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## News from the Swenson Center

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# News from the Swenson Center

## The 2013 Dagmar and Nils William Olsson Scholar

The 2013 Nils William Olsson Scholar has now been elected, and his name is *Juri Rebkowetz*, of Patersdorf, Germany.

Juri presents his project like this:

“In October 2012 I started working on a PhD thesis with the title “German and Scandinavian Immigration to Minnesota and Wisconsin during the Second Half of the 19th Century – Contacts, Conflicts, and Cooperation.” This study aims at giving a comprehensive analysis of the relationship between the two largest foreign groups in the Midwest during the time of mass immigration.

“In order to get detailed first-hand descriptions of their views on each other and on their reactions to certain political, cultural, religious and social developments, it is necessary to examine diverse primary sources like newspapers, letters, diaries, travel reports, and immigrant guidebooks.

“Considering the chosen geo-

graphical and temporal frame, mainly those documents written in Minnesota and Wisconsin or by people who had spent a substantial amount of time there between approximately 1840 and 1910 are of primary interest.

“The Swenson Center has a vast collection of such potentially useful material that includes a great variety of Swedish-American newspapers and numerous personal papers such as the following ones: *Axel Lundeberg Papers*, *Bengtson and Bohman Family Papers*, *Christian Oberg Papers*, *Charles Lindman Papers*, *Emma Johnson Papers*, *Erik Norelius Papers*, *Erik Jönsson Papers*, *Milton T. Anderson Family Letters*, *Alexander Malcolm Papers*, *Peter Anderson Cederstam Papers*, *Samuel Magnus Hill Papers*, or the *Sven August Johnson Papers*.

“To be given the opportunity to spend around five weeks at the Swenson Center and to use its rich



resources would be an incredible opportunity for me.”

According to his CV Juri was born in 1987 in Kazakhstan, is now a German citizen. He grew up in Germany and has also spent a year in Umeå, Sweden, as an Erasmus Exchange student, and is now working on his PhD thesis at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich, Germany.

## What is this? Mystery item at Swenson Center



This mystery item was found among the papers of G. N. Swan in the Swenson Center archives. It is described as a wooden stick with a metal hook on one end, possibly for hanging, and a bulbous shape on the other end. The bottom is flat.



The script reads: “Inköpt hos Anti-quit. handl. Hagander i Stockholm 18 27/3 93. [March 27 1893] E.E.”

**Explanation to be found on p. 31**