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Bits & Pieces

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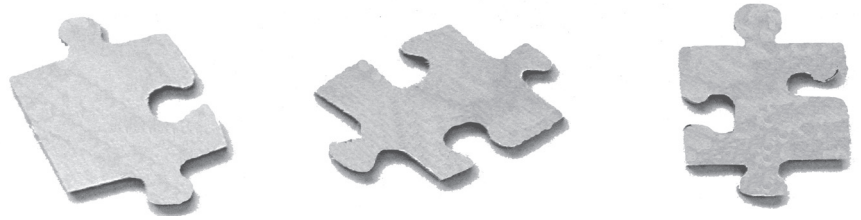
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Bits & Pieces



Civil War widows

The U.S. National Archives recently released a new video in their “Inside the Vaults” series that highlights the project to digitize the Civil War widows’ pension files. A team of 60 volunteers led by National Archives personnel crossed the 100,000 mark of 1.28 million case files. Family-Search is providing volunteers who create the digital images. I think Fold3 produces the index. Fold3.com publishes the index and images on their website.

(Ancestry Insider 2012 Aug. 23)

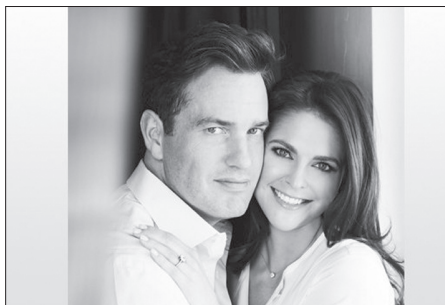
Ancestry grows

Ancestry informed recently that they have acquired the website *1000-memories*, where you can post your old photos. Photos can be uploaded from your hard drive or transferred from facebook, instagram, or Flickr. Photos can be scanned by scanner, digital camera, or smart-phone app.

(Ancestry.com blog 2012 Oct. 3)
(Link on p. 30)

Princess Madeleine is engaged

On Oct. 25, 2012, it was announced that H.R.H Princess Madeleine of Sweden, youngest daughter of King Carl XIV Gustaf and Queen Silvia, was engaged to be married to M. Christopher O’Neill of New York. Mr. O’Neill is 38 year old, and works in the financial sector.



Mr. O’Neill and Princess Madeleine.

Ancestry is sold!

“Ancestry.com is being acquired by Permira, a European private equity firm, for \$1.6 billion. It requires stockholder approval but is virtually a done deal since more than 30% of Ancestry.com is held by previous investors and officers of the company.

“The announcement triggered a number of lawsuits against the Ancestry.com board of directors claiming breaches of fiduciary duty and other violations for not acting in the company’s shareholders’ best interests and stockholders were defrauded because the company is worth much more than the buyout price. This is standard operating procedure for acquisition of public companies. The net effect is that stockholders gain little and lawyers make a lot of money.

“How will this affect the genealogical community? ... Permira appears to be a company that buys and sells other companies and is likely totally disinterested in the purpose of Ancestry.com. Thus are the ways of ‘Wall Street.’”

(Nu? What’s New? 2012 Oct.28)

H. Arnold Barton receives award

Professor Emeritus H. Arnold Barton of Tyresö, Sweden, formerly of Carbondale, Ill., was awarded the *Great Achievement Award* by Swedish Council of America at their meeting in Karlstad in September 2012.

Dr. Barton was presented with the award by Anne-Charlotte Harvey. Dr. Barton was formerly professor of history at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, and a longtime editor of the *Swedish-American Historical Quarterly*. SAG congratulates Dr. Barton for this well-earned award! Dr. Barton is also a member of the SAG Editorial Committee.

In Memoriam

Olof Ljung

1924 Sep. 21

– 2012 Sep. 28

Well-known Dalsland researcher *Olof (Olle) Ljung* of Mellerud, Sweden, has recently passed away.

He was the author of numerous family histories, for instance his huge book about the *Ingevalds-släkten* (1994). He also wrote local history books about the parishes and churches of Järn and Skälle-rud, and much more. He was also one of the founders of the Mellerud Museum in Sweden.

Genealogy Club meeting in Philadelphia

The American Swedish Historical Museum in Philadelphia has an active Genealogy Club. The first meeting during 2013 will be held on January 26.

Link on p. 30.



The American Swedish Institute has a holiday exhibit, *A Nordic Christmas*, that runs until Jan. 13.

The exhibit on Swedish lace: *Treasured Threads: Nordic Lace*, also closes on Jan. 13.

Swedish Genealogy Days 2013

The Swedish Genealogy Days (*Släktforskardagarna*) will be held in Köping on Aug. 24–25. Köping is situated between Örebro and Västerås.