

EDITORIAL REMARKS

In This Issue

We are delighted to bring to our readers an issue with a variety of articles ranging from one about the first translation of a work by Swedenborg into Russian to the latest news about *The New Philosophy* online in the Swedenborg Library's Digital Collections.

Following the transactions and reports of the 112th Annual Meeting is Edward Sylvia's Annual Address titled "God's Ecology and Spiritual Gardening." In it, correspondences are used to trace our development on a spiritual level in the framework of the seven days of creation.

Needless to say, questions surrounding the idea of the human soul have been part of cultures throughout human history. Students of philosophy will recall that for Descartes, who is considered the father of modern philosophy, the pineal gland served as the seat of the soul. In Soni Werner's article "Search for the Soul" she proposes that the anterior cingulate cortex is the location of human conscience and could be the seat of the soul. In responding to Soni's article, David Lister offers other ideas. It is our hope that their thoughts will stimulate a revival of consideration of the nature of the human soul in the pages of this journal. The subject was, as is well known, one that occupied Swedenborg for many years, as expressed, for example, in his *Soul-Body Interaction*.

Richard Lines' "Darwin, Wallace, Tennyson and Swedenborg: Religion and Science in the Nineteenth Century"—a lecture delivered at Swedenborg Hall on July 9, 2009—provides a wealth of thought about the interaction of ideas in the nineteenth century, a time when thinking about the world that developed out of scientific inquiry became more and more public.

Steven Hendricks' "Sacred Geometry" was delivered at the inauguration of Christopher Clark into the new presidency of the Bryn Athyn College. Rich in philosophical ideas relating to architecture and design, the text gives the background to the creation of the doors of the new Brickman Center in Bryn Athyn.

In "On the Decimal: The First Russian Translation of Swedenborg" Swedish scholar David Dunér says "Here I will sketch the background of

the translation, the significance of Swedenborg's pamphlet, and how it became translated into Russian."

In "The Divine Proceeding," Douglas Taylor opens with "The Divine Proceeding (*Divinum Procedens*) is the Divine, not as it is in Itself (*in Se*) but as it goes forth to sustain the creation and to effect the redemption and salvation of mankind."; then follows an analysis of the meaning of this.

The Swedenborg Scientific Association has for years held the vision of having the journal available in digital form; this is now becoming a reality. But through the work of Marvin Clymer, this dream has been extended to providing the journal in searchable form in the Swedenborg Library's Digital Collections. Marvin Clymer tells us about this in his article "*The New Philosophy Online*." This is very exciting, and we look forward to the completion of the project in the not too distant future as scanning of the journal back to 1898 continues.

London International Publishers Conference

Your attention is drawn to the notice from the Swedenborg Society about the first of annual Swedenborg publishers conferences, to be held at Swedenborg House, June 3–4, 2010. There is a wide-ranging agenda for discussion that should stimulate a lot of exchange of ideas about Swedenborgian publishing. Those who wish to attend are urged to contact James Wilson (james@swedenborg.org.uk) as soon as possible.

Swedenborg Publishers Conference Thursday-Friday June 3-4, 2010 Swedenborg House, London, UK

The first International Swedenborg Publishers Conference launching an annual event to alternate between the UK and the USA.

As part of the Swedenborg Society's bicentenary celebrations it will be hosting a two-day publishing conference at its grade II listed headquarters in the heart of London. The aim of the **Swedenborg Publishers Conference** is to bring together organizations and individuals, worldwide, currently working in the field of Swedenborgian publishing. Not only do we

hope that the Conference will encourage closer relations between publishers and book rooms and other sales outlets, but that it also facilitates common online and other marketing strategies and will act as a forum to discuss the future of Swedenborgian publishing.

The Conference will see presentations given by the Swedenborg Society, the Swedenborg Foundation, the Swedenborg Scientific Association and other publishers on their recent output and ongoing publishing activity.

In addition there will be two talks on each of the days, book launches, and numerous discussion groups. Subjects that will be covered include:

The Future of Swedenborgian Publishing • Aims and Audience of New Century Editions • The Correspondence of Dr J J G Wilkinson
• New Swedenborg Bibliography • Print-on-Demand Publishing
• Translating Swedenborg • Gateway Literature • Swedenborgian Publishing in Switzerland and Germany • Swedenborg and Holland 1712-2010 • Graphic Design • Latin Editions

The Conference is aimed at professionals working in Swedenborgian publishing, retail and information centres; but it is also the ideal opportunity for mainstream and other publishers to advertise their editions of Swedenborg and Swedenborg-related literature to a key market.

Swedenborg Hall has a capacity of 100 and places are filling up fast. If you would like to attend, please contact James Wilson, stating the institution or organization you represent, at: james@swedenborg.org.uk

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The Conference is free to attend. The Swedenborg Society will be making limited funds available for travel and accommodation bursaries for those who will otherwise find it difficult to attend. If you would like to apply please mention this in your e-mail or letter—the closing date for bursary applications is December 31, 2009. Successful applicants will be notified in January 2010.