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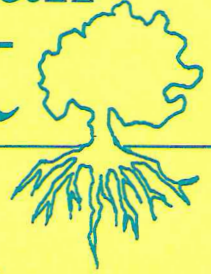
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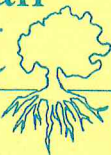


*A journal devoted to Swedish American
biography, genealogy and personal history*

CONTENTS

Swedish Genealogical Societies 1883-1983	97
Naturalizations of Scandinavians in Los Angeles County	104
Additional Notes on Arvid Posse	108
Who Was Otto Wilhelm Åkerman?	111
Mount Olive, the Scandinavian Cemetery in Chicago	116
Swedes on the <i>U.S.S. Monitor</i>	119
Ancestor Tables	123
Genealogical Queries	129
Early Swedes on St. Eustatius	136
Milwaukee Naturalization Records	137
What Happened to Olof Jönsson?	137
Jönköping Genealogical Seminar	138

Swedish American Genealogist



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Swedish Genealogical Societies 1883–1983

Håkan Skogsjö*

(The Swedish Genealogical Society (*Genealogiska Föreningen*) celebrates its fiftieth anniversary this year. The Editor of *SAG* has asked Håkan Skogsjö of Göteborg, Sweden, to tell our readers something in general about Swedish genealogical organizations during the past 100 years, as well as to tell us specifically about the Genealogical Society itself.)

It was at the Eden Hotel in Stockholm on Monday evening, Nov. 27, 1933 that the Genealogical Society of Sweden (*Genealogiska Föreningen*) came into being. No one present that night, including Lennart Zielfelt, the man behind the idea, and who was to lead the organization for the next quarter of a century, could possibly have foreseen how important this step was for the development of genealogical research in Sweden.

The Genealogical Society was, however, not the first of its kind in Sweden. Lennart Zielfelt writes about this in his review of the society's first 25 years (published in the society's journal, *Släkt och Hävd*, 1958, pp. 133–144), that there were "two rivals competing for the public's genealogical interests". These organizations were the old and patriarchal *Personhistoriska Samfundet* (The Society for the Study of Personal History), founded already in 1876 and the more questionable organization entitled *Skandinaviska Släkt Studie Samfundet* (The Scandinavian Society for the Study of Genealogy). Both of these organizations viewed the newly started society "with misgivings", as Zielfelt puts it.

From Collecting Autographs to Family History

The fifty year-old history of the Genealogical Society is doubtless an important event for genealogists to celebrate during 1983. There is, however, another thing which should be noted in this year of jubilee — it is the fact that it is exactly 100 years ago this year since the first Swedish organization was formed for the expressed purpose of advancing genealogical research. It

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was in 1883 that *Svenska Autografsällskapet* (The Swedish Society for the Study and Collection of Autographs), later reorganized as *Personhistoriska Samfundet* was founded, at the behest of an archivist at Sweden's National Archives (*Riksarkivet*). He was Otto von Feilitzen (1820–1889), who decided to expand the activities of *Svenska Autografsällskapet* so as to include also the fields of genealogy and heraldry. This expanded theme was expressed in the society's new by-laws adopted April 13, 1883, where it expressly stated that "the purpose of the society shall be to activate and occupy the mind with the knowledge of autographs, genealogy and heraldry and to preserve from destruction or neglect, objects, manuscripts and drawings which have a bearing on this type of historical research."

When this expansion of the society's activities took place *Svenska Autografsällskapet* had been in existence for seven years. It had been organized March 25, 1876 in the so called Bonde Palace in Stockholm, and the convenor was none other than Baron Carl Jedvard Bonde (1813–1895), Chief Chamberlain to His Majesty, King Oscar II. He was also elected as the first chairman of the newly formed group. The remainder of those present were, like Bonde, members of Sweden's high aristocracy with a sprinkling of archivists and librarians. As is evident from its name, the society focused mainly on the collection and study of autographs and according to its by-laws, the ambition of the society was "to save from destruction all older and more recent manuscripts, records and correspondence which can be of interest to the historian and the collector alike."

In February of 1879 the society published its first issue of *Svenska Autografsällskapets tidskrift* (The Journal of the Swedish Society for the Study of Autographs). It was a small and unpretentious publication, which was issued sporadically from time to time. The society also published a series of *Studies*.

When the society expanded its activities it also began to attract more members. In 1885 its membership was still quite small, about 40, but by 1893 it had reached a total of 120. The activity of the society and the contents of the periodical also shifted more and more toward family and personal history. Thus in 1898 it was decided to change the name of the periodical to *Personhistorisk tidskrift* (The Journal of Personal History), but it was not until 1905 that the process of changeover was complete and the new name of *Personhistoriska Samfundet* was adopted.

Personhistoriska Samfundet is today the oldest still functioning organization in Sweden with genealogy as its program. But as the name suggests, genealogy is not its sole area of activity. *Personhistoria* or personal history, sometimes called family history, is usually thought of as a combination of genealogy and biography. Thus the program of the society has more and more tended to become dominated by biography. The reason for this development is that genealogy has been taken over by other organizations. *Personhistorisk tidskrift* publishes four numbers each year (usually printed as two or three issues). The last issue in each annual volume usually contains

an extensive review section of genealogical, biographical and topographical works, which is of inestimable value. The present secretary of the society is Dr. Göran Nilzén, who also functions as the editor of the journal. The chairman of the society is the editor-in-chief of *Svenskt Biografiskt Lexikon* (The Swedish National Biography), Dr. Birgitta Lager-Kromnow.

Racist Ramblings

In 1920 *Skandinaviska Släkt Studie Samfundet* (SSSS) was formed. One of the founders was Capt. Gustaf Leopoldsson von Horn (1868–1940). The purpose of the society was to further the study of genetics in Scandinavia and to conduct genealogical research within Scandinavian families. Several studies were published, but with a clear Nazi bias. Among the publications was the large collective work entitled *Genealogia Gothica*, in which certain sub-standard articles came under attack, and rightly so, by such respected scholars as Dr. Bengt Hildebrand, the eminent author of *Handbok i släkt- och personforskning* (Guide to Genealogical Research). The author of some of these shoddy articles was not the chief editor of the work itself, Erik C: son Swartz (1887–1963), but probably the most eccentric person in the annals of Swedish genealogical research, namely Adalbert Fredriksson, who also called himself Knas d’Ofson, Knas Svenolber Fredrik Of Son and Marquis de Son! This weird person, obviously mentally disturbed, whose real name was Sven Olber Olsson (1882–1944), was the author of a number of curious studies which strongly point to his being a Nazi sympathizer. *Skandinaviska Släkt Studie Samfundet*, a society, whose contributions to Swedish genealogical research we easily can forget, is supposed to have carried on until 1951, when its membership was around 100. Its publication activities seem to have ceased in 1946.

The Birth of the Swedish Genealogical Society

Early in the 1930’s one could read in one of Sweden’s largest newspapers, *Svenska Dagbladet*, a letter from a reader who was doing research on Swedish urban families (*borgerliga släkter*). The writer of the letter was probably Arvid Berghman (1897–1961), a noted genealogist and heraldic expert. Another letter to the editor, this signed L.Z. suggested that the collecting of information on Sweden’s urban families should be carried out under the aegis of a society. The writer of the letter was Lennart Zielfelt (1895–1976), to whom goes the credit for having taken the initiative to found the society (as mentioned earlier), which then was given the name *Genealogiska Föreningen*. In 1943 it went national when it added a sub-title, *Riksförening för släktforskning* (National Society for Genealogical Research).

The Genealogical Society has meant a great deal for Swedish genealogical research. Its activities are many, including the important field of publications. During the years 1934–1949 it published fifty issues of *Medlemsblad för Genealogiska Föreningen* (Newsletter for the Genealogical Society). In

1950 this newsletter was replaced by a journal which was named *Släkt och Hävd* (Family and History), which at first came out with three issues a year, but which lately has been expanded to four issues annually.

A series of genealogical studies has also seen the light of day, including the very important *Svensk släktforskarförteckning 1978*, which charts the genealogical research areas of more than 600 Swedish genealogists. In addition the Genealogical Society has also published an impressive list of family histories.

One of the earliest goals of the society was, as the letters to the editors of *Svenska Dagbladet* indicate, the collecting of all current genealogical material. This has been done and today the society can boast of a large genealogical library, a large index of family names to be found in printed family histories of all types, a number of family histories in manuscript, an imposing archives of press clippings from two major Swedish newspapers, *Svenska Dagbladet* and *Dagens Nyheter*, as well as much other genealogical material. All of these aids are to be found in the offices of the society located in the old National Archives on Riddarholmen in the central part of Stockholm. At the present time the chairman of the society is Lieut. Col. Erik Thorell (1917–).

Conflict Gave Birth to Strife

Today the Genealogical Society has the position of being Sweden's foremost genealogical society. This was not always so. During the middle of the 1940's things began heating up. Lennart Zielfelt tells about it in *Släkt och Hävd* 1958, p. 136, where he says that "it was a disagreeable conflict" accompanied by "sharp expressions of opinion" directed against the society and parts of its board. The result of this conflict was that Christopher von Warnstedt (1918–) together with a few others established in February, 1946 *Föreningen för släktforskning* (Society for Genealogical Research) and began publishing a journal, *Genealogisk Tidskrift* (Genealogical Journal) the same year. In the beginning the editorship was handled by von Warnstedt, but after a schism in the board of the society, the editorship was taken over by Elsa Dalström-Söderberg. The journal appeared for the last time in 1961. It should also be noted that *Föreningen för Släktforskning* also published a series of genealogical studies named *Svenska antavlor i listform* (Swedish Ancestral Tables), which, however, ceased after a second issue.

Släkthistorisk Tidskrift

In 1949 *Släkthistorisk Tidskrift* (Genealogical Journal) appeared. Rune G:son Kjellander (1920–) was its editor and publisher. In the first issue the editor stressed the fact that "his journal was independent and did not constitute a forum for contentious board members." Thus he said, "all dangers of public debate are eliminated." The editor went on to say that

Släkthistorisk Tidskrift wished to “work for the common good, spurred on by idealism and love of the fatherland”. These words demonstrate what was happening in the genealogical society world in Sweden in the late 1940’s. There must have been a few problems within the ranks of Swedish genealogical researchers, probably due in large part to Christopher von Warnstedt’s passionate engagement in the genealogical questions of the day.

In the first issue of *Släkthistorisk Tidskrift* there is a *Svensk Släktforskarförteckning 1948–1949* (a list of Swedish genealogical researchers for 1948–1949). This list contains no less than 237 names. This list is, however, not the first of its kind in Sweden, for already in 1946 *Föreningen för Släktforskning* had published a stencilled list, which was said to be the first in Sweden. This was edited by Carl-Gösta Windell, a genealogist and book-dealer in Stockholm.

Despite the statement of Mr. Kjellander in his first issue of *Släkthistorisk Tidskrift* that his journal would remain free of entanglement with genealogical societies and not become the forum for any given organization, already in issue No. 1 for 1950 one can read on the inside of the front cover that his journal now “was the official organ of Sweden’s Genealogical and Heraldic Society.” It has not been possible to gather any supplementary information regarding this group. The journal ceased publication already in 1951.

United Youth

Genealogisk Ungdom (Genealogical Youth) was founded in Mölndal, a suburb of Göteborg, on Feb. 5, 1977. A total of seven younger genealogists were present, among them Per-Olof Widing (1950–), who was elected chairman, Tor Erland Salberger (1952–), who became treasurer and I, the author (1958–), who was elected secretary.

Genealogical Youth, as the name implies, seeks to enlist younger genealogists, but older persons are always welcome (at a higher fee). The primary purpose of the society is to publish genealogical items. A journal, *Släkthistoriskt Forum* (Genealogical Forum) is published quarterly. It is edited by Peter Olausson (1956–) and contains in addition to articles on genealogy, also book reviews and discussions. A series of studies, *Svenska Antavlor* (Swedish Ancestral Tables), is edited by Bo Lindwall (1953–), where members of the group have the opportunity of publishing the results of their genealogical research. In addition to its quarterly, the society also publishes a newsletter, *GU-Nytt* (Genealogical Youth Newsletter), which deals with the business affairs of the society.

Lately computers have entered almost all areas of human endeavor, a phenomenon we all have noted. Even genealogists have to keep up with the times in order to see how best we can use computers in our research. A group of enthusiasts was organized in Linköping in the fall of 1979 in order to study the possibilities of this new medium. In April of 1980 the group reorganized and formed a society with the name *Föreningen för datorhjälp i släkt-*

forskningen — DIS (The Society for Computer Service in Genealogical Research — DIS). The chairman of this society is Lars Blomberg. A mimeographed newsletter *Släkt-Forskar-Nytt* (Newsletter for Genealogists) is edited by Per-Olov Bergman.

Regional and Local Groups

In addition to the societies mentioned so far, all of them operating country-wide, there are also a number of regional and local groups doing genealogical research. There are at the present time eight regional groups affiliated with the Genealogical Society. The oldest of these is *Skånes Genealogiska Förening* (Genealogical Society for the Province of Skåne), founded in 1937. The next oldest is *Västra Sveriges Genealogiska Förening* (Genealogical Society for Western Sweden), founded in 1946. The other six have all been organized within the past five years. *Skånes Genealogiska Förening* has since 1978 published a separate journal entitled *Skåne Genealogen* (The Skåne Genealogist), which comes out twice a year. In 1950 a regional group was formed in the city of Norrköping, *Östergötlands Genealogiska Förening* (Genealogical Society for the Province of Östergötland), but it ceased operations already in 1952. The chairman for this group was the knowledgeable Dr. Hjalmar Lundgren (1880–1953).

Other regional groupings, which have existed outside the national Genealogical Society, have also had their day, even though their existence has been ephemeral. *Genealogiska Föreningen i Skellefteå* (The Genealogical Society of Skellefteå) was formed in 1937 and had as its secretary and forceful leader a wholesale merchant by the name of Svante Lundell (1894–1971). Its activities ceased, however, after a few years. In *Genealogisk Tidskrift* for 1947 we learn of the formation in 1945 of *Jämtlands Läns Släktforskarförening* (The Genealogical Society for the County of Jämtland). This group held its annual meeting at the provincial archives in Östersund May 15, 1947. The year before it had had a membership of 62 persons and the group published three mimeographed newsletters. *Dalslands Släktforskarförening* (The Genealogical Society for the Province of Dalsland) was formed July 4, 1954. Its chairman was Anders Gustav Bördh (1895–1968), an author, and the secretary was none other than the well-known genealogist from Dalsland, Olof Ljung (1924–). All of these three groups, however, have ceased to exist. Recently new groups have been founded both in Jämtland and Skellefteå.

A National Federation?

In 1981 I published an article in *Genealogisk Ungdoms Tidskrift* (Journal for Genealogical Youth), in which I presented a survey of all Swedish genealogical societies. This list contained no less than 22 local and regional groupings which were active during the spring of 1981 (those affiliated with

the national Genealogical Society were not included). Of those 22 societies a total of sixteen were formed in 1977 or later, giving us some idea of the rapid development in this area during the most recent years. The flowering of interest in genealogical research has directly influenced the growth of genealogical societies and clubs.

More than a year ago the question arose concerning the possibility of organizing a national union or federation of all these groups. This question has been brought up within the boards of directors of various and sundry groups. Representatives of the societies in south Sweden met in Alvesta in Småland in May of 1982 and in October of the same year representatives of groups from central Sweden met in Eskilstuna in Södermanland. A meeting of groups in north Sweden is planned in the near future.

Personally I am in favor of the idea of a national association since I firmly believe that this would give strength and purpose to all Swedish genealogical societies. If these were organized for a united purpose, that of furthering genealogical research, the national unit would be strong enough to withstand political pressures and powerful local interest groups. As a collective group this national federation could also cooperate more fully in the organization and implementing of national tasks, which would not be possible for the regional groups working separately.

Literature

In addition to the works cited in this article I have also made use of these sources:

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Christopher von Warnstedt, "Modern svensk släktforskning. En kort historik och ett programutkast" in *Genealogisk Tidskrift*, Vol. I, 1946, pp. 145–147.

L[ennart] Z[ielfelt], "Erik C:son Swartz" in *Släkt och Hävd*, 1963, pp. 269–271.

Naturalizations of Scandinavians in Los Angeles County 1856–1887

Nils William Olsson

Following up the discussions of naturalizations in the East and Middle West, we now want to turn our attention to the West Coast, Los Angeles County in California in particular. These are federal naturalizations conducted in the Superior Court of Los Angeles County. They are housed in the Los Angeles Federal Archives and Records Center and its Regional Archives Branch located in Laguna Niguel, CA. The documents in questions are to be found in boxes No. 3 through No. 8 and belong to Record Group 21, which is the classification number given to the records of the District Court.

One is surprised that so few Scandinavians were naturalized in the Los Angeles Superior Court between 1856 and 1887, only a total of 48. In view of the very large influx of Scandinavians into Los Angeles during these years, the figure is quite small. The answer may lie in the fact that many of the naturalizations occurred in the local courts and these are not deposited in the Federal Records Center in Laguna Niguel.

As with the majority of naturalizations of Scandinavians it is often quite difficult to separate out the Norwegians from the Swedes, since from 1814 to 1905 both Sweden and Norway constituted a co-dominion with the Swedish king as the head of state of both nations. Thus when a Norwegian or a Swede sought U.S. naturalization he had to renounce his allegiance to his sovereign, the Swedish king. Since this problem exists and since it is virtually impossible to separate Norwegians from Swedes with a 100% certainty, both Swedes and Norwegians have been included. There are instances when the candidate for naturalization specifically renounces his allegiance to the King of Sweden or the King of Norway, which helps the process. There are also occasional references in the text of the naturalization document which pinpoint the petitioner's place of birth, which of course also aids the process of identification.

The names themselves may at times offer clues which place the petitioner in one or the other category. There are typical Norwegian Christian names as well as surnames, which are so distinctive that they can scarcely

be taken to be Swedish. The same argument holds for some Swedish names. In such instances the reader has to make a choice, but even when he does, he should look for corroborative evidence before making a final judgment.

An observation one makes as one peruses the Los Angeles records concerns the meager information they contain. We find only the names, the nationality and the date of naturalization or the declaration of intent. In certain cases where the declaration of intent has been filed in another court, that document may however, offer more specific information.

In most cases a witness is mentioned as a person who has known the petitioner for a period of time, a kind of character witness. In a few instances two witnesses appear in the records. These names have been listed also since they may be of help in the identification of the petitioner. It may be a neighbor, a friend or relative and many of them have Scandinavian names, indicating that Scandinavians helped each other when seeking naturalization.

Immediately after the name of each person naturalized a code letter or letters have been entered which will indicate to which nation or nations the petitioner "severally belonged", as the typical phrase of the period has it. The code letters used are as follows:

N = Norway	N + S = Norway and Sweden
S = Sweden	S + N = Sweden and Norway

In one instance the clerk has erred when he refers to the "King of Denmark and Sweden". This should of course be Norway and Sweden. As a general rule one can accept the theory that the petitioner is of that nation which is listed first in the compound form. Thus the petitioner who renounces his allegiance to Norway and Sweden is probably Norwegian and the person who does likewise for Sweden and Norway is Swedish. Again this theory should be tested against other evidence available before making a final decision.

Many of the clerks of court were none too well versed in geography or history and errors often occurred when it came to filling out the part of the form which had reference to the petitioner's political loyalties. I have already mentioned the "Kingdom of Denmark and Sweden" combination. In another case the clerk refers to the "Republic of Sweden and Norway".

As with the naturalization documents examined earlier, the majority contain a very important item for every genealogical researcher, the actual signature of the petitioner. In a few cases where he could neither read nor write, he placed an (x) on the document in the presence of the clerk. This symbol is used in the list that follows to indicate that the petitioner was illiterate.

With all of their flaws, omissions and paucity of contents, the declarations of intent as well as the naturalization documents themselves supply us with vital information and constitute an excellent primary source to help us solve our genealogical problems.

Swedish American Genealogist

<i>Name</i>	<i>Alle- giance</i>	<i>Date of Naturalization</i>	<i>Date of Declaration</i>	<i>Witness(es)</i>
Conrad Laurence Strobill ¹	S+N	Aug. 4, 1856	_____	Hector M. Forbes
Gustaff Linn ²	S	_____	Jan. 26, 1860	_____
Sven Petter Larsen	N	April 7, 1862	_____	Charles Holst
Peter Wilson ³	S	Feb. 27, 1867	Feb. 27, 1867	Henry Read
Alexander Nelson ⁴	S	July 8, 1867	July 8, 1867	George Wright
Christopher Ryerson ⁵	N+S	Nov. 2, 1868	Nov. 2, 1868	James W. Bryden
Jonas Nelson	S	July 31, 1871	_____	J. K. Stenup
Gudmund Sivertson				Rasmus Tobias
Kyle	N+S	Aug. 8, 1871	_____	Michaelsen
Rasmus Tobias				Gudmund Sivertson
Michaelsen	N+S	Aug. 8, 1871	_____	Kyle
Karl Johnson	S	Aug. 17, 1871	_____	Valentine Mand
Rasmus Rasmussen (x)	S+N	Sept. 1, 1871	_____	John Williams
Thomas Canalius (x)	N+S	Sept. 5, 1871	_____	G. M. Lookman
Lars Olsen	S+N	June 16, 1873	_____	Henry C. Short
Nicholas Nelson	S	Sept. 1, 1873	_____	M. E. Ryan
George O. Johnson ⁶				_____
Charles Wilson	S	Aug. 16, 1875	_____	L. E. Smith
				Thomas Anderson
Christofer Lude Jensen	S+N	June 21, 1876	_____	A. W. Potts
Charles Carlson ⁷	S+N	June 24, 1876	_____	J. N. Reece
Joseph Johnson (x)	S+N	July 9, 1876	_____	A. W. Potts
Edward Johnson (x)	S	Oct. 3, 1876	_____	A. Tomasini
Jonas Peter Wanvig	N+S	Oct. 18, 1876	_____	Martin Vanvig
J. George				
Cummings (x)	S	Oct. 20, 1876	_____	A. W. Potts
Charles Johnson	N+S	Jan. 10, 1877	_____	Alfred Radley
August Blix	S	Sept. 3, 1877	_____	C. B. Richardson
Petter Beck	S+N	Sept. 4, 1877	_____	T. W. Rule
James Olsen	N	July 29, 1879	_____	George M. Davies
				Thomas Carty
John Frederick Ahlstrom ⁸	S	March 18, 1880	July 15, 1875	O. Warling
John August Johnson ⁹	N+S	Aug. 2, 1880	May 21, 1873	D. R. Payne
Oliver Simpson	—	Aug. 18, 1880	_____	P. H. Downing
Daniel Anderson ¹⁰ (x)	S	Aug. 20, 1881	Aug. 13, 1870	V.C.E. Schobert
M. H. Peterson ¹¹ (x)	S	_____	Feb. 23, 1871	D. Nagle
John Peter Melberg	S	April 20, 1882	_____	Henry Oliver
				W. E. Crittenden
Andrew Wathne	N	Sept. 1, 1882	Nov. 12, 1878	Edward Anderson
John Mallgren	S	Oct. 30, 1882	Sept. 14, 1880	Joseph Maier*
				A. J. Hechtman
Enoch Gustafson (x)	S	Feb. 23, 1883	July 3, 1879	Nathan Jacoby
Charles J.W. Sjoberg	S	Jan. 25, 1884	Jan. 25, 1884	Henry A. Crocker
				R. L. Olsen
Jacob Selberg ¹²	S+N	March 11, 1884	Feb. 14, 1874	N. Lindenfeld
Alexander Olsen ¹³	N+S	April 7, 1884	Feb. 15, 1872	John R. Brierly
O. A. Johnson ¹⁴	N+S	April 18, 1884	Feb. 27, 1882	Harry D. Smith
Sivert Olsen ¹⁵	S+N	June 7, 1884	Oct. 30, 1871	R. Lofthouse
N. O. Winquist	S	July 1, 1884	May 1, 1882	John A. Carlson
Carl Anderson ¹⁶	S	March 28, 1885	Oct. 3, 1882	George Borgstede
John August Carlson ¹⁷	S	June 16, 1885	Dec. 24, 1868	Theodor Johnson
Thomas C. Peterson	S	June 26, 1885	_____	Henry Oliver
Ernest Gilstead ¹⁸	S	July 31, 1886	Nov. 25, 1882	John P. Johnson
Walfred Swoffer ¹⁹	S	July 31, 1886	April 8, 1884	John P. Johnson
Ole Anderson	S	Aug. 24, 1886	_____	Bernard Dunn
John A. Anderson ²⁰	N	Sept. 1, 1887	Oct. 13, 1884	P. W. Anderson

- ¹ Conrad Lorentz Strobill was b. in the Garrison Parish in Göteborg May 17, 1812, illegitimate s. of Lorentz Ulrik Ehrenbill, captain in the Göta Artillery Regiment, and Johanna Dorothea Snäll. He emigr. twice, the first time in 1834 and the second time in 1837. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1838, serving thirteen years, being discharged at Rancho de Jurupa, CA Oct. 14, 1853. In 1856 he was living in San Bernardino Co., CA, when he sent a letter to the Swedish Legation in Washington, requesting information regarding an inheritance case in Sweden.
In 1834, before Strobill left for the U.S., he made a will, which specified that his estate was to go to certain named individuals in Sweden if he were to die abroad. On June 19, 1871 the Göteborg Municipal Court (*Rådhusrätt*) ruled that since nothing had been heard from Strobill in twenty years, it was presumed that he was deceased and thus he was officially declared to be dead. — Nils William Olsson, *Swedish Passenger Arrivals in New York 1820–1850* (Stockholm and Chicago, 1967), pp. 14, 15, 26; Nils William Olsson, *Swedish Passenger Arrivals in U.S. Ports 1820–1850 (except New York)* (Stockholm and St. Paul, MN, 1979), p. 86.
- ² Gustaff Linn declared his intention of becoming a U.S. citizen in the District Court of Marin Co., CA.
- ³ Peter Wilson arrived in the U.S. more than three years previous to reaching the age of 21.
- ⁴ Alexander Nelson arrived in the U.S. more than three years before reaching the age of 21.
- ⁵ Christopher Ryerson was honorably discharged from the U.S. military service, having served in the 1st Cavalry, Colorado Volunteers.
- ⁶ There is no naturalization date for George O. Johnson but there is a deposition made before the County Clerk of Los Angeles County which reads as follows: "George O. Johnson being duly sworn deposes and says that he was born in Norway and came to the United States in 1850 and that he was naturalized in Nevada City in the State of California in 1854 and that his naturalization papers were destroyed by fire in Virginia City, State of Nevada". Statement was sworn to Nov. 30, 1874.
- ⁷ Charles Carlson presented certificate from the Office of the Secretary of State of Illinois, dated Springfield, IL April 8, 1876 stating that he had resided in the United States more than five years.
- ⁸ John Frederick Ahlstrom declared his intention of becoming a U.S. citizen in the District Court of the Tenth Judicial District, Yuba Co., CA.
- ⁹ John August Johnson declared his intention of becoming a U.S. citizen in the 7th Judicial District, Mendocino Co., CA.
- ¹⁰ Daniel Anderson declared his intention of becoming a U.S. citizen in the 13th Judicial District, Mariposa Co., CA.
- ¹¹ M. H. Peterson declared his intention of becoming a U.S. citizen in the Circuit Court of Knox Co., IL.
- ¹² Jacob Selberg declared his intention of becoming a U.S. citizen in the Criminal Court of Cook Co., IL.
- ¹³ Alexander Olsen declared his intention of becoming a U.S. citizen in the Third Judicial District of the Territory of Idaho, Owyhee Co., ID.
- ¹⁴ O. A. Johnson declared his intention of becoming a U.S. citizen in the District Court of Pottawattamie Co., IA.
- ¹⁵ Sivert Olsen (Olesen) was born in Norway about 1846, emigrated to the U.S. and landed in Detroit in July, 1865.
- ¹⁶ Carl Anderson declared his intention of becoming a U.S. citizen in the Superior Court of San Diego Co., CA.
- ¹⁷ John August Carlsson, 31 years of age, emigrated from Stockholm to the U.S. Aug. 22, 1866 and arrived in New York Sept. 9, 1866, according to his declaration of intent made out by the judge of the Probate Court of Hamilton Co., OH.
- ¹⁸ Ernest Gilstead declared his intention of becoming a U.S. citizen in the Superior Court of Humboldt Co., CA.
- ¹⁹ According to his naturalization certificate Walfred Swoffer was 28 years old at the time of his naturalization, that he arrived in Chago (Chicago?) from Sweden Nov. 22, 1879.
- ²⁰ John A. Anderson's declaration of intent was made out in Third Judicial District Court of the Territory of Arizona, Yavapai Co. It stated that John A. Anderson was 25 years old and that he was a native of Norway.

Additional Notes on Arvid Posse

Nils William Olsson

In the June, 1981 issue of *SAG* (Vol. I, No. 2, pp. 78-79) Erik Wikén of Stockholm tells of the tragic death in San Antonio, TX in 1831 of Count Arvid Posse, scion of an old and illustrious Swedish family, who had served as a chamberlain to the Royal Swedish Court and had held a commission as lieutenant in the Royal Västgötadal Regiment.

On March 28, 1818 he had married in Rome the attractive niece of Napoleon, Christine Alexandrine Egypta Bonaparte, the daughter of Lucien Bonaparte, Napoleon's brother, and Christine Boyer, the daughter of a French innkeeper in Toulon.¹ She was twenty years old at the time. The couple moved to Sweden and lived for a time at the estate of Fogelvik in the Tjust archipelago in Tryserum Parish (Kalm.).²

The marriage was not a success, possibly due to Arvid Posse's restless nature, but it may also have been due to Christine Bonaparte's residing in an isolated area of Sweden, far from the rest of her family, domiciled in southern Europe. By 1824 the marriage was dissolved and Christine entered into a second marriage to Lord Dudley Coutts Stuart. She died in Rome 1847.³

On a recent visit to the Bergqvara estate on the outskirts of Växjö, Sweden I came across some interesting memorabilia which provide a fascinating link to the past — to Count Arvid Posse and his princess wife. These mementos are now in the possession of Count Carl and Countess Kerstin Posse, present owners of Bergqvara, and distantly related to Arvid Posse. These items are three works of art which emanate from the period of Arvid Posse's marriage to Christine Bonaparte. Two of these works of art are miniature paintings of the couple in question and the third is a sketch or water color of Fogelvik, done by the Princess herself.

If these three works of art could speak, they could probably tell us much of the principals involved. The miniature of Christine Bonaparte, executed May 6, 1819, just a little more than a year after the marriage, shows us a beautiful French girl with a delicate face but with much sadness in her eyes. What was she thinking as she sat for the artist, none other than Lorentz Sparrgren, one of Sweden's most celebrated miniaturists at that time?⁴

The second miniature of Arvid Posse shows us another type, a cool self-assured young man, an officer and a gentleman from the highest social circles in Stockholm. The name of the artist, Colantoni, is inscribed on the miniature, but he seems to be unknown to art historians.⁵



Count Arvid Posse



Princess Christine Bonaparte

The third of the Posse mementos is a sketch or pastel of the estate of Fogelvik, located on an island at the mouth of the estuary of the Baltic, which leads up to the small city of Valdemarsvik. It is a romantic rendition of Fogelvik, done by a young 21 year-old woman, exiled to Sweden from the sunny south. It is signed by the artist and dated 1819, the same year as the miniature was painted in Stockholm.

On the back of Christine Bonaparte's sketch is a notation in a later hand which tells something of the provenance of the pastel and how it returned to the Posse family, almost hundred years after it was completed.⁶

I am very much in debt to Carl and Kerstin Posse of Bergqvara for their cooperation and help in procuring photographs of these works of art. These visual images have added a new dimension and understanding of the tragic story of Arvid Posse and his princess.

¹ For additional information on Napoleon and his siblings see R.F. Delderfeld, *The Golden Millstones — Napoleon's sisters and brothers* (New York, 1964).

² In 1812 Fogelvik had been purchased by Arvid Posse's brother, Carl Henrik Posse, who lived there until his death in 1823. He was married to Adine de Bréant, a vivacious French woman, who returned to Paris after the death of her husband. In her testament she provided for Fogelvik going to her brother-in-law, Claes Fredrik Posse.-Gustaf Elgenstierna, *Den introducerade svenska adelns ättartavlor, I–IX* (Stockholm, 1925–1936), VI, p. 11; *Slott och herresäten i Sverige; Småland, jämt Öland och Gotland*, p. 291.

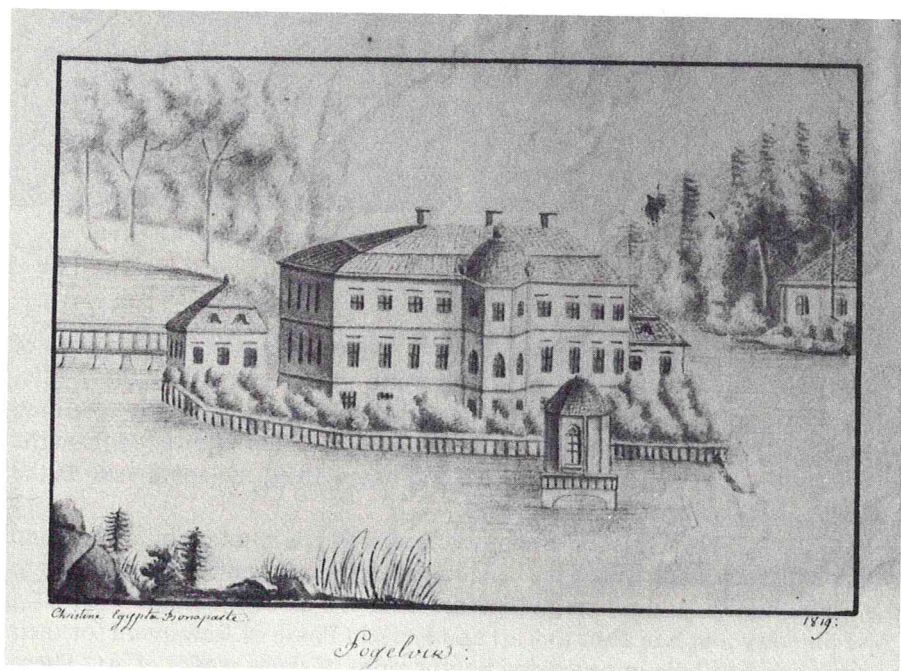
³ Elgenstierna, *Svenska adelns ättartavlor*, VI, p. 11.

⁴ Lorentz Sparrgren (1763–1828). After studies in Paris he returned to Sweden to become professor of art at the Royal Academy of Art. — *Svenskt konstnärslexikon*, I–V (Malmö, 1952–1967), V, pp. 227–228.

⁵ His name is not to be found in Ulrich Thieme and Felix Becker, *Allgemeines Lexikon der Bildenden Künstler von der Antike bis zur Gegenwart* I–XXXVII (Leipzig, 1907–1950) nor in E. Bénézit, *Dictionnaire critique et documentaire de peintres, sculpteurs, dessinateurs et graveurs*, I–X (Paris, 1976).

⁶ The inscription on the back of the sketch translates as follows:

“This picture of Fogelvik in Tjust, which once belonged to Carl Knutsson Bonde, was done in 1819 by Napoleon’s niece, Princess Christine Alexandrine Egypte Bonaparte, daughter of Lucien Bonaparte, Prince of Canino and Monsignano (1775–1840), and Christine Boyer (1773–1801). Princess Egypte was born 1798 and died 1847. She was married in Rome 1818 to Count Arvid Fredriksson Posse, chamberlain and lieutenant, born 1782. Count and Countess Posse resided at Fogelvik. This picture was bought 1927 by Lage Göransson Posse, born 1888, from Captain Seth von Konow of Stockholm.”



View of Fogelvik by Princess Christine Bonaparte, dated 1819.

Who Was Otto Wilhelm Åkerman?

Erik Wiken*

In the descriptions of the Peter Cassel group's journey across the Atlantic and then onward from New York to the interior of the United States there are frequent references to Otto Wilhelm Åkerman.¹ Even so, commentators have neglected to make use of an important source, namely a letter from the journey which Åkerman himself wrote. The letter is dated Burlington, IA Sept. 25, 1845 and was published in *Wenersborgs Weckoblad* March 26, 1846.² Here follows an English translation of the letter in question:

“Now I must describe my travels from New York to this place, which in truth has been coupled with great difficulties. The Swedish emigrants decided, that instead of proceeding to Wisconsin, to go to Iowa, where they planned to settle, and I promised to accompany them. Early one morning I went down to the pier, where the steamer lay, with all of my wards, but here the passage was blocked by a great many other loads, who were ahead of us, and we were therefore forced to wait until the coast was clear. Finally we began to carry on board our things, which were altogether too many, and just as the last chest was carried on board, the bell sounded and we were on our way to Philadelphia. The farmers swore that they never before in their lives had labored as much as that morning, which I fully believe. In Philadelphia all of the baggage was weighed, whereupon they were loaded on the canal boats, which were to proceed by land to Columbia,³ about 80 miles, before they were placed in the water. Each boat consists of four parts, each of them then placed on an iron wagon, and when about twenty of these had been linked together, a steam engine comes along and takes the whole aggregation across forest and plain, in a manner which is very amusing. I almost laughed myself to death at the farmers as we rode down from the railroad into the water at Columbia. A mile above the water, the steam engine was disengaged, and since the roadbed to the canal is on an incline, the whole set of cars proceeded on its momentum. The speed accelerated more and more, until they scarcely dared to look up. Finally we, the cars and everything splashed into the canal so that the water cascaded far into the sky. ‘This was the devil of a ride!’ and ‘God save us in Jesus’ Name!’ were the expressions I heard from them. They were both frightened and surprised.

Now we went by canal to Hollidaysburg,⁴ where the boats again

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were taken apart, placed on wheels in order to be transported over the Allegheny Mountains. One entire day was spent making this very peculiar journey. There were five different stops, before one reaches the top of the mountain. At each stop a steam engine hauls the cars upward by means of a heavy cable. Going down the mountain there are just as many stops, and now the process is reversed. We were lowered instead of being hauled. We were on the brim of the deepest chasms, which gave us peculiar feelings, particularly me. One farmer said: 'Well, now I believe anything, when we travel by boat through such areas'. In Johnstown⁵ we were back on the canal and continued in that manner until we arrived in Pittsburgh. Here I sold quite a few items I had taken along for speculation, thereby filling my pocketbook and giving me ease of mind. From here we went to Cincinnati by steamboat. Nothing remarkable happened during this three-day journey, except that a man drowned (not a Swede, however), but such things are routine and happen almost daily on the western American steamers. In Cincinnati we rested for two days. All of the old men and old women were invited by Mr. Frank⁶ to view his museum.

All of the passengers had enjoyed good health up to this time, but now three persons in the group took ill, namely Zetterström,⁷ a surveyor from Skåne, and a farmer's two children. The day before we reached St. Louis one of the children died, whom we ourselves interred the following day. The health of the other child deteriorated and as soon as we arrived here I convinced them (the parents) to rest and at the same time consult a doctor.

A few days later five of us travelled toward the interior in order to select land. No Congress land was available in these parts, which seemed strange to me, since large areas lay fallow, but such is the case when the land is 'in market'. Capitalists buy up the land thereby hoping to sell to newcomers. Our men received 400 acres of very good land on good conditions, \$2.00 per acre and as much time as was desired to pay for it, however, at an annual interest of 10%. Some of the neighbors said that this was a lucky break, since the price per acre in these parts is usually \$4.00 to \$6.00 per acre. After having settled the real estate deal, a messenger was sent to fetch the others. In the meantime I was supposed to look for land for Zetterström, who wanted his land by himself. This was, however, unnecessary, since they were in the process of burying him when I returned. The widow was all alone among strangers and since she did not understand the language, her condition was not an enviable one. My own arrangements I had to put aside in order to secure a place for her. There are a few Norwegian families in Galena, where she certainly can stay over the winter, and for this reason I shall go with her there at the earliest convenience. Then I hope that I shall be freed of all responsibility and problems, which I voluntarily have assumed, but which I shall never regret, since they gave me the opportunity to serve my troubled countrymen.

On my wandering through the countryside I saw a type of threshing machine, which was truly ingenious — a cylinder about 2½ feet long and 14 inches in diameter with a number of spikes, sticking out as on a music box, which threshes the grain. With four horses one is able to thresh as much as 200–300 bushels per day, depending on the nature of the machine. The whole affair can then be taken apart and put on a wagon and transported with the help of two horses. Some

persons do this type of threshing as an occupation, and receiving every tenth bushel for themselves in payment, they can earn quite a bit of money. Wheat in Iowa now sells for 40 cents per bushel. Don't you⁸ think that it would be worthwhile to construct such machines in Sweden? The construction is quite simple and not very costly. Perhaps a patent could be bought, since the invention is by an American, and has not been in use too long. The grain is also cleaned as it goes through the thresher. If you think it worthwhile, I would be willing to send one to Sweden, in case someone there is willing to introduce it there with me. I fully believe that one would find it worthwhile, since the owner of several estates or farms would only need one threshing machine, which could be moved from place to place, instead of having several. The price for the machine in America is \$130.00, which considering the high labor rates here, is rather cheap. Please let me know what you think of this idea.

The freight cost for our baggage from New York to Philadelphia was 50 cents per 100 lbs. For the same weight from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh it was \$1.50; from Pittsburgh to Cincinnati 50 cents; from Cincinnati to St. Louis 50 cents and from St. Louis to Burlington, IA 25 cents. Every person was allowed 50 lbs. free from New York to Pittsburgh and 100 lbs. from Pittsburgh to Burlington. I therefore believe, that it is crazy to bring over anything beyond clothing and bed clothes. Tools of the best quality can be bought anywhere in the country. The only exception to this is if one travels to New Orleans, where the freight rates are not as high.

Land in Iowa is the best in all of the United States. Nevertheless they are amateurs in working the land. Despite this they harvest 25-fold and as high as 50-fold. A few days ago I saw a farmer sowing wheat in a field where he had grown potatoes, without removing the leaves or cleansing the field at all.

One ought not to rush ahead with plans to emigrate, since most of them whom I accompanied on the journey here, were almost besides themselves from unhappiness.

The climate is not as healthy as it ought to be, particularly along the rivers, but even so it is much healthier than in any other state. I therefore advice all Swedes, who plan to come to America and farm, to come to Iowa."

Åkerman had arrived in America for the first time Oct. 1, 1840⁹ and had during the time from Nov. 21, 1840 to July 3, 1844 served in the United States Army as a bugler.¹⁰ After his term of service he returned to Sweden via Hamburg. Here he received a passport to Sweden Sept. 17, 1844.¹¹ According to one source it had been his intention of fetching some relatives.¹² According to the same source it was in the city of Vänersborg that the Cassel party on its journey to Göteborg was to meet Åkerman.¹³

After Åkerman had arrived in Iowa with the Cassel party, he seems to have had plans of constructing a blacksmith shop together with his school mate and later colleague in the United States Army service, Gustaf Ferdinand Jochnick.¹⁴ Nothing came of this idea, however, for Åkerman re-enlisted in the U.S. Army Jan. 19, 1846.¹⁵ Jochnick followed suit, re-

enlisting the following year.¹⁶ While with the U.S. Army in New Mexico Åkerman was killed in a skirmish with the Indians March 13, 1849.

Who was this man Åkerman? So far there has been no identification of him in the literature. There is a source, however, contained in the roster of students enrolled in *Skara läroverk* (The Secondary School of Skara), which leads us to a solution of this question. From the fall term of 1833 to the spring term of 1837 the student directory lists a student by the name of Otto Wilhelm Olson, born in Herrestad Parish (Göteborg and Bohus län) Jan. 12, 1822, the son of Lars Olson, a bank director and speaker of the farmers' party in the Swedish *Riksdag*, and his second wife Otiliana Wilhelmina Kunckel. The student biographical dictionary has the following information concerning Otto Wilhelm Olson:

"He is supposed to have been a very gifted person. He emigrated to the United States, enlisted as a volunteer in the United States Army and is said to have been killed in one of America's wars, unknown when".¹⁷

There is no doubt that we here are dealing with Otto Wilhelm Åkerman. A perusal of the church records in the Provincial Archives in Göteborg shows that his birth data can be further documented in that he was born on his father's farm, Övre Åker in Herrestad Parish. From this farm the young man has obviously taken the name of Åkerman. The mother died 1830 and his father in 1832. Otto Wilhelm then came to the manse in Källby Parish (Skar.), where a maternal aunt of his was married to the local clergyman. From Källby to Skara it is not far, at the most thirteen or fourteen miles, and it would be natural for the clergyman's family to place the lad in this school. Checking the household examination records for Källby Parish we find that Otto Wilhelm moved to Värmland in 1838, where he doubtlessly was employed at some mill, which one we don't know, since he used the title of mill bookkeeper when he received a passport to America in Göteborg July 15, 1840.

¹ Most recently see Lilly Setterdahl, "Peter Cassel's America" in *The Swedish Pioneer Historical Quarterly*, Vol. XXXII, No. 2, pp. 109-110 and 127.

² The letter was published anonymously, but it was cited in *Åmåls Weckoblad* April 2, 1846, and where it expressly states that its author was Åkerman.

³ Columbia, PA is situated in Lancaster Co. on the Susquehanna River.

⁴ Hollidaysburg, PA is situated in Blair Co., six miles south of Altoona. It became a railroad and canal terminus in the 1830s.

⁵ Johnstown, PA is situated in Cambria Co., 60 miles east of Pittsburgh.

⁶ Frederick Franks, alias Jacob Otto Natt och Dag (1794-1865), a former Swedish army officer, who lived in Cincinnati, more or less as an exile, after having incurred the wrath of Swedish officialdom for having published a pamphlet critical of the monarch, Charles XIV John. In Cincinnati he operated the Western Museum, which he had purchased from Joseph Dorfeuille, its founder. This museum contained a realistic presentation of Hell and all its horrors, the creation from 1829 to 1834 by the budding American sculptor Hiram Powers (1805-1873). — V. Söderberg, "Otto Natt och Dag. En patriotisk högförrådare" in *Historisk Tidskrift*, 1910, pp. 235-275; *American Dictionary of Biography*, Vol. XV, pp. 158-160.

- ⁷ Nils William Olsson, *Swedish Passenger Arrivals in New York 1820–1850* (Stockholm and Chicago, 1967) (*SPANY*), p. 63, n. 76. Lars Olof Zetterström and his wife Anna Maria Beck, had arrived in New York three weeks earlier than the Cassel party, and had apparently joined the group for the journey to the interior.
- ⁸ It is not known to whom Åkerman originally addressed the letter, presumably some millowner, whom Åkerman had met during his time as bookkeeper.
- ⁹ *SPANY*, p. 35, n. 93.
- ¹⁰ Nils William Olsson, “Swedish Enlistments in the U.S. Army Before 1851” in *The Swedish Pioneer* (later *The Swedish Pioneer Historical Quarterly*), Vol. I, No. 3, p. 5.
- ¹¹ Göteborgs och Bohus landskansli passjournal (The Passport Journals of the Göteborg and Bohus County Office) in Göteborg *Landsarkiv*, dated June 6, 1845.
- ¹² Letter to the editor in *Östgötha-Correspondenten* dated Oct. 29, 1845.
- ¹³ The Cassel party and Åkerman arrived in New York Aug. 11, 1845. — *SPANY*, pp. 62–67.
- ¹⁴ An undated letter from Otto Tertius Bengtsson published in *Åmåls Weckoblad* March 5, 1846.
- ¹⁵ Nils William Olsson, *Swedish Enlistments*, p. 5.
- ¹⁶ Jochnick re-enlisted in St. Louis, MO July 3, 1847. On Dec. 4, 1847 Jochnick was stationed in Jalapa, Mexico, where he wrote a letter to the Swedish Norwegian Minister in Washington, DC. A series of five letters written by Jochnick during his first tour of duty in the U.S. Army 1841–1845 from various encampments have been published in *Wenersborgs Weckoblad*. — *The Swedish Pioneer*, Vol. I, No. 4, p. 20; *Beskickningen i Förenta Staternas arkiv, Riksarkivet* (The National Archives), Stockholm.
- ¹⁷ E. Erlandsson, *Skara högre allmänna läroverks lärjungar åren 1826–1869* (Skövde, 1925), p. 86.

Mount Olive, the Scandinavian Cemetery in Chicago

Nils William Olsson

Cemeteries in American cities and towns with large Scandinavian populations can be extremely useful in providing leads for conducting genealogical research on persons with a Nordic background (see *SAG*, Vol. I, No. 3, pp. 122-124). When that cemetery also happens to have a Scandinavian origin, the researcher's task becomes quite a bit easier.

The Mount Olive Cemetery in Chicago, located at 3800 North Narragansett Avenue, two blocks south of Irving Park Boulevard on Chicago's northwest side, and bounded on the west by Oak Park Boulevard, was founded in 1886 as the Scandinavian Lutheran Cemetery Association, a stock company funded with the issuance of 1,000 shares at \$25.00 per share. From a small tract, comprising but a few acres, the cemetery in time acquired well over eighty acres of farmland contiguous to the original site. In 1903 the name of the cemetery was changed to Mount Olive Cemetery Association, thus giving up its Scandinavian name, if not its ties with the vast number of Danes, Norwegian and Swedes living in that city. Even though many non-Scandinavians are interred here, the majority of those buried are of Scandinavian stock.

The first interment was made on April 10, 1886, when a 32 year-old man by the name of Carl M. Borgeson was buried here in a single grave, No. 29 in Block No. 1. He had died of apoplexy at the Cook County Insane Asylum the previous day. He had been attended by Dr. Spray. His undertaker was named Josephson.

The information to be had on Borgeson is generally what can be found on any person interred in Mount Olive. The following facts of information are generally available:

- Number of interment
- Date of interment
- Number of lot and grave
- Age of the deceased in years, months and days
- The last residence of the deceased
- Cause of death
- Doctor's name
- Undertaker's name

The age of the deceased is generally taken from the burial permit issued by Cook County, IL. While the date of death may not be given, this can be found on the death certificate, also available at the Bureau of Vital Statistics of Cook County. The usual time span between the date of death and the date of burial ranges from one to five days. Thus if the date of burial is the fifth of the month, the date of death may be any day between the first and the fourth.

Information not available in the Mount Olive Cemetery records is the birth date, birth place or the nationality of the deceased, if he was born abroad. The newer record books, however, do give the address of the next of kin.

The management of Mount Olive is willing to help anyone looking for information concerning a burial. There is no charge for answering an inquiry concerning one person. If information is desired on two or more individuals, the office assesses a research fee of \$23.00 per hour, with a minimum charge of \$10.00.

In directing an inquiry to Mount Olive it is quite important that the name of the person sought be spelled correctly with the date of death and his address at the time of death. Scandinavian names like Johnson, Andersen, Pedersen and Swanson are all so common that it is imperative that all known facts be included in the request. All inquiries should be directed to Mount Olive Cemetery Association, 3800 North Narragansett Avenue, Chicago, IL 60634.

The cemetery office still has on file the original books of entry, which run chronologically from No. 1 to more than 69,000, the number interred here during the last 97 years. In order to facilitate searching, however, the management has also installed an alphabetical index card system covering all those buried.¹

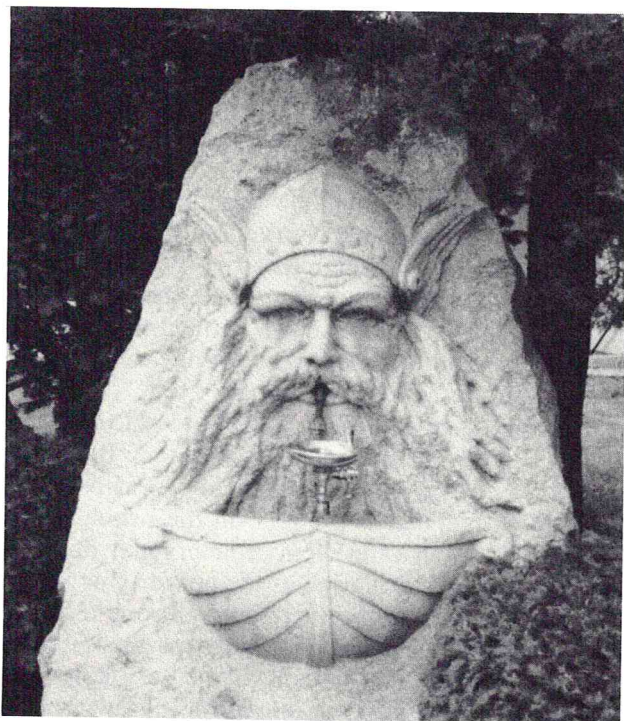
The Scandinavian atmosphere of the cemetery is readily apparent as one approaches the main entrance on Narragansett Avenue. Inside the gate, standing a bit off to the right, is an impressive water fountain, sculptured out of solid granite. It is in the shape of a Viking head, protruding from the craggy rock. Below the face is the bowl, formed to portray the prow of a Viking ship. From the mouth of the hoary Viking face projects a pipe, which is the conduit for the water into the fountain itself.

The question that comes to mind is the name of the artist who created this piece of art. A closer examination of the base of the monument reveals that it was produced in 1906 and that the sculptor was N. Heldt Henriksen.² The sculpture produces a startling effect on the beholder. While the very presence of a pagan figure in a Lutheran cemetery may on the face of it seem incongruous, it should also be viewed as the proud achievement of an artist, who certainly must have been motivated by a strong feeling for his Norse heritage. Seen from this angle the placement of the Viking monument in Mount Olive may not seem unusual after all. The Vikings were known for the meticulous care with which they buried their dead, not only their kings and chieftains, but also those of lesser social stature.

Anyone who is doing genealogical research in Chicago and who has Scandinavian connections, should include a visit to Mount Olive. Here may well be found the answers to genealogical problems which for all too long have resisted solutions.

¹ The author is grateful to Lee B. Nyhart, general manager of Mount Olive Cemetery, for his generosity in providing pertinent information concerning the cemetery.

² Actually the inscription reads "N. Heldt=Henriksen & Co., Sculptors". A check of Chicago city directories for the period provide clues for identifying the artist. In 1899 a sculptor by the name of N. Heldt Henriksen was residing at the corner of Graceland Avenue and North Clark Street on Chicago's northside. In 1908 the same N. Heldt Henriksen, still listed as a sculptor, owned a monument company at 2273 North Clark. Three years later he had moved his monument works to 3956 North Clark and by 1913 he had expanded his business, adding another location adjacent to the Mount Olive Cemetery. By 1915 he is listed as president of the Mount Olive Monument Company, now solely located at 3825 North Narragansett Avenue. It should be pointed out however, that despite the similarity in names there was no connection between the cemetery and the monument works. Subsequent listings in Chicago directories indicate that two other Henriksens, Jens and Emanuel, perhaps sons of N. Heldt, were president and vice president-treasurer of the monument company. I am indebted to Rolf Erickson, librarian at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL and chairman of the Chicago History Committee of the Norwegian-American Historical Association for providing information concerning the above N. Heldt Henriksen.



Viking fountain in Mount Olive Cemetery.

Swedes on the *U.S.S.* *Monitor*

Nils William Olsson

Recent reports in the nation's media have carried the news of the successful recovery of the anchor of the *U.S.S. Monitor*, the iron-clad which successfully bested the Confederate ironclad *Merrimack* at the Battle of Hampton Roads, VA on March 9, 1862. The *Monitor*, designed by the famous Swedish-born inventor, John Ericsson, was completed in a record 100 days at Greenpoint, Long Island as a counter measure to the rising might of the Confederate Navy. The vessel sank off Cape Hatteras, NC in a storm Dec. 31, 1862, while being towed to Beaufort, NC, to join the blockade of the Confederacy. Since the day of its loss, it had been the subject of much speculation, as to its whereabouts. Ten years ago the *Monitor* was located, lying on the ocean floor near the Cape. Attempts to try to raise her have been virtually abandoned due to her fragile condition. During World War II the *Monitor* was mistakenly identified as an enemy submarine and was badly damaged by bombs from U.S. Navy ships. Aside from the salvaging of minor items, the recent recovery of her 1,500 lb. anchor was a major achievement. Additionally it was possible to get sensational pictures of her, resting on the ocean floor, due to a lull in the usually tempestuous weather conditions at the site. Encrusted with barnacles and rust, the anchor is now being preserved and treated at East Carolina University in Greenville, NC. The University is one of the sponsoring institutions, which is headed by the National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration in Cape Hatteras, which had organized the current exploratory operation.

Though, as mentioned above, it is highly unlikely that the entire ship can ever be raised, it is hoped that the characteristic round turret of the vessel, affectionately named "the cheese box on the raft" during the Civil War, and now separated from the hull, can be brought up intact to the surface. This may be the object of the next expedition, now tentatively planned for 1985.

The Battle of Hampton Roads on March 9, 1862 signalled the end of the era of wooden ships. The lesson learned from the encounter was to reverberate around the world, the harbinger of a new age for the ironclads.

In the wake of the enormous interest engendered by the locating of the *Monitor* and the salvaging of her anchor, the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources is seeking genealogical information on the officers

and crewmen of the vessel. Among the officers and crew were also a few Swedes as well as one Norwegian, whose names are listed below. If any SAG reader can provide additional genealogical information on any of these Scandinavian crewmen or their families, he or she is cordially invited to submit such information, which in turn will be turned over to the U.S.S. Monitor Project in Norfolk, VA. Readers should forward such information to the editor of SAG, whose address is listed on the inside of the front cover of this journal. Even the slightest bit of new material is important in adding to the genealogical, as well as biographical information concerning these individuals. The ultimate purpose of the U.S.S. Monitor Project is to discover and publish heretofore unknown facts concerning these crewmen.¹

Scandinavian Crewmen aboard the *Monitor*

1. Anderson, Hans, born in Fjärås Parish, Halland län in Sweden in 1824. He died in Brooklyn. From his hand we have an eyewitness account of the *Monitor Merrimack* encounter as follows:

“I was born in Fjärås, Sweden, in 1824 and came to America in May 1846. In 1856 I joined the U.S. Navy as an able seaman serving on the frigates *Falmouth* and *Congress* for three years. In the Christmas season of 1861 while in New York I saw the *Monitor*, fitted, ready for service. I volunteered my service and was accepted as a member of the crew.

We left New York on March 6, 1862, with thousands gathered on both sides of the East River to see the ‘Cheesebox on a raft’ off to fight the rebels. We had a crew of fifty-four on board, including eight or nine officers. I was acting quartermaster. On our arrival at Hampton Roads we heard sounds of battle and Captain Worden ordered the decks cleared for action. This was Saturday evening and we lay all night alongside the frigate, *Minnesota*, which had run aground.

On Sunday morning I saw the *Merrimack* approaching and reported promptly to the deck officer, Charles Weber. I recognized the *Merrimack* because I had been present at her launching. As soon as Captain Worden received the news, he ordered full steam ahead.

The *Merrimack* began firing on the *Minnesota*, and we in turn fired on the *Merrimack*. The first shot seemed to glance off the side of the *Merrimack*, but the second broke her flagstaff and the next went clear through her superstructure. The *Merrimack* now turned on us and one shot hit the pilot house, severely wounding Captain Worden. Next the *Merrimack* steamed straight for us in an attempt to ram the *Monitor* but we had no difficulty in withstanding the blow.

Since the *Merrimack* seemed to be filling with water, we thought this was our opportunity to give her the coup-de-grace. There were two Swedes on board beside myself. They were Charles Peterson

and a man named Sylvester. Peterson was at gun number one and I was at number two. I said to Peterson, 'Let us put in two cannon balls so as to get results.' Peterson agreed and the resulting shots made holes in the *Merrimack* through which one could drive a horse and wagon.

The *Merrimack* was unable to continue and withdrew to the protection of the shore batteries. At the same time Lieutenant Green ordered the *Monitor* to withdraw, much to the disappointment of the crew who appointed me spokesman to try to have the order rescinded. Lieutenant Green did rescind the order but the *Monitor* made no headway, which may be explained by the fact that the lieutenant was in the engine room.

The *Merrimack* was in a sinking condition and was ready to hoist the white flag but found it unnecessary since the *Monitor* had already withdrawn. It was a shame that Captain Worden was wounded, since otherwise we would have sunk the *Merrimack* or perhaps have been sunk ourselves.

On Monday President Lincoln, Naval Secretary Welles and Captain Ericsson came aboard and with tears in their eyes thanked each one of us."²

2. Frederickson, George of Philadelphia, ensign and acting master; missing at sea Dec. 31, 1862, probably at the time of the sinking of the *Monitor*. Though the *Monitor* Project does not list his nationality, Nels Hokanson claims that he was a Swede.³
3. Harrison, Henry, seaman. He was b. in Sweden and enlisted in New York. He is not on the Hokanson list.
4. Peterson, Charles, gun loader. The *Monitor* Project does not give his nationality, but Hans Anderson in his account as well as Hokanson state that he was a Swede.⁴
5. Stocking, John, seaman and boatswain's mate. He was carried off by a wave Dec. 31, 1862 when the *Monitor* sank off Cape Hatteras. He is not listed in the *Monitor* Project account, but Hokanson and the Whites state that he was one of the original crew of the *Monitor*. Hokanson claims he was a Swede.⁵
6. Sunstrum, Mark Trueman, fourth assistant engineer; resigned Nov. 10, 1865. The *Monitor* Project does not list his nationality but Hokanson claims he was a Swede and spells his name Sundstrum.⁶
7. Sylvester, Charles F., seaman. He was b. in Sweden and enlisted in New York. Both Hans Anderson in his account and Hokanson concur that he was a Swede.⁷
8. Tester, Abraham (Abram), first class fireman. He enlisted in New York, at which time his nationality was given as Swedish or perhaps English. He was a machinist in civilian life. He is not on the Hokanson list.
9. Williams, Peter, quartermaster and ensign. He was born in Norway in 1831. He enlisted from Pennsylvania and was subsequently decorated with the U.S. Medal of Honor.⁸

In his definitive work, *The Swedish Heritage in America*, Allan Kastrup states that the *Monitor's* captain, John Lorimer Worden, was of Swedish descent. Mr. Kastrup claims that Worden's name was originally the Swedish *Värdig*, meaning worthy. It has not been possible to verify this statement.⁹



The end of the *Monitor* off Cape Hatteras.¹⁰

As can be seen from the above list, the information on the Scandinavians who served aboard the *U.S.S. Monitor* is both sketchy and in some instances contradictory, depending upon which source is cited. Readers are therefore urged to submit corroborating data in order to enable the *Monitor* Project to proceed with its publication plans.

¹ An appeal from the *U.S.S. Monitor* Project with a complete list of all the known names of the officers and crewmen, who served aboard the *Monitor* is to be found in *The Genealogical Helper*, Vol. 37, No. 4, July/August, 1983, p. 150.

² Nels Hokanson, *Swedish Immigrants in Lincoln's Time* (New York, 1942), pp. 187, 189.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 187.

⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 187, 189.

⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 187; William Chapman White and Ruth White, *Tin Can on a Shingle* (New York, 1957), pp. 56, 147.

⁶ Hokanson, *Swedish Immigrants*, p. 187.

⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 187, 189.

⁸ Peter Williams, seaman, USN, was b. in Norway 1831. He enlisted from Pennsylvania. He was given the U.S. Medal of Honor April 3, 1863 with the following citation: "Serving on board the *U.S.S. Ironclad Steamer Monitor* at Hampton Roads on March 9, 1862. During the engagement between the *U.S.S. Monitor* and the *C.S.S. Merrimack*, Williams gallantly served throughout the engagement as quartermaster, piloting the *Monitor* throughout the battle in which the *Merrimack*, after being damaged, retired from the scene of battle". — *Medal of Honor Recipients 1863-1973*, Committee on Veterans' Affairs, U.S. Senate, Oct. 22, 1973. 93rd Congress, First Session, Committee Print No. 15.

⁹ Allan Kastrup, *The Swedish Heritage in America* (St. Paul, MN, 1975), pp. 307-308.

¹⁰ White and White, *Tin Can on a Shingle*, facing p. 147.

Ancestor Tables

Ancestor tables will be printed from time to time and will be available to subscribers only. The editor assumes no responsibility for the material submitted and reserves the right to edit the tables to conform to the general format.

- XII. Mrs. Lois I. Appleton, 6520 Espanita Street, Long Beach, CA 90815.
1. ANDERSSON, Lois Irene, b. Plymouth Co., IA 1926; m. Chicago, IL 1947 George Ludwig APPLETON, b. Pittsburgh, PA 1926; resides Long Beach, CA.
- I. 2. ANDERSON, David, b. Alta, IA 1882; m. Marcus, IA 1909; d. Chicago, IL 1954.
3. JOHNSON, Flora Maria Helena, b. Chicago, IL 1888; d. Chicago 1963.
- II. 4. ANDERSSON, Pehr Johan, b. Bråna, Nässjö Parish (Jön.) 1838; emigr. 1873; m. Jamestown, NY 1873; d. Marcus, IA 1918.
5. WESSMAN, Hedda Catharina, b. Ringarum Parish (Ög.) 1848; emigr. 1873; d. Marcus, IA 1924.
6. JOHNSON, Gustav, b. Vassända, Naglum Parish (Älvs.) 1860; emigr. 1882; m. Pullman, IL 1883; d. Chicago 1929.
7. HEDBERG, Anna Josefina, b. Foss Parish (Göt.) 1862; emigr. 1883; d. Chicago 1955.
- III. 8. MÅNSSON, Anders, b. Bråna, Nässjö 1812; m. Malmbäck Parish (Jön.); d. Alta, IA before 1897.
9. JOHANSBOTTER, Maja Stina, b. Kansjö Norrgård, Malmbäck Parish 1815.
10. WESSMAN, Fredrik Martin, b. Kuddby Parish (Ög.) 1820; m. Ringarum 1846; emigr. 1882; d. Marcus, IA 1895.
11. JOHANSBOTTER, Sara Katharina, b. Lyrestad Parish (Skar.) 1832; emigr. 1882; d. Marcus, IA 1903.
12. JOHNSON, Johannes.
13. OLSSON, Maria.
14. HEDBERG, Johannes Jansson, b. Valbo-Ryr Parish (Älvs.) 1822; m. Foss 1859; d. Färgelanda Parish (Älvs.) 1885.
15. HANSBOTTER, Helena, b. Foss 1825; d. Färgelanda 1904.
- IV. 16. ANDERSSON, Måns, b. Nässjö 1769; m. 1810; d. Nässjö 1856.
17. MÅNSBOTTER, Maja, b. Nässjö 1794; d. 1825.
18. PEHRSSON, Johannes, b. Kansjö Norrgård, Malmbäck 1790; d. 1835.

19. ANDERSDOTTER, Maria, b. Målen, Forserum Parish (Jön.) 1783; d. Nässjö 1818.
20. WESSMAN, Johannes, b. Eksjö Parish (Jön.) 1786; m. 1810; d. Eksjö 1836.
21. LIVIN, Fredrica Christina, b. Skänninge 1784; d. Norrköping 1820.
24. ANDERSSON, John.
28. OLOFSSON, Jan, b. Färgelanda 1780; d. Valbo-Ryr 1848.
29. HÅKANSDOTTER, Anna, b. Hede, Färgelanda 1783; d. Valbo-Ryr 1859.
30. ANDERSSON, Hans, b. Foss 1794; m. Foss 1819; perished on Lake Vänern.
31. ANDERSDOTTER, Eleonora, b. Majaborg, Foss 1791.
- V. 32. NILSSON, Anders, b. Nässjö 1735; m. 1768; d. 1808.
33. SVENSDOTTER, Margareta, b. Träslända, Nässjö 1744; d. 1814.
34. ANDERSSON, Måns, b. Isåsa, Nässjö 1756; m. Malmbäck 1786; d. 1819.
35. HANSDOTTER, Maria, b. Gölstorp, Malmbäck 1769; d. Bråna, Nässjö 1855.
36. ANDERSSON, Pehr, b. Kansjö Norrgård, Malmbäck 1752; d. 1805.
37. OLOFSDOTTER, Margareta, b. Malmbäck 1757; d. 1805.
38. NILSSON, Anders, b. Forserum 1747; m. 1773.
39. MÅNSDOTTER, Brita, b. Forserum 1751; d. 1808.
40. WESSMAN, Anton, b. 1733; m. 1774; d. Eksjö 1788.
41. EKSTRAND, Hedvig Catharina, b. Eksjö 1756; d. 1806.
42. LIVIN, Johan Alexander, b. Skänninge 1743; d. Högby Parish (Ög.) 1802.
43. TÖRNER, Juliana Christina, b. Linköping 1757; d. 1823.
62. OLSSON, Anders, b. Foss 1766; m. Foss 1791.
63. FALBERG, Ingeborg Nilsdotter, b. Foss 1771; d. 1808.
- VI. 64. MÅNSSON, Nils, b. Nässjö 1703; d. Nässjö 1770.
65. MÅNSDOTTER, Ingrid, b. 1713; d. 1751.
66. PERSSON, Sven, b. Nässjö 1721; m. Nässjö 1787.
67. JÖNSDOTTER, Helena, b. 1716; d. 1788.
68. JÖNSSON, Anders, b. Isåsa, Nässjö 1720.
69. ———, Margareta, b. 1722.
70. ABRAHAMSSON, Hans, b. Malmbäck 1742; d. 1802.
71. HANSDOTTER, Stina, b. Malmbäck 1749; d. 1808.
72. PEHRSSON, Anders, b. Malmbäck 1719; d. 1755.
73. HÅKANSDOTTER, Maria, b. 1722; d. 1796.
76. JÖNSSON, Nils, b. Torpet¹ (Älvs.) 1724.
77. ———, Lena.
78. JÖNSSON, Måns, b. Malmbäck 1718; d. 1780.

79. MÅNSDOTTER, Judith, b. Sjötorp² 1729; d. 1764.
84. LIVIN, Claes Claesson, b. Skänninge 1714; m. Uljeberg, Viby Parish (Ög.) 1743; d. Skänninge 1778.
85. GÖTHERHIELM, Christina Catharina, b. Säby Parish (Jön.) 1718; d. Säby 1799.
86. TÖRNER, Johan, b. Linköping 1712; m. 1756; d. Skeda Parish (Ög.) 1790.
87. SCHMIEDEBERG, Fredrica Sofia, b. Skogsnäs, Linneryd Parish (Kron.) 1734; d. Frö, Lillkyrka Parish (Ög.) 1808.
124. CHRISTENSSON, Olof, b. Foss 1734; d. Foss 1804.
125. ANDERSDOTTER, Märta, b. Foss 1735; d. Foss 1808.
126. FALBERG, Nils.
127. KIÖL, Helena, b. Foss 1728; d. Foss 1807.
- VII. 140. JONSSON, Abraham, b. Malmbäck 1707; d. 1773.
141. PERSDOTTER, Maria, b. 1709; d. 1766.
142. SVENSSON, Hans, b. 1709; d. 1766.
143. NILSDOTTER, Ingrid, b. 1719.
156. MÅNSSON, Jöns, b. Sjötorp 1681; d. 1756.
157. ———, Gunilla, b. 1691; d. 1764.
168. LIVIN, Claudius Magni, b. Norrköping 1666; m. 1698; d. Skänninge 1732.
169. DYK, Helena Margareta, b. Skänninge 1682; d. Skänninge 1762.
170. GÖTHERHIELM, Johan Alexander, b. Vadstena 1688; m. Näs Parish (Upp.) 1718; d. Hällersö, Ed Parish (Kalm.) 1764.
171. von DANCKWARDT, Catharina Maria, b. Uljeberg, Viby 1694; d. Uljeberg, Viby 1742; bur. Linköping.
172. TÖRNER, Johannes Laurentii, b. Skänninge 1672; d. Linköping 1728.
173. WETTERBERG, Christina, b. Norrköping 1693; d. 1753.
174. SCHMIEDEBERG, Johan, b. Fiskestad, Väckelsång Parish (Kron.) 1679; m. 1724; d. Skogsnäs, Linneryd Parish 1748.
175. LINDELIA, Gunilla Juliana, b. 1701; d. Växjö 1778.
- VIII. 336. LIVINUS, Magnus Jonae, b. Söderköping 1622; m. Norrköping 1658; d. Säby Parish 1681.
337. PRYTZ, Margareta,
338. DYK, Andreas Petri, b. Horn Parish (Ög.); m. 1674; d. 1697.
339. DALIN, Margareta, b. Skänninge 1652; d. 1739.
340. GÖTHE, Anders, b. Vadstena 1654; m. 1672; d. Vadstena 1694.
341. SCHENING, Susanna, b. Styra Parish 1648; d. 1708.
342. von DANCKWARDT, Peter, b. Norrköping 1662; m. 1693; d. 1732.
343. GYLLENADLER, Anna Catharina, b. 1659; d. 1710.
344. TÖRNER, Lars, d. 1693.
345. BOTHELIA, Helena Thoresdotter, d. 1711.

346. WETTERBERG, Petter Bengtsson, m. 1691; d. 1714.
 347. ANDERSDOTTER, Christina, b. 1654; d. 1698.
 348. SCHMIEDEBERG, Johan Petersson, b. Greifswald, Germany 1642; m. Jönköping 1673; d. Kåveryd, Öggestorp Parish (Jön.) 1706.
 349. HAIJOCK, Catharina, b. 1648; d. Kåveryd 1729.
 350. LINDELIUS, Johan, b. Jönköping 1663; m. Vinslöv Parish (Krist.) 1695; d. Växjö 1712.
 351. BLOCK, Juliana, b. Stockholm 1672; d. 1729.
- IX. 672. MÅNSSON, Jon.
 673. JOHANSDOTTER, Catharina.
 674. PRYTZ, Claudius Johannis, b. Arboga 1585; m. 1640; d. Norrköping 1658.
 675. HOLM, Catharina, b. 1617; d. 1654.
 676. TYRESSON, Peter.
 678. DALINUS, Daniel Danielis, b. Linköping 1609; m. 1640; d. 1672.
 679. ENANDER, Elisabeth Nilsdotter.
 680. ANDERSSON, Lars, b. Götene Parish (Skar.); d. Vadstena 1669.
 682. JONSSON, Erik, b. Styra Parish; d. 1657.
 683. LARSDOTTER, Elisabeth.
 684. von DANCKWARDT, Peter, b. Nyköping 1617; m. 1660; d. Stockholm 1697.
 685. CRAIL, Catharina Sabina, b. 1633; d. 1682.
 686. GYLLENADLER, Samuel Enander, b. Västra Eneby Parish (Ög.) 1607; m. 1653; d. Linköping 1670.
 687. NILSDOTTER, Brita, d. Linköping 1691.
 688. TÖRNESSON, Anders.
 690. ANDERSON, Thore, b. 1618; m. 1639; d. 1690.
 691. PERSDOTTER, Carin, b. 1614; d. 1675.
 696. SCHMIDT, Peter Staffansson, b. Åby, Morkarla Parish (Upp.) 1612; m. 1635; killed in action with the Swedish fleet during the attack on Copenhagen 1659.
 697. SCHLEGER, Hedvig Jacobsdotter, b. Narva, Esthonia.
 698. HAIJOCK, Alexander, b. Jönköping.
 699. STRÖMBERG, Anna Catharina.
 700. LINDELIUS, Lars Jönsson, b. Dannäs Parish (Jön.) 1604; m. 1647; d. Jönköping 1672.
 701. RUBENIUS, Gunilla, b. 1632; d. 1688.
 702. BLOCKIUS, Mårten Michelsson, b. Kalundborg, Denmark 1627; m. Stockholm 1668; d. Stockholm 1675.
 703. ELLERHUSEN, Ursila Jönsdotter, d. Sjösås Parish (Kron.) 1722.
- X. 1348. PRYTZ, Johannes Nicolai, b. Örebro 1550; m. Arboga 1584; d. Söderköping 1637.

1349. PEDERSDOTTER, Margareta, d. Söderköping 1597.
 1350. MATTHIAE, Hans, b. Västra Husby Parish (Ög.) 1570; m. 1599; d. Norrköping 1637.
 1351. HOLM, Brita Evertsdotter, b. Söderköping 1582; d. 1603.
 1352. ANDERSSON, Tyre.
 1356. NORMELANDER, Daniel Johannis, b. Normlösa Parish (Ög.) 1566; d. Linköping 1622.
 1357. OLOFSDOTTER, Ingrid, d. Linköping 1622.
 1358. PETRI, Nicholas, b. Skärstad Parish (Jön.) 1574; m. 1606; d. Västra Eneby Parish 1643.
 1359. JONSDOTTER, Elin, d. 1652.
 1368. DANCKWARDT, Joachim, b. Lübeck, Germany 1565; m. 1616; d. Nyköping 1648; bur. Nicolai Cathedral.
 1369. BECKER, Abelonia, b. Lübeck; d. ca. 1618.
 1370. CRAIL von BEMEBERG, Georg Günther, d. 1641 Gryt Parish (Söd.).
 1371. von MASENBACH, Christina, d. 1657.
 1372. = 1358
 1373. = 1359
 1374. ESCHILLI, Nicolaus, b. Förlösa Parish (Kalm.) 1588; m. 1616; d. Kalmar 1650.
 1375. UNGIA, Brita Hansdotter, b. 1600.
 1376. ANDERSSON, Törne.
 1380. THORESSON, Anders.
 1392. SCHMIDT, Staffan, b. Germany; m. 1607.
 1393. ERIKSDOTTER, Christina.
 1400. AMBJÖRNSSON, Jöns.
 1401. LARSDOTTER, Märta.
 1402. RUBENIUS, Nicolaus, the elder, b. Angelstad Parish (Kron.) m. 163 (2); d. 1672.
 1403. PAULIN, Gunilla Påvelsdotter, d. 1650.
 1404. BLOCK, Michaël Nielsen.
 1405. JACOBSDATTER, Ellen.
 1406. JÖNSSON, Jöns.
 1407. NILSDOTTER, Ursila Brita.
 2696. PRYTZ, Claes Hansson, d. 1554.
 2697. BENGTS DOTTER, Carin, d. 1558.
 2700. PETRI, Matthias, b. 1538; d. 1611.
 2701. GRUBBE, Anna.
 2702. HOLM, Evert.
 2714. PETRI, Olaus, b. 1537; m. 1567; d. 1599.
 2715. BERTILSDOTTER, Carin, b. 1547; d. 1583.
 2716. JOENSSON, Per.
 2717. PERSDOTTER, Lisa.
 2736. DANCKWARDT, Henrik, b. Lübeck, Germany; d. 1577.

2737. ———, Catharina.
2738. BECKER, Peter, b. Lübeck, Germany.
2740. von BEMEBERG, Jacob Crail.
2741. von NEIPPERG, Magdalena.
2742. von MASENBACH, Hans.
2743. von FRONHAUSEN, Margareta Vogtin.
2744. = 2716.
2745. = 2717.
2748. HAQUINI, Eschillus, d. 1604/1605.
2749. LYDERSDOTTER, Catharina.
2750. UNGIUS, Johannes Petri, b. ca. 1570; m. 1599; d. Kalmar
1617.
2751. MÅNSDOTTER, Helena, d. Växjö.
2806. ERICI, Paulus.

¹ There is no parish in Sweden named Torpet, but at least eight places, in Älvsborg *län* alone, are named Torpet.

² There is no parish in Sweden named Sjötorp, but more than a dozen places bear the name.

Genealogical Queries

Queries from subscribers to *Swedish American Genealogist* will be listed here free of charge on a "space available basis." The Editor reserves the right to edit the question to conform to the general format.

Trank

Seeking information concerning the parents and siblings of my husband's paternal grandfather, John Trank, b. in Ulricehamn, Sweden April 9, 1849. He emigr. to America in 1870. Where or when he first m. is not known. His first wife, Carolina Lun(d)blom gave birth to two children, Emil and Emma, in Hastings, MN. The family then moved to Cannon Falls, MN in 1878, where dau. Agnes was b., and where Carolina d. Dec. 17, 1883. John Trank then m. Eva Amanda Youngquist (my husband's grandmother), b. in Angelstad Parish (Kron.) Sept. 10, 1865. They were m. in Red Wing, MN June 23, 1884. John and Eva had four children — Alvira, Walter, Bror and Jakobus. Eva d. Nov. 22, 1892. John Trank's third wife was Mathilda Larson, who d. March 23, 1898. John himself d. April 5, 1901 and is bur. in Cannon Falls.

Virginia L. Trank
87234 Hidden Hill Road
Eugene, OR 97402

191

Pettersson, Nilsson

I am looking for descendants of the following persons, who emigr. to America:

a. Olof Pettersson had a s., Petter Olofsson (who probably called himself Olson), b. in Kila Parish (Värm.) March 21, 1838. He emigr. from Norway to America July 26, 1869.

b. Olof's brother Nils Pettersson had the following sons, who all emigr. to the U.S.

Jan Petter Nilsson, b. Sept. 27, 1841; emigr. from Stenby, Långserud Parish (Värm) April 15, 1873.

Edward Nilsson, b. July 5, 1850; emigr. from Långserud the same day.

Johannes Nilsson, b. Feb. 18, 1848; he was m. in Sweden but traveled alone to America and d. there.

Nils Nilsson, b. in Elovby, Långserud March 25, 1845. He may have emigr. from Stenby.

Otto Nilsson, b. in Elovby April 1, 1860. He may have moved to

Stenbyn and then to America.

Miriam K. Ericson
2027 Noyes Street
Evanston, IL 60201

192

Stålberg

Three brothers Stålberg, Anders, b. 1859, Karl, b. 1867 and Otto, b. 1873, all in Munkfors Parish (Värm.), emigr. to America. I would like to know what happened to them and their descendants.

Christer Ode-Lundberg
Ekersgatan 15
703 42 Örebro, SWEDEN

193

Wikberg, Sjöstedt, Mattson

I am looking for information concerning three siblings who emigr. to America in 1926:

a. Kristina Wikberg, m. to George Wikberg, b. 1882 and residing in Los Angeles, CA.

b. Karl Sjöstedt, b. 1884, residing in Brooklyn, NY.

c. Leontine Mattson, m. to Edwin Mattson and residing in Groveland, FL.

Christer Ode-Lundberg
Ekersgatan 15
703 42 Örebro, SWEDEN

194

Lundberg, Ode

I am looking for descendants of the following persons:

a. Karl Lundberg, b. 1887, emigr. either from Stockholm or Göteborg; d. in the U.S. in an accident.

b. Ernst Johan Lundberg, b. 1892, emigr. March 18, 1916.

c. Emma Sofia Ode, b. 1866; emigr. April 14, 1892.

Christer Ode-Lundberg
Ekersgatan 15
703 42 Örebro, SWEDEN

195

Gustavsson

I am seeking information concerning my aunt, Mrs. Eva Samueldotter Gustavsson, b. in Torslanda Parish (Göt.) March 23, 1857. She emigr. with her husband and three children to Toledo, OH June 2, 1882. From Göteborg they travelled via *SS Orlando* to Hull, England and then from Liverpool to the U.S. The family consisted of the following persons:

Otto Andreas Gustavsson, b. in Bäve Parish (Göt.) April 11, 1849. Eva Samueldotter Gustavsson, b. in Torslanda March 23, 1857. Their three

children, all b. in the city of Uddevalla — Hilmer, b. Dec. 23, 1877; Carl Algot, b. Dec. 18, 1879 and Esther Alida, b. in Jan. 1882.

Karl-Gustaf Regstedt
Marklandsgatan 45
414 77 Göteborg, SWEDEN

196

Carlsson, Petersson

I am looking for descendants of the following family:

Johan Peter Carlsson, b. in Torslunda Parish (Kalm.) Sept. 18, 1847; d. in Sioux City, IA March 3, 1936. He was m. Sept. 9, 1871 to Mina Charlotta Andersdotter, b. in Torslunda Oct. 26, 1847. She d. in Sioux City July 14, 1901. They had the following children:

a. Carl Alfred, b. in Torslunda Oct. 14, 1871; emigr. April 30, 1886.

b. Anna Amalia, b. in Gårdby Parish (Kalm.) July 17, 1874. She emigr. with her parents Sept. 11, 1891. She resided at 211 South Wall Street, Sioux City and was m. to a chap named Petersson. They had a dau. Elin Charlotta, b. in Sioux City Oct. 17, 1906.

Stefan Gottfridson
Stallvägen 17:111
352 52 Växjö, SWEDEN

197

Swenson

I wish to obtain information on a Swedish American domestic (chambermaid) named Linnea Swenson, employed in the household of Mrs. Charles E.F. McCann of New York City during the years 1922 and 1925. She was from somewhere in the province of Småland and returned to visit Sweden with her co-worker, Signe Sonesson (from the province of Skåne) in the spring of 1925.

I am also interested in any data concerning other Swedes employed in the McCann household during these years (as cooks, maids, housemen, etc.).

Harry H. Anderson, Executive Director
Milwaukee County Historical Society
910 N. Third Street
Milwaukee, WI 53203

198

Holmquist

Three brothers Holmquist emigr. to the U.S., Adam Wilhelm, Christian Johan and Andreas. They were the s. of Olof Holmquist, b. in Kläggeröd, Slimminge Parish (Malm.) and Gunhild Thomelius. Olof was the master gardener at Hovdala Castle in Brönnestad Parish (Krist.) They had ten children, of which four d. young.

a. Adam Wilhelm Holmquist emigr. in 1865, although the emigration

record cannot be found. He worked in Indiana and Illinois before coming to Faribault, MN, where he m. Mari Groven. They had eight children and 24 grandchildren, of whom I am No. 21.

b. Christian Johan Holmquist, b. Nov. 29, 1838, emigr. to Chicago. He was m. in Sweden and had three children — Alma, Oscar and Anna. He remarried in the U.S. Did he have descendants?

c. Andreas was b. in Brönnestad in Nov. 1850. His migration record is dated Aug. 9, 1868. Where did he go and did he marry?

I should very much like to find descendants of Christian and Andreas. They have many cousins in the U.S. and Sweden and their roots are known as far back as 1665 and 1730.

Helen Holmquist Pederson
728 14th Avenue S.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55414

199

Persson, Andersson, Westlund

Seeking information concerning Jon Persson, b. in Malmö July 25, 1846, d. in Eastern Twp., MN Dec. 8, 1920. He was m. to Maria Jönsdotter Andersson in Eslöv Dec. 31, 1878. She was b. in Vitaby Parish (Krist.) Nov. 19, 1856 and d. in Eastern Twp. June 28, 1920. Jon Persson changed his name to Westlund upon arr. in America around 1887. They had three children — Ida, Johanna and Nils.

Bruce Okeson
8098 Hemingway Ave., South
Cottage Grove, MN 55016

200

Jepsson, Åkesson, Andersson

Seeking information on Åke Jepsson and his wife Boel from Kågeröd Parish (Malm.). They had four s. — Nils, b. Aug. 27, 1863, who d. in St. Paul, MN June 23, 1941; Per, b. April 15, 1876, d. in Eagle Bend, MN Nov. 3, 1921; Jon (?) and Olof. The latter, b. in 1874, changed his name to Roth and d. in Kågeröd March 18, 1948. Per and Olof m. sisters, Maria and Emma, daus. Nils Andersson and his wife Kerstin. Per emigr. from Landskrona on the *Cedric* in March, 1904. Maria came in 1907 with children Victor and Martha.

Bruce Okeson
8098 Hemingway Ave., South
Cottage Grove, MN 55016

201

Sandberg, Persson, Jenson

Seeking information on John S. Sandberg, b. in Sweden 1825, who d. in Parkers Prairie, MN 1903. He was m. to (Betsy) Jenson with whom he had the following children:

a. Per. b. 1868; d. in Parkers Prairie 1892.

b. Mary, b. in Västerstad Parish (Malm.) 1871 or 1872; d. in Battle Lake, MN 1965. She emigr. 1892 and m. Gotfred Miller in 1903.

c. Andrew Forsce, b. in Västerstad 1856; d. in Parkers Prairie 1939.

d. John Holmquist, b. 1853; d. in Little Sauk, MN 1907. He emigr. in 1880 and was m. to Karna Nilsson, b. 1851, who d. in 1933 and with whom he had eleven children.

Bruce Okeson

8098 Hemingway Ave., South

Cottage Grove, MN 55016

202

Nicholsen

I am seeking information concerning the family of Ada Götilda Petersdotter, b. in Jämjö Parish (Blek.) Nov. 14, 1890. She emigr. to the U.S. in 1913 and m. Henry Nicholsen, b. in Oslo, Norway Jan. 3, 1895. They seemed to have resided in Brooklyn and Long Island. Ada d. in Meadowbrook Hospital, East Meadow, NY Nov. 24, 1955. Henry remarried and moved to Sarasota, FL, where he d. June 19, 1962. I am told that Ada and Henry had a s., but I cannot locate any. None are listed on the death certificate.

Loran K. Bohman

1268 Richard Road

North Huntingdon, PA 15642

203

Petersdotter

What became of Elina Petersdotter, b. in Jämjö Parish (Blek.) April 2, 1880? I have her emigration contract. She arr. Aug. 3, 1895 aboard the ship *St. Louis* with Pennsylvania as her destination.

Loran K. Bohman

1268 Richard Road

North Huntingdon, PA 15642

204

Olsson

Seeking information concerning Elina Olsson, b. in Ramdala Parish (Blek.) Oct. 3, 1883. She emigr. to the U.S. April 21, 1899 and since nothing had been heard from her, was declared legally dead by the district court in Blekinge Nov. 24, 1931.

Loran K. Bohman

1268 Richard Road

North Huntingdon, PA 15642

205

Bengtsson

Seeking information concerning Swan (Sven) Bengtsson, b. in Gråmans-

torp Parish (now Klippan) March 29, 1861. He emigr. to Wilcox-Rasselas, PA and m. in Kane, PA Ingrid Monsson Oct. 26, 1886. The marriage was performed by P.A. Bergquist. Nothing is known of him after that. Did he die there? Did he have children? One rumor claims he moved to northern Illinois.

Loran K. Bohman
1268 Richard Road
North Huntingdon, PA 15642

206

Naeverbakken, Beck

Henrik Halvorsen Naeverbakken was b. in Jevnaker, Norway and emigr. to South Dakota, where he used the name Henry H. Beck. He seems to have m. in June, 1897 and was then living in Bonestell, SD. A Henry Beck d. in Bonestell in 1900 and was bur. in the Rosebud Cemetery there. The records of the Norwegian Lutheran Church in the area can not be found.

Loran K. Bohman
1268 Richard Road
North Huntingdon, PA 15642

207

Eklund

Per (Pete) Eklund, b. in Leksand Parish (Kopp.) Jan. 20, 1861, emigr. to America in 1891. He worked as a tailor in Butte, MT until 1912, when he returned to Sweden. He seems to have m. in Butte and had a s., b. between 1894 and 1900. When Eklund returned to Sweden his s. remained in the U.S. Any information regarding the son would be very much appreciated.

Martha Eklund-Åström
Strandvägen 18
140 30 Uttran, SWEDEN

208

Broström, Kling

I am looking for descendants of Lars-Erik and Julia Broström who emigr. to America from Ockelbo Parish (Gävl.) in 1886. Their s. Richard was about a year old at the time. A second child, Esther Malvina, was b. in the U.S. July 2, 1890. It is possible that Julia Broström's brother, Johan Kling, accompanied them. The family moved around a lot — Davenport, IA, Rose-land and Galva, IL. They were living in the latter place in Dec. 1894. In Feb., 1901 the family was located in Chicago. Any lead on the Broströms would be appreciated.

Katarina Rolén
Hantverkargatan 54a
803 56 Gävle, SWEDEN

209

Fahlén

I am on the lookout for my uncle, Herbert Fahlén, b. in Väja in the province of Ångermanland, Sweden Aug. 4, 1901. He departed for America ca. 1921–1922. He m. an American woman named Mary and worked for a while in an automobile factory in Flint, MI. After retirement he and his wife settled in Punta Gorda, FL. Letters to him there have been returned. Can anyone help me locate my uncle?

Gudrun Nilsson

Repslagaregatan 32 A, 1 tr.

582 22 Linköping, SWEDEN

210

Bergström, Montán

I should like to know what happened to my maternal grandmother's siblings and half-siblings who emigr. to America. They were — Maja Cajsa Bergström, b. 1840, Christina Bergström, b. 1842, Anna Bergström, b. 1845 and Johan Petter Bergström, b. 1848. These emigr. in the 1860's. Another brother, Lars August Bergström, b. 1854, emigr. 1871. The brothers changed their name to Montán and settled in Chicago, where Johan Petter, after the fire of 1871, bought land and constructed buildings.

My grandmother's father remarried and his two children in this second marriage emigr. also. They were Emma Charlotta Bergström, b. 1864, who m. Frank Backman and resided in St. Paul, MN, where she d. 1912. The other sister was Anna Sofia Bergström, b. 1869, who m. Karl Hellén and also probably lived in St. Paul, where she had 2 or 3 sons.

Birgitta Persson

Pianovägen 34

451 62 Uddevalla

211

Early Swedes on St. Eustatius

Henry B. Hoff

In examining the published marriage records of the island of St. Eustatius in the Netherlands West Indies for the years 1710–1749, I have come across references to three Swedes who married on the island in the middle of the eighteenth century. The references are to be found in *Trouwboek Gereform. Gemeente St. Eustatius 1710–49* (published as *Zesde Jaarverslag van het Geschied Taal-, Landen Volkundig-Genootschap*, Amsterdam, 1903).

There is no marriage date for the first entry, only the betrothal date. For the other two, both betrothal and marriage dates are given. An extract in translation of the references follows:

P. 56, No. 177, March 17, 1742

Louren Matthison Algerus,¹ born in Kalmar in Sweden, was betrothed to Catharina -----.

P. 76, No. 270, July 27, 1747

Direk Blomm, bachelor sailor, a native of Karlskrona in Sweden, was betrothed to Maria Barens, the widow of Laurentz Sonderberg. She was born on the island of Curaçao. They were married Aug. 13, 1747.

P. 77, No. 273, August 21, 1747

Pieter Andriessen, bachelor sailor, a native of Gothenburg in Sweden, was betrothed to Elisabeth Hassell, born on the island of Saba. They were married Sept. 10, 1747.

St. Eustatius, Curaçao and Saba are all islands in the Caribbean, part of what is today known as the Netherlands Antilles.

¹ A Swedish student, Laurentius M. Algerus from the island of Öland, directly across from the city of Kalmar, matriculated at the University of Uppsala on July 7, 1737, at which time it was stated that he was born in 1715. He belonged to the student group which hailed from Kalmar *län* and its register notes that Algerus went to the West Indies but subsequently settled down in Philadelphia as a merchant. He ultimately returned to Sweden and settled down in Pölsebo, Lundby Parish (Göt.). The parish register notes that he was a mill owner (*brukspatron*). His wife, Catharina Hassel or Hazell, born in St. Eustatius Jan. 9, 1718, died in Pölsebo Sept. 18, 1790. Her husband moved to the city of Helsingborg, where he died Jan. 19, 1800. — [Otto Edelstam], *Kalmar Nations i Uppsala medlemmar 1663–1903* (Uppsala, 1904), p. 8; "Lundby Parish Records", Göteborg *Landsarkiv*; Elise Åhsberg, "Samling av anteckningar ur legala notiser i Göteborgstidningar 1774–1933". Vol. I, 1774–1840, p. 1, Göteborg *Landsarkiv*; E. Lagerheim, "Giftermåls-och Döds-annonser afskrifne ur *Inrikes Tidningar* för tiden 26/11 1760 t.o.m. 1800", Göteborg *Landsarkiv*; A. B. Carlsson, *Uppsala Universitets Matrikel*, Vol. II, 1700–1750 (Uppsala, 1919–1923), p. 271. — *Editor*.

Milwaukee Naturalization Records

The Milwaukee County Historical Society has on file records (indexed) of naturalizations, and declarations of intent to become a naturalized citizen, for the Circuit and Municipal Courts (but not the Federal Court) in Milwaukee County for the period of 1837 to 1941.

Prior to 1906, these records only contain very basic information — name of the applicant, country and year of birth, port of entry to the United States and date (month and year), and date of application. After 1906, the record is much more complete and includes details on the applicant's physical appearance, information on port of embarkation, place of last foreign residence, and name of vessel, family data (if applicable), and occupation, for some files after 1930, a photo of the applicant is also included.

A fee of \$4.00 per subject is charged for research into these files and for copies of basic records. Inquiries should be addressed to the Curator of Research Collections, Milwaukee County Historical Society, 910 North 3rd Street, Milwaukee, WI 53203.

Since many Scandinavian immigrants disembarked in Milwaukee rather than Chicago in the 19th century, chances of finding one's Scandinavian ancestor's naturalization document in Milwaukee County are quite good.

What Happened to Olof Jönsson?

Occasionally an obscure item turns up in a Swedish parish register which triggers a response that demands further investigation. In the household examination roll for 1791–1798 for Torp Parish on the island of Orust in Göteborg and Bohus *län* we find an entry which causes us to want to learn more. Living at a croft (*torp*) named Åsen, which in turn was a part of a larger farm, also named Torp was the following household:

Jöns Olofsson, b. 1729	}	Moved to Tegneby
Wife Kerstin Håkansdotter, b. 1725		Parish (ca. 1795)
Son Olof Jönsson, b. 1760 — Married in America		

There are no exit registers for Torp Parish this early thus the only information we have concerning Olof Jönsson's emigration is this notice. We know nothing else about him. We can only guess. Since the island of Orust, just north of Göteborg, has for centuries furnished Sweden with a host of sailors, it is possible that Olof Jönsson went to sea, arrived in America and there found his wife.

¹ *Torp Parish AI:1 (1791–1798)* in the provincial archives of Göteborg (*Göteborgs Landsarkiv*).

Jönköping Genealogical Seminar

From Aug. 8 to Aug. 19 a very successful genealogical seminar was held at the Södra Vätterbygdens Folkhögskola in Jönköping, Sweden. Sponsored by the Swedish American Historical Society of Chicago and *Swedish American Genealogist* and hosted by Dr. Gunnar Hallingberg, rector of the folk high school, where the seminar was held, the event drew attendance from practically every part of the United States. One participant arrived from Bonäs in Dalarna, Per-Gösta Lindqvist, who proved to be of excellent help in assisting the researchers in various libraries and archives.

Part of the success of this, the first, of what is hoped to be annual affairs, was due to the location in the central part of Sweden, high on the bluff, overlooking beautiful Lake Vättern. From Jönköping it was easy to move around to such centers as the archives of Göteborg, Skara, Vadstena and Växjö. Participants were also part of the large group of Americans at the Minnesota Day celebration at the Emigrant Institute in Växjö. Not only were many of these places within easy reach, but the county library at Jönköping is the depository for microfilms of all of the church records for the county of Jönköping, which made it possible for students to also make use of their evenings.

All of the participants gained something from the two weeks in Jönköping. In some instances contacts were established between Swedish and American families, which had been broken more than 60 years ago.

One of the participants, starting from the name of her grandfather, was able to find a straight line back to Johannes Rudbeckius, the famous bishop of Västerås, who lived in the 17th century, and one of the first bishops in Sweden to order his clergymen to keep careful church records.

The success of this year's program augurs well for the future. Plans are already afoot to schedule another two week seminar in Jönköping Aug. 6-17, 1984 with a visit to Växjö to coincide with next year's Minnesota Day Aug. 12.

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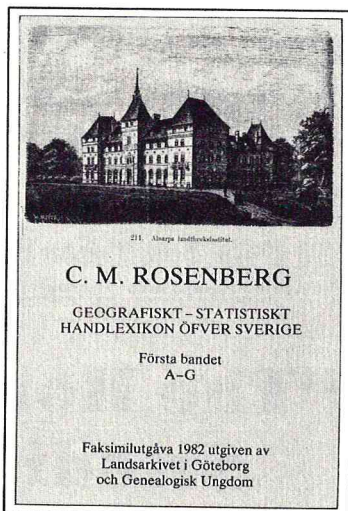
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