1. The stern of the Kalmar Nyckel showcasing the “Key of Kalmar” in its design which refers to Kalmar Castle in southeast Sweden, situated on the Baltic Sea.
2. The DoubleTree Hotel in downtown Wilmington will once again be our reunion headquarter.
3. The Kalmar Nyckel plying the waters of The Christina River in Wilmington.
4. Holy Trinity, Old Swedes Church and graveyard where many Stidhams* are buried.



1. A Google Maps “Street View” of the Delaware History Museum.

2. Inside the Parish House on the grounds of Old Swedes Church where the staff will have a program ready for us to enjoy.

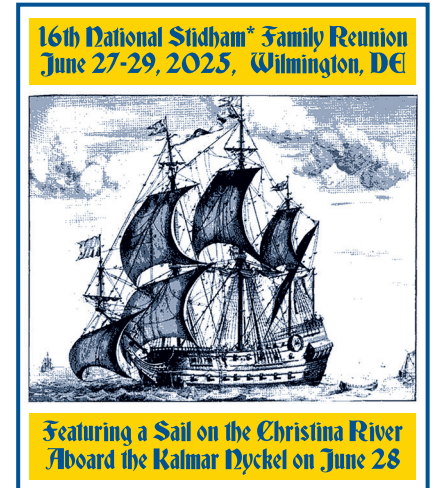
3. A Holy Trinity docent gives a history of the Crane Hook Church Monument located on its churchyard grounds.

4. Inside the Copeland Maritime Museum where our 2022 reunion group was treated to a special presentation about the ship. This is where we will break for a bit to enjoy our boxed lunches.



the Timen Stiddem Society

Itinerary for the 16th National Stidham* Family Reunion June 27-29, 2025 in Wilmington, Delaware



Friday, June 27

3:00-5:00pm: Arrivals and check-ins at the DoubleTree Hotel throughout the day and evening. Soft drinks and finger food available for those who want to gather together and get reacquainted with distant cousins. Adult beverages available on your own at the hotel's bar. Or, after reunion registration and check-in, you can simply relax in your hotel room after a long day's travel and we'll see you in the morning at breakfast.

Saturday, June 28

All morning until 9:30 am: Buffet breakfast served in the hotel restaurant for a fee (not included in your reunion registration fees)

9:30am: Gather outside the hotel for group transportation to the **Kalmar Nyckel**

10:00am: Group sail on the **Kalmar Nyckel**

11:30am-12:30 pm: Boxed lunch at the **Copeland Maritime Museum and Shipyard**

12:30-2:30pm: Tour **Old Swedes Church and Graveyard**

3:00-5:00pm: Tour the **Delaware History Museum** in Wilmington

7:00-9:00pm: Saturday evening banquet with special guest speaker, and Auction

Sunday, June 29

All morning: Buffet breakfast served in the hotel restaurant for a fee (not included in your reunion registration fees). One last chance to catch a meal together with your Stidham* cousins before heading home, or wherever your final destination takes you.