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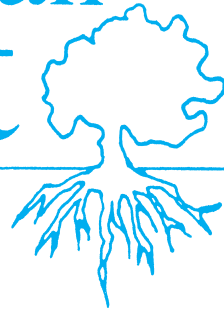
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Swedish American Genealogist



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



Swedish American Genealogist



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Swedish American Genealogist

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Cover picture:

This is a typical Swedish wall-hanging (*väggbonad*), owned by Shirley Cote of New Sweden, Maine.

The text is *När Erik ger ax, ger Ola kaka*, which is translated as "When Erik gives ears, Ola gives cakes". This is a play on the namedays for Erik (on May 18) and Ola (July 29). It means that if the wheat is grown enough to show ears on the Erik day, the harvest can start by the Olof day. Ola is a southern variant of Olof.

The Emigration Survey

– in 1907 the Swedish government wanted to know why people left

BY ELISABETH THORSELL

Around the turn of the century 1800-1900, when the emigration had been going on for more than 50 years, the Swedish authorities started to ponder the question – was this a good or a bad thing for the country? By now a fifth of all Swedes were living in the U.S.

The landowners felt that they were not able to get the labor they needed. The military were worried that too many men of military age was leaving the country and that the army was becoming too weak, etc.

The question was raised in the *riksdag* (parliament), and in true Swedish fashion a government survey was launched in 1907, headed by statistician *Gustav Sundbärg*, who was on the liberal side. He thought that emigration could be decreased by improving the conditions in Sweden for the working classes. In the beginning he also worked with the more right-wing *Nils Wohlin*, who also was a statistician, and later minister for finance (*finansminister*) in the Swedish government. Regarding his views on emigrants he wanted more restrictions. This work with the survey went on for several years and finally resulted in the *Emigrationsutredningen* (Emigration Survey).

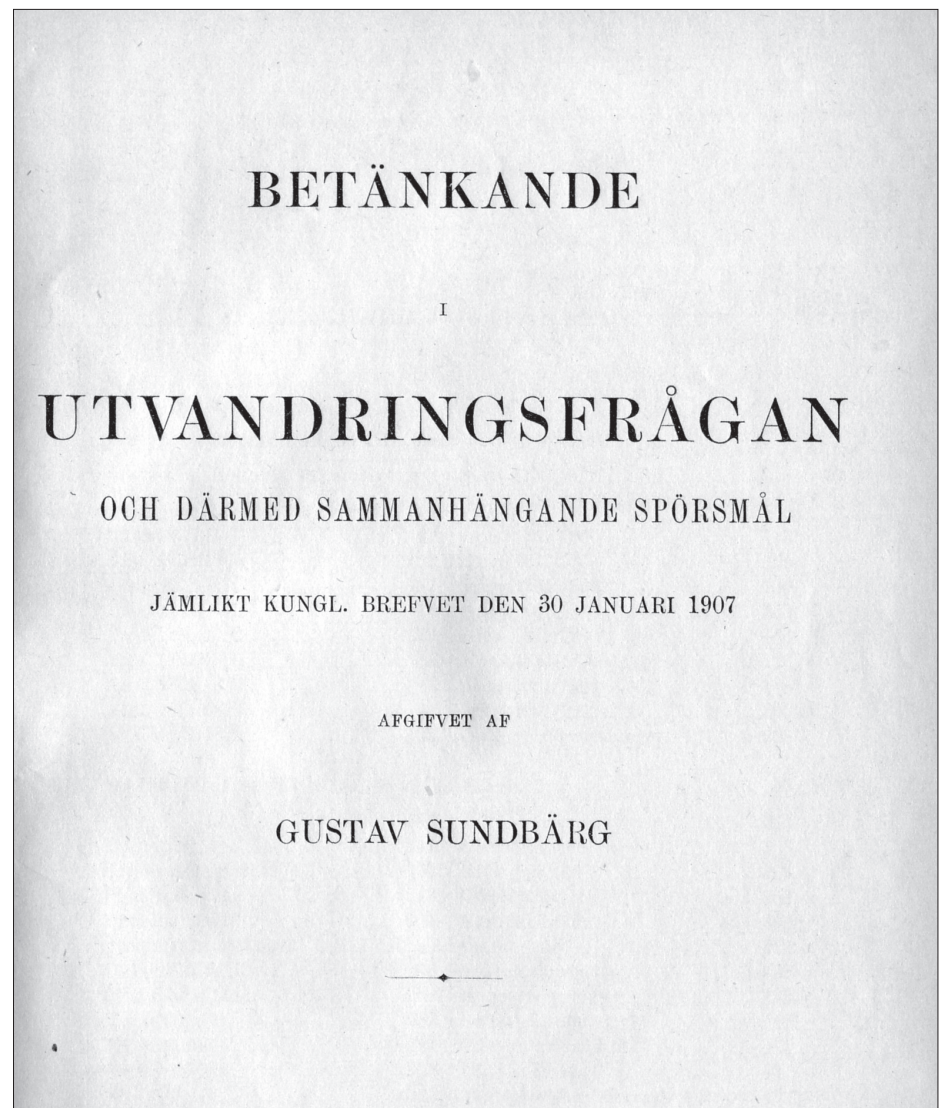
In 1910 Wohlin left the work with the Emigration Survey and instead started to work for the *Nationalföreningen mot emigration* (National Society against emigration).

The survey goes on

Sundbärg kept on working and found

out that there were many things his survey needed to know more about. He then sent out questionnaires to various government agencies all over the country, and asked about the state of agriculture, labor conditions, wages, and much more. He had people that inquired about the cur-

rent conditions for the emigrants. Were they satisfied with the information from the emigration agents, were the emigrant hotels in different ports acceptable, was the treatment on the ships good, were the prices for tickets reasonable, etc.?



The conclusion

In 1913 the survey was finished and published in seven thick volumes, consisting of the *betänkande* (report) and then more than 20 appendixes containing detailed information on the status of Sweden around 1910 in many aspects.

In general Sundbärg came to the conclusion that the best way to keep the prospective emigrants in Sweden was to give them more freedom: the general right to vote, better housing, better wages, more possibilities to take part in the society, and making it possible to own land for small farms, etc. One important point was that males that wanted to return to Sweden should not have to do national service, unless they wanted to, as that could be an obstacle to their re-immigration to Sweden.

The appendixes

The appendixes are written by Gustav Sundbärg, unless another author is mentioned, and they have the following titles:

- 1) Laws about emigrants.
- 2) A review of all statutes and their implementation regarding emigration, with a section on U.S. statutes of immigration.
- 3) A statement on the Mormon recruitment in Sweden.
- 4) Swedish and European statistics on increase in population and mobility.
- 5) Statistics on counties and communities.
- 6) Geographical conditions for trade and industry.
- 7) Testimonies from the emigrants.
- 8) Examinations of certain areas (*bygdeundersökningar*).
- 9) The farming population of Sweden during the period 1751–1900.
- 10) The danger of the obliteration of the class of the farmers, in connection with the changes in the laws of inheritance, the emigration etc., by Nils Wohlin.
- 11) The classes of crofters, dug-out dwellers, and lodgers, by Nils Wohlin.
- 12) On the distribution of land.

- 13) General economic data relating to Sweden.
- 14) The small farm movement (*småbruksrörelsen*) in foreign countries, mainly in the British Isles, Prussia, and the United States, by Gustaf Steffen, Paul Bergholm, and A.K. Eckerbom.
- 15) Methods of industrial work in the workshops and machine works in the U.S.
- 16) The Swedish national character (this was later published as a separate book, which was very popular).
- 17) Excerpts from comments sent in by various organizations and agencies.
- 18) Comments on the question of emigration, from Swedish scientists.
- 19) Comments concerning Swedish industry, trade, and maritime commerce sent in to the survey by chambers of businesses, societies and private businessmen.
- 20) Information concerning the positions of Swedes in foreign countries, as well as statements concerning how to make returning to the homeland more attractive.

Obviously the survey itself and all those appendixes have much information that can be useful knowledge to share in further issues of SAG.

Appendix 7

This appendix contains personal letters, written by emigrants still living in the U.S. and there are more than 280 of them. There are some problems with the letters, though. They are all in Swedish, and need to be translated, but that is a minor thing. The letter writers are identified only by their initials, province they came from, and what year they left Sweden.

I had hoped that the original letters would still be found in the Swedish *Riksarkivet* in Stockholm, with the full names of the writers. The survey was done because of a decision of the *Riksdag* (parliament), and should have ended up in the *Riksarkivet*, where all documents from authorities like *Riksdagen* should be.

But when I went there and asked for the material from the Emigration Survey, I was disappointed. From the catalog of contents of the Emigration Survey documents I learnt that “according to information from the former chief archivist Holmberg of one of the provincial archives, the main part of the survey materials had got lost because of the actions of Professor N. Wohlin.” So all those original letters are gone, and nobody knows where they ended up.

But in today there are emigration databases to search, and a number of the letter writers have been identified in that way.

A letter from Älvsborg county

Letter # 179, written by J.L.G., who immigrated in 1864:

I was born on May 1st 1845 in a soldier's cottage in Älvsborg county, and learned first to read at my mother's knee. I was sent to public school at age 10, and during my 3½ months there gained some useful knowledge that has been of some value to me during my lifetime.

Then I was sent out to guard cows and sheep, and do other chores appropriate for my age. At 14 I was apprenticed to a tailor and worked for 1½ years without salary at all, receiving only my food, which sometimes was very simple indeed. Then I got for a year's work a salary of 24 *skillings* per week; during the rest of my time as a tailor I got 1 *krona*¹ each week.

Consequently I could be very diligent and frugal keeping body and soul together.

When I was 19 years old, or in 1864, I borrowed money from an old friend for my passage to America, and after a slow voyage in a sailing ship, we happily arrived in Chicago on June 29th. I took a job with a farmer at once, and have continued with such work ever since. The wages for work then were not as high as they are now, but after a while I could pay

for my passage here, and then put some dollars aside every month for future needs. Now I own a farm of 200 acres, have built houses, cleared land, and am free of debt. It is situated 1½ mile from a town with a railway station.

I did not fear National Service (*Värnplikten*) [in Sweden] as the Crown would have clothed and fed me, but I did fear ending up at the workhouse in my old age. We were 10 children in the family, of which two died in infancy. The other eight all lived into adulthood and they had immigrated to this land.

Even though my father was a good worker and a sober man, there were very poor conditions in my childhood home. He was a soldier's son and he served as a soldier for 32 years. After reaching retirement age he received a pension of 12 *kronor* for the first 10 years, and then he got it increased to 24 *kronor* for the rest of his life. My father had three brothers who also served for the Älvsborg regiment and then immigrated to this country and have done well.

I am not the right person to give advice, but let me give some anyway: Give the people the vote, reduce the National Service, decrease the taxes, and take away some useless public offices and then: be more careful with the public money!

People say that is cheaper to live in Sweden than in America, but that will be difficult to prove, as the King of Sweden has ten times the salary of our President. One should also try to get rid of the swollen aristocracy.

At last, let me tell a story. Some years ago I had a neighbor who had a lot of difficulty keeping his cattle, as they broke through all the fences. He tried in every way to keep them within his fences, but to no avail. Then he listened to the advice of a neighbor and gave his cattle more and better grass to graze, and after that he had no more trouble with them. If the Swedish government would listen to this advice, the "Emigration question" would resolve itself.

Editor's note:

1) The Swedish money system was changed in 1873, from *riksdaler* to the *krona*. Thus Johan's wages were paid in *riksdaler* and *skillings*.

The letter-writer and his family

From the information in his letter this writer has been identified as the soldier's son *Johan Levin Guld*, born 1 May 1845 in Södra Ving (Älvs.). He left Lida, in Södra Ving, Sweden, on 13 April 1864 for North America.

From the church records for Södra Ving it was found that he lived with his parents and siblings at the soldiers' cottage #590 on the lands of Lida in Södra Ving.

The family consisted of:
 Soldier *Jonas Guld*, b. 16 Mar. 1805 in Hällstad, (Älvs.)
 Wife *Annika Andersdotter*, b. 21 Jan. 1808 in Södra Ving.
 Children, all born in Södra Ving:
 d. *Maria Stina*, b. 24 Sep. 1830.
 d. *Eva*, b. 25 Jul. 1832.
 s. *Svante*, b. 9 Jan. 1835.
 s. *Johan Gustaf*, b. 27 May 1837, died in Södra Ving in 1839.
 d. *Johanna*, b. 17 Jan. 1840.
 d. *Lovisa*, b. 3 Sep. 1842.
 s. *Johan Levin*, b. 1 May 1845.
 d. *Mathilda*, b. 23 Aug. 1848, died 29 Feb. 1856 in Södra Ving.
 d. *Josephina Elisabeth*, b. Jan. 15 1851.
 s. *Claes August*, b. 19 Aug. 1854.
 (some of the children used the Guld surname, some used Jonasdatter or Jonasson).

The family left Sweden

Soldier Jonas Guld, his wife Annika,

and children Josephina Elisabeth and Claes August all left Södra Ving on 19 Aug. 1866.

Daughter Maria Stina, her husband Johannes Eriksson (b. 24 Jun. 1822 in Brunn (Älvs.), their sons Claes Edvard (b. 29 Dec. 1859 in Hällstad (Älvs.) and Frans Alenius (b. 16 June 1862 in Hällstad) left 3 May 1865 from Hällstad.

Daughter Eva left 13 Apr. 1864 with brother Johan Levin from Södra Ving.

Son Svante (recorded as Johansson) left 7 Apr. 1864 from Södra Ving.

Daughter Lovisa left 9 April 1869 with her son Frans Algot Jonasson (b. 12 Apr. 1866) from Södra Ving. They left Göteborg on 16 April 1869 with tickets for New York.

It seems that Svante, Johan Levin, and his sister Eva were the first in the family to immigrate to the U.S. Their reports must have been favorable, as they were followed by their siblings, and even the fairly old parents.

In the U.S.

Johan Levin Guld was found in the 1900 U.S. census as being a farmer in the township of Goodhue in Goodhue county, Minnesota, and he had changed his surname to *Gull*. He is married to Kristine, born in November 1850 in Sweden. They had 10 children (Delia, Leonard, Enock, Elmer, Richard, Anna, Judith, Ebba, Irene, and Inece).

Personens Namn och Stånd.	ort.	år.	1 1800	från.	år.	till.	år.
<i>Södra Ving</i>							
<i>afsk. Soldat-törp n:o 590.</i>							
<i>Sold. Jonas Guld</i>	<i>Hällstad</i>	<i>1805</i>	<i>16/3</i>			<i>Amerika</i>	<i>1864</i>
<i>Annika Andersdotter</i>	<i>Wing</i>	<i>1808</i>	<i>21/1</i>				
<i>Johanna</i>	<i>Wing</i>	<i>1840</i>	<i>17/1</i>			<i>Hällstad</i>	<i>57</i>
<i>Lovisa</i>	<i>Wing</i>	<i>1842</i>	<i>3/9</i>			<i>n 114-60</i>	
<i>Johan Levin</i>	<i>Wing</i>	<i>1845</i>	<i>1/5</i>			<i>Amerika</i>	<i>64</i>
<i>Josephina Elisabeth</i>	<i>Wing</i>	<i>1851</i>	<i>15/1</i>			<i>Amerika</i>	<i>64</i>
<i>Claes August</i>	<i>Wing</i>	<i>1854</i>	<i>19/8</i>			<i>Amerika</i>	<i>64</i>
<i>Mathilda</i>	<i>Wing</i>	<i>1848</i>	<i>23/8</i>				

Södra Ving AI:7, p.277 (1857-1870). (Picture from ArkivDigital).

Letter from Per Ersson Högman

The following is a letter written in 1850 to *Hudikswalls Weckoblad* by a recruit to the Eric Jansson colony in Bishop Hill who quickly became disgruntled with the enterprise, regretted his decision, and returned to Sweden with little good to say about either the Jansonists or the promised “New Land.” First published in *Hudikswalls Weckoblad* 1851 March 8, 15, and 22.

North America and city of Milwaukee, 21 December 1850

Dear parents, brothers and sisters, relatives, friends, and acquaintances,

Now I wish to let you know about our successful trip from our fatherland across the great sea, to the New World. Fortunately, all are in good health, and life was preserved. There were certainly a few who suffered from seasickness, but as for me, I avoided it except in the Baltic, when we met stormy weather one night that we feared for our lives. Then even I was sick, but never otherwise; but my wife and servant girl became weak and frail as soon as weather blew up, but were otherwise healthy. We left Hudikswall on 22 June and arrived at Helsingör on 3 July, from which we sailed on the 4th, arriving in New York on 19 September. It was a very long trip because we never had good winds, except in the North Sea. For five days, if we ever got favorable wind, we were almost becalmed – but contrary seas almost continuously. It was a Sunday when we were not far from land, and the skipper had to lay out to sea to avoid being lost. We were driven three degrees back out to sea (that is to say 3 x 15 miles), and there was a hard storm the likes of which our skipper had never seen. All sails were shredded, and the aft of the ship was crushed by the seas, and the gangway ripped away; yes it looked like we might find our graves in the ocean, so that nearly every great wave dashed against the ship, and we had to cry: “Lord save us, otherwise we are lost.”

But of the difficulties during the trip, the most difficult was to live

among cunning, evil, and false brothers. I have never seen such ungodly living; but during a very difficult journey and in the time of need, one finds his friends. The reason evil arose was the idiotic contract between Jon Olson of Stenbo and the passengers. It had been written so that we should have water and firewood during our entire trip. But what happened? We got one jug of water a day per man. One day, when we had water delivered, they all complained to me that they could not cook more than once a day; and then they said: “We don’t dare tell this to him, since we are mostly bound to him,” I considered talking to him on their behalf, since I cannot keep quiet about the truth: “Now, Jon [ed. Jonas Olson, “Stenbogubben”) Olson! Do you remember how our contract reads, namely that we should have enough of the above?” Then he answered me: “You’ll have to keep quiet, since you have a beer barrel to go to.” “Well,” I said, “are our brothers satisfied with what you and I have? Let the people get their full ration of that sour and awful water!” Then he answered: “Since I have a great drinking barrel for my people, consisting of 10 persons, so I can inform you of the following water provisions – namely if you work a week for me per man!” “No, I answered; Should they have to buy the water from you for the second time?” Then he answered me: “everything you do, you do for yourself. How then? Don’t ever think that I would ever place myself under your control.” Then all friendship between us ceased.

Then I concluded that these people [the Erik Janssonists] are intent

on gathering both people and money for themselves. God enlightened me by his wonderful light about those people, so that I damned my foot for having gone aboard the *Primus*, and made the decision to separate from them if the Lord gave me the health and time to reach New York.

I have done it. I also got to experience much – as soon as landing in New York. Pastor Hedström told me that the highest purpose of the Americans was to look after our life. I then thought: now I’ll take the railroad, whatever it costs, which I also did along with my wife and my comrades, Unger and Trolin. We came on 10 September to New York. We then drew up a contract for the whole trip to Chicago and immediately paid it. From there we went on the 25th by steamship to Albany, and from there on the 26th by railway to Buffalo. And as soon as we arrived, our things were carried to the pier at the sea. I then showed my ticket showing payment for the entire trip to Chicago. At this, the bookkeeper uttered “We can’t go aboard the paddleboat with anything less than by adding two and a half dollars per man.” “We won’t do that,” our party said. Then I had to follow them, because of their limited means, and because we could not speak English. We thus went aboard a freight boat, pulled by a propeller, and were promised that we could complete the entire trip in five days. After coming aboard, I had the unusual sorrow of there meeting the so-called Olof Stenberg [Olle i Stenbo] and his party. I had just recently fled New York from his father and followers, and they could not go any other way. Sten-

Judikswalls Weckblad.

berg came by canal to Buffalo and of his party, three persons died and a girl was lost. I could never have imagined that I would find such misery into which we fell. After the promise of a 5-day trip, we provisioned for that time; but unfortunately this boat went into all harbors and became so overloaded that it went aground several times. On the 29th we left Buffalo and came into a harbor on the 6th of October, where we stayed three days to avoid bad weather. By then, the Erik Janssonists had been without bread for two days; and in that harbor it was very expensive, so that a pound of bread cost 20 Swedish *skillings*. There I provisioned for my little family.

But Olof Stenberg, in his cheapness, bought no bread, but meal (flour) and salt fish in its place, for these poor people who had placed in Stenberg's hands everything they owned. Those poor people had to be without bread for five days, during which time they had nothing more to eat than salt fish soup, porridge, and some potatoes. After the potatoes were boiled and served, they each got three potatoes and a bit of fish. Such misery and hunger among those people was hard to see and hear. I cannot express or describe the misery, sickness, and death which arose among those people. That the fearful cholera appeared aboard was doubtless a result of their eating salt food without bread, and that they in their thirst had to drink bad water.

Deaths increased so that their prophet himself questioned his faith, and went down into the hold, where he lay on the deck itself. The seamen tried to drive him out, but he didn't obey. There he stayed as the trip continued. His friends who were healthy went up and down, to avoid the disease, but were forced up on deck, so they had to walk, wander and lie on deck, day and night. The hardest to see was when they took

the dead at our feet up on deck, and threw them into the sea. During the last five days we were aboard, 22 died.

We arrived here in Milwaukee on 10 October, and still had a two-day trip remaining to Chicago according to our contract. But we still must thank the Lord that we arrived in a harbor where there were both doctors and medicine available, otherwise we would have died in misery. The poor Erik Janssonist people had prophesied that the Lord would destroy those of their party on the other side of the ocean, who had not accepted their teachings.

Among these Erik Janssonists was a man named (Per) Westberg, who said to me: "Follow along to Bishop Hill." I asked: "What will we do there?" He answered: "We will do the Lord's work in a new Jerusalem which shall be greater than in the time of Christ." The next day he sickened with cholera. Then I asked his son-in-law, Erik Mårtensson, how Westberg was doing. He answered: "He is sick." Then I replied: "But yesterday he prophesied that he would go and work in a new Jerusalem that would be greater than in the time of Christ. Let us understand how unwisely a person can think and speak. Don't you fear that it is against the Lord's will to go that way?" "No," he answered. "But we see well," I said, "that the Lord strikes with his cutting sword against you, and when you arrive in your desired harbor, he will destroy you." Erik Mårtensson replied: "If it is not the Lord's will, may he kill me;" which happened.

By this, we can understand that the Lord will destroy them. They were 158 persons when they left Sweden last spring. When we arrived here in Milwaukee, I was at a loss as to how I would avoid the sickness and get ashore, since it was late in the evening, (11:00); but I took a Norwegian with me who could speak English, and we got a seaman to row

me and my party ashore, where we found lodging. The next day we went back aboard to get our things back to our lodgings. By then Erik Trolin's baby son from Gäcksätter, who had been completely healthy when we left the evening before in our row-boat, died of cholera. That same evening, 10 persons in Stenberg's party died. A rumor spread in the city among the Swedes, Norwegians, and Danes there, that a ship had arrived with Swedes, of which nearly all were sick.

People thus came aboard and got everyone to the hospital, both sick and healthy. The captain and Stenberg were also threatened with legal action by the court, because they had burdened people with such a long voyage. The prophet Stenberg fled the city to Illinois with all the funds of his party. These people would thus have become completely without means, if the citizens of the city had not taken pity on them.

During the first days they were at the hospital, 10 persons a day died, and after 12 days had come to an end and the sickness subsided, there were only 73 persons remaining of the previously-mentioned 158. Thus, everyone can see into what misery we had fallen, what awful and sorrowful life awaited us in this foreign country among unknown people.

To be continued

The writer:

Per Ersson Högman was born at Hög 12 September 1811, and married Brita Månsdotter, born 1 March 1820 at Hög. They left their farm, Åsak nr. 4 on 4 April 1850, to emigrate with the Jonas Olsson party aboard the ship *Primus*.

Translation by John Norton,
Moline, IL.

Your link to your history!



NEW!

Now the Swedish Census database for 1910 has almost 2 million individuals to search for. More will be added soon.



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Military rolls for the allotment soldiers (*indelta soldater*) up to ca 1885. Several regiments are indexed on the company level.

One of the released prisoners in the SVAR prison records.



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News from the Swenson Center

The O. Fritiof Ander Lecture

The 22nd annual O. Fritiof Ander Lecture in Immigration History was presented on October 15, 2011. The lecture series is named in memory of Dr. O. Fritiof Ander, a longtime professor of history at Augustana College and a pioneer in the field of immigration history. This year it was given by Dr. Jennifer Eastman Attebery, professor of English and director of the Folklore Program at Idaho State University in Pocatello, Idaho.

Professor Attebery has been a leading student of Swedish-American history for a quarter of a century. Much of her work has focused on the Swedish-American community in the intermountain west, an area that has received relatively little scholarly attention so far. Her 2007 book *Up in the Rocky Mountains: Writing the Swedish Immigrant Experience* (University of Minnesota Press) [in SAG 2008:2 there is a review] made innovative use of the many letters that Swedish immigrants sent to relatives and friends back in Sweden.

Her current project focuses on how Swedish traditions were transplanted and transformed in the United States. Her Ander lecture, entitled "*Blending Celebrations in the Rockies: How Midsummer became American and Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Pioneer Day became Swedish,*" was an analysis of Swedish Midsummer celebrations in the Rocky Mountains, and how they interacted with and related to both mainstream American celebrations, such as the Fourth of July and the Mormon Pioneer Day.

A prominent visitor

On October 26, the Center and Augustana College were visited by Dr. Lars M. Andersson, senior lecturer in and head of the department of history at Uppsala University. From 2002-2006 he was the editor-in-chief of *Historisk Tidskrift*, the leading Swedish journal of history. His recent collection *Sverige och Nazityskland. Skuldfrågor och moraldebatt* (Stockholm: Dialogos, 2007) [*Sweden and Nazi Germany. Questions of Guilt*

and *Debates over Morality*] provides an overview of several decades of research among Swedish historians on Sweden and World War II.

Dr. Andersson was here to discuss new avenues of cooperation between Uppsala and Augustana, but also to give a lecture. An expert in Swedish modern history, his talk was called "*Sweden and World War II: Between the Allies and the Axis Powers*" and dealt with the dilemmas Sweden faced during World War II and how historians have analyzed them.

Dag Blanck

SALE!

Swedish Passenger Arrivals in U.S. Ports 1820-1850

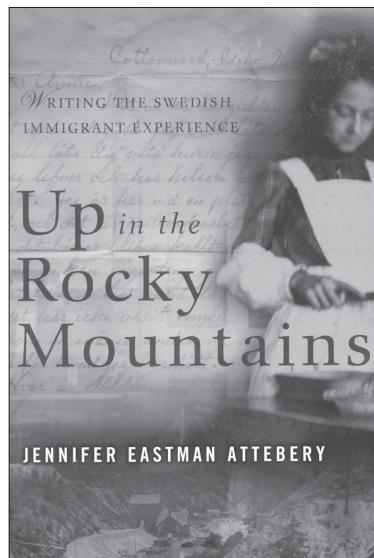
By Nils William Olsson and Erik Wikén (1995). 628 pages of Swedes, comments, and indexes.

\$35 + \$5 S&H

Contact Jill Seaholm at <jillseaholm@augustana.edu>



Dr. Jennifer Attebery.



Dr. Attebery's book.



Dr. Lars M. Andersson.

The Steelman / Stillman family of Rogberga

A Worcester family finds its Swedish roots

BY KAY SHELDON

The challenge for many of us is to locate the place in Sweden where our family lived before immigrating to North America. As the generations pass it can become more and more difficult to find a family member that remembers that small village's or parish's name. Added to that, the "Swedish" name has often become another lost memory.

After the creation of the Swedish databases, *Emibas*, and *Emigranten*, it has become easier to locate the parish if you have the correct name or birth date of your Swedish ancestor. Not that American sources should be overlooked, as we all know, ALL sources should be examined as we follow our family back in time.

How it started

A family, from the neighborhood I lived in during the 1950's & 1960s are members of our local historical society, and asked if I could help them find where in Sweden their family came from. Their name is Steelman, but they had no idea what their name may have been in Sweden. They had great information about their family in America, but not anything about Sweden.

The family knew that the grandfather was Carl August Steelman. Looking at the World War I draft registration for a Carl Steelman drew a blank. Time to look at the federal census.

An August C Steelman with a wife Agda E was living in Worcester, MA in 1930 in a Swedish neighborhood. They were paying \$30 a month for rent and he was working as a toolmaker in a machine shop. In 1930 both said they had been married for

31 years. August had arrived in America in 1892 and Agda said she arrived in 1895. Using the census data, Carl was born in 1871 and Agda in 1875. Three children, all born in Massachusetts, were living at home: C Edwin was 27, and was a clerk in a spring shop; Arthur H was 20, and was a clerk in an oil company; and George was 12. The census said August and Agda were naturalized citizens.

Checking on the 1920 census index, no August or Agda Steelman appeared, but Arthur H, son of Carl A and Olga (sic!) did. Checking the original sheet, Arthur's siblings were listed, more than on the 1930 census, and with a slight variation of the names. August C is now Carl A but he is still a toolmaker and Agda E is Olga E, C Edwin is Carl E. Arthur H

is still Arthur H, but George is now George R, and two more children are named, Edith S age 20, and Philip E 15.

The 1910 census has Carl A and Agda A, still in the same neighborhood with the four oldest children, but Carl Edwin is now Edwin C. Carl says he came in 1882 and Agda in 1886, and they had been married for 12 years.

On the 1900 census Agda and Agust (sic!), still living on Belmont hill in Worcester, say they have been married for two years and have one child, Edith. August says he is 29 years old, but was born in Feb. 1881! I think the enumerator subtracted wrong. It seems that Carl August was no longer being called August and perhaps Agda E is an example of the census enumerator confusing names



Front row: Agda, Arthur H, and Carl August. Back row: Philip, Edith, George, and Carl Edwin Steelman.

June Worcester	11	June 25	August J. Hamson Amelia Swenson	Worcester	25 22	Diehramer Domestic	Sweden "	John + Louisa Carlsson Andrew + Bengta Carlsson
"	18	" 25	Gustaf Hammar Elinor Allstrom	"	33 24	Carpenter Domestic	"	Carl E + Johanna J. Larsson Lars H + Maria Larsson
"	24	" 25	Carl A. Steelman Agda E. Anderson	"	27 24	Wireworker Domestic	"	Carl Stillman + Johanna Anders Klang + Maria

The Massachusetts Marriage records on FamilySearch.org.

Olga and Agda, and copied it over incorrectly). Agda says she was 26 born in June which would be 1873. The census was supposed to show your information as of 1 June 1900, but Agda had her birthday on the 7th, and when the enumerator came by on the 13th or 14th she gave her current age. So instead of becoming 27 in June and therefore being born in 1873, she was 26, and born in 1874.

Who was Agda?

It is time to see if we can find Agda's maiden name. *Familysearch.org* has the Massachusetts Vital records until 1915 available at no cost or if you are a member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, or your library has a membership, you can check for the births of the children and the marriage of Carl and Agda.

Carl A Steelman and Agda E Anderson were married 24 June 1898 in Worcester by Rev. Nels Eagle. His father is listed as Carl Stillman and his mother as Sophia Swenson! At last some new names. Agda's parents are listed as Anders Klang and Maria Johanson. The groom is a wireworker, and the bride a domestic.

On to Swedish records

Using the *Emibas* database, Carl August Stillman, born 26 Feb 1871 in Månsarp, Jönköping, left Rogberga, Jönköping 7 March 1892 for Norra Amerika (North America.) After checking everything but his naturalization papers we seem to have found the family name.

So that you don't think we may have missed something, Carl August had a brother living in Worcester, John Theodore Steelman. A check of

his World War I and II draft cards showed only his Steelman name and birthday. No place of birth on the WWI card and "Jankapning" on the WW II card.

Checking for a John Theodore Stillman born on 19 September 1881 on *Emibas* was the next step to confirm that Carl August had a brother named John Theodore Stillman. Sure enough, John Tedor Stillman Karlsson is listed. Born in Rogberga, the same parish Carl August left to come to America. Both Carl August and John say they are coming to Worcester on the *Emigranten* database.

Emibas indicates that his leaving is found on page 400 of the Rogberga clerical survey.

You can look at these records at a Family History Branch Library or by subscribing to one of the services, SVAR, Genline, or Arkiv Digital.

Page 400 of the AI:17 *husförhörlängd* of Rogberga lists Carl August's family. He is crossed out because he had left for America. Below Carl Au-

gust is Jon Theodor, born 1881 Sep. 19 in Rogberga. The brother who will be John Theodore, John Tedor, John Therdor, or John T Steelman in Worcester.

Carl August's parents were not married at the time of his birth. His mother is Sofia Svensdotter, born 4 Jan 1850 in Månsarp, but was living in Rogberga, although she gave birth in Månsarp. Carl August's parents were in the same household in 1870, and when his mother moved to Jönköping in 1876 he went to live with his father's parents and was called Carl August Carlsson until his parents married in 1880. Only at his birth was he called illegitimate.

Carl Svensson Stillman's parents, Sven Jonasson Stillman and his wife, Maja Lisa Esaiadotter were both in their sixties when young Carl August came to them in 1876. Sven Jonasson Stillman was born in Rogberga 10 July 1810 and his wife Maja Lisa Esaiadotter was born 20 Jan 1811 in Ödestugu.

Personernas namn, stånd, embete, yrke och näringsfång, (backstugu, in- hyses- och fattighjon), nationalitet (om främmande), lyten (svagsinta, blinda, döfstumma).		Födelse-		Äktenskap.		Hittflyttad		Ödd.	
år.	mån. och dag.	ort, (socken i län, stad).	år.	mån. och dag.	Gift. Ektl. eller enka.	från (socken i län, stad eller patria i husför- hörsboken).	år. månad o. dag.	år. månad o. dag.	Ödd.
47	26	Rogberga	80	7	✓				
2.	50	Månsarp			✓				
3.	71	Jö.			✓				
4.	81	Rogberga			✓				
5.	84	Jö.			✓				
6.	87	Jö.			✓				
7.	90	Jö.			✓				
8.	22	"			✓				
9.	90	"							
10.									

Rogberga clerical survey AI:17, p. 400 [1892-1896]. Picture from ArkivDigital.

Married in 1834, Sven and Maja Lisa had at least seven children shown in the Rogberga *husförhållning* AI:11 p. 176. Two children, *Maja Lena* and *Johan*, came to America before Sven and Maja Lisa's grandsons Carl August and John Theodor.

Daughter Maja Lena, b. 1845 Apr. 9 in Rogberga, was married to Johan Johansson, b. 1840 June 26 in Stenårdshult (Jönk.), a master builder. They emigrated with their six children from Öggestorp, (Jönk.), and left the port of Göteborg on 1881 Sep. 2 with tickets for New York.

Son Johan, b. 1842 June 17 in Rogberga, emigrated already in 1869 April 30 from Våeryd in Rogberga to Chicago by way of the port of Göteborg.

What about Agda?

According from information from the *Emibas* and the marriage record, she was born 1874 June 7 in Forserum (Jönk.) and her parents were Anders

1874 års Födelse- och Dop-Bok										
Husförhållningens nummer	Födelse-		Döpnings-		Kön.	Dopnamn.	Föräldrarnes		Tillhör. Afd.	
	Månad.	dag.	Månad.	dag.			M.	Q.		Navn, stånd, embete, yrke, nationalitet och trosbekännelse (om främmande) samt stället för nedkomsten (om ej i hemorten).
	10	Juni	7	Juni	7	2	Agda Ulida.	Soldaten Anders Klang, Gunnarstorp S. 7.	Hu. Maja Katarina Johansdotter j. 1849.	

Forserum Birth Records 1874 [Forserum CI:4 1861–1895, ArkivDigital].

Klang and Maria Johansdotter.

When checking the Forserum birth records this was found to be right. Agda's father was a soldier and the family lived in the soldier's cottage #111 on Gunnestorp lands. Anders was a soldier for the Life Company of the Jönköping Infantry Regiment. He was born 1848 Aug. 24 in Forserum, and his wife Maja Katarina Johansdotter was born 1849 Nov. in Lekeryd (Jönk.).

Daughter Agda left her home at a

fairly young age as she is shown in the *Emibas* to have emigrated 1895 April 20 from Jönköping Sofia parish in Jönköping city.

The author:

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 E-mail:
 <kaysheldon@yahoo.com>

This article was first published in the SARA Newsletter of Oct. 2011.

Arson destroys a Minnesota Heritage Center

The *Isanti County Heritage Center, Cambridge, (ICHS) MN*, was destroyed on 2011 July 8, after being set on fire. Despite the fire department's best effort, the building was completely demolished. The archival room suffered the greatest damage and over 70% of the society's archives were lost.

This deed was done by an arsonist, and there have been other unexplained fires in the neighborhood.

The ICHS was started in 1964 and now has about 200 members.

The Heritage Center building, which was built in 2003, was designed by former board member Gunilla Hill and resembles a Swedish farmstead. It is located on 5 acres in the northwest corner of the Isanti County Fairgrounds. The center was built specifically to house the Isanti County Historical Society collections and historical records. It also served as a



Before the fire.



After the fire.

meeting place for all interested in the history of the country and state.

What the ICHS needs most now is money, to buy archival supplies and many other needed things. There are possibilities to donate on their web site!

When the ICHS has a new home they will need donations of many items, books, documents, photos and much more. There is a form on their web site which you can use to tell what you want to donate when they



Some things left of the collections.

are ready to accept things. But money is the priority now.

(Photos from the ICHS website).

Isanti County Historical Society: <http://www.ichs.ws/index.html>

The Kensington Stone again

Were the Old Swedes in Minnesota in the 1300s? An expert says No!

BY HENRIK WILLIAMS

In the *Swedish American Genealogist* 2010:3–4, Dennis L. Johnson wrote a review of Scott F. Wolter's 2009 book on the Kensington Rune-stone, *The Hooked X: Key to the Secret History of North America*. Scott Wolter in his book claims to have found conclusive evidence that the Kensington Runestone (KRS) is genuine, meaning that it was really inscribed in 1362 as its runic text claims. The contents of *The Hooked X* also plays a major role in the recent History Channel “documentary” *Holy Grail in America* (available on YouTube). Are we to believe in this?

Mr. Johnson's attitude is: “The book as a whole *offers strong support* (my italics) for the authenticity of the Kensington stone, although many questions remain. [—] Many [...] connections seem a little far-reaching, others make sense at least to this lay reader.”

As a non-lay reader I have found the exact opposite, and in my own review of the book (see <http://www.richardnielsen.org/Discussion.html>) I have gone into some detail why almost not a single crucial fact and no conclusions may be trusted in *The Hooked X*. For a full discussion, I refer the readers of this note to my review.

The problem with fantastic books is that the ideas they propound may *sound* alluring, but solving a scientific problem takes a scientific approach, if not necessarily a professional scientist. Scott Wolter is not a scientist and he refuses to adhere to scientific methods. His approach seems to be “Saying so makes it so,” the opposite of what most people

demand when asking to be convinced in their everyday lives.

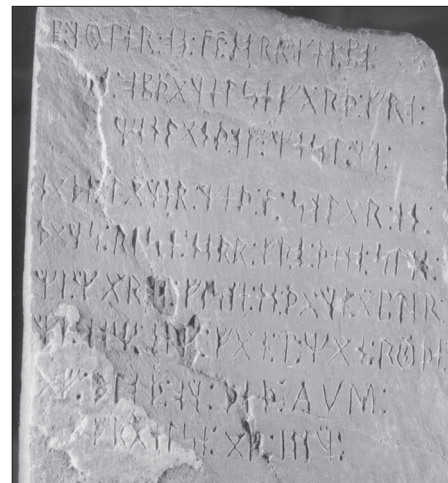
You can read *The Hooked X* for fun if you wish (I personally find it badly written and worse argued) but do not for a moment let yourself be taken in by Wolter's wild claims.

The idea of the book is that the X with a small hook on the KRS and other objects with rune-like characters in the U.S. prove that Cistercian monks visited North America in the Middle Ages. This idea was originally proposed by Dr. Richard Nielsen, who has since abandoned it and disassociated himself completely from his former partner. Wolter himself imagines that the hooked X represents the Holy Grail, that is the child resulting from the supposed union of Christ and Mary Magdalene (a rip-off of Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code*). On the KRS, four letters are said to be to spell out ‘grail’, but this is pure fantasy and the word for *grail* does not even exist in Old East Scandinavian, the supposed language of the KRS text. Wolter also claims that there are hooked X:s found on the Swedish island of Gotland in the 14th century. “This was unknown to previous experts since they are traced to a newly discovered trove of runic inscriptions found on Gotland in the last decade,” writes Mr. Johnson in his review. But there is no such new trove, nor is the hooked X found in any truly medieval or older runic inscriptions, anywhere.

Scott Wolter's main claim to fame is that he as a petrographic technician has developed a method to date inscriptions on stone through the degradation of certain minerals in

the carved lines. This was first welcomed as an interesting proposal, but subsequent (serious) research has failed to confirm his results. Not a single geologist or petrographer has in a scientific context supported Wolter, although he repeatedly claims that to be the case (without providing any supporting documentation).

It is sad to see that Scott Wolter's cock-and-bull story has become so widespread, and accepted as factual by so many unsuspecting individuals. I would not want the readers of the *Swedish American Genealogist* to be among them.



The stone in question.

The author

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News: There is an interesting follow-up in the *Swedish-American Historical Quarterly* July/2011!

Those mysterious words

– what do they mean? Part 5

Church book Latin

Latin was the language that young men, wanting to become clergymen, started to learn as soon as they started school. Latin was the language of the learned world, and could be used anywhere in Europe during foreign travels.

For a clergyman in Sweden during the 1600s and 1700s it was often more natural to write the church records in Latin than in Swedish, so there are some words that a genealogist should be familiar with:

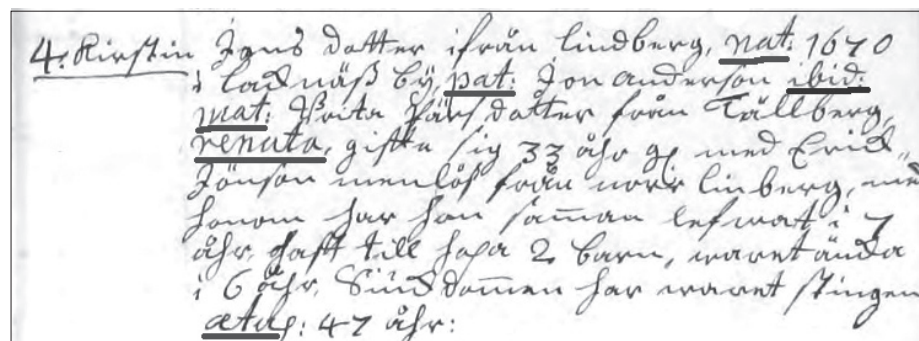
Absens	absent
Absolved (abs.)	forgiven, pardoned
Adm.	admitted
Aetas	age
Ancilla	maid
Ante	before
Antecessor	predecessor
Ante nuptias	before marriage
Anno Domini	in the year of the Lord
Avunculus	uncle
Baptizati	baptized
Cathecumeni	children going to confirmation lessons
Charta Sigillata	stamped paper
Coena Domini	Holy Communion
Conjugati	married
Conjux	husband, wife
Copulati	married
Cum	with
Deflorata	no longer a virgin
Denati	dead
Dies	day
Dominica (Dom.)	Sunday
Ebriatus	drunk
Ejusdem	in the same month
Eodem die	same day
Et	and
Ex officio	on behalf of an official agency

Faber	blacksmith
Frater	brother
Furtus	thief
Gemini	twins
Hoc loco	in this place
Hujus	in this month
Ibidem (ibm.)	in the same place
Infans	child
Infra	below
In loco	in this place
Item	likewise
Liber	children
Literatus	can read
Locus Sigillus (L.S)	place of seal
Mater (Mat.)	mother
Matrimonio	marriage
Mensis	month
Mortuus	dead
Natus (Nat.)	born
Obitus	death
Oratio Dominica	The Lord's Prayer
Pater (Pat.)	father
Pastor Loci (P.L.)	the local clergyman
Pupillus, -illa	orphan
Rediit	returned
Renatus	baptized

Scholaris	school boy
Sepulti	buried
Soror	sister
Spiritus Sancti	Holy Spirit
Spuria	illegitimate girl
Spurius	illegitimate boy
Successor	successor
Supra	above
Susceptrix (susc.)	The woman who carried the baby at baptism
Testes	witnesses at baptism
Tumulus	grave
Tutor	teacher
Ut supra	as above
Uxor	wife
Vidua	widow
Vir	man

One has to remember that the *female* form of a word ends in **-a**.

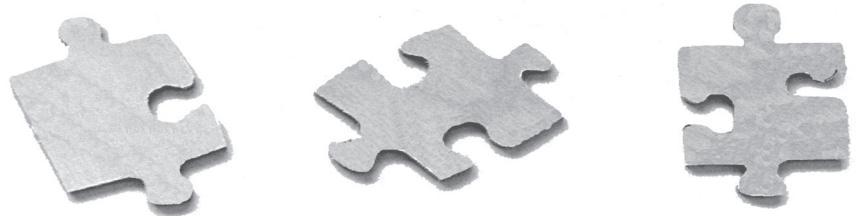
The clergymen often made little remarks in Latin when they wanted to write something bad about someone, like “being always drunk,” “accused of stealing,” etc.



Here is a death notice from the death book from Leksand in 1717 [Leksand F:4, p. 75, AD Online), with the Latin words underlined. The text is:

#4. Kirstin Jonsdotter ifrån Lindberg, nat: 1670 i Laknäss by, pat: Jon Andersson ibid: mat: Brita Pärs dotter från Tällberg, renata, gifte sig 33 åhr gl. med Erik Jönsson Menlös från Norr Lindberg, med honom har hon samman lefwat i 7 åhr, haft till hoga 2 barn, warit änka i 6 åhr. Siukdomen har warit stingen, ætas: 47 åhr:

Bits & Pieces



Ancestry.com adds more than 50 million new birth, marriage, and death records

Ancestry.com has added 53 new historical vital record collections to its nearly half a billion U.S. vital records. The new additions encompass now 23 states, and includes more than 50 million historical records dating from the 1600s (some of the oldest U.S. records available) through 2010. They have been made available through partnerships with state and local archives, county offices, and newspapers. (*Link on p. 29*)

(*Nu? What's New. 2011 Nov.6*)

Kingsburg Swedish Center

Kingsburg in California has a strong Swedish heritage, and now there will be a Swedish Center on the premises of the Stockholm Bakery. The owner of the bakery, Jann Coles, has plans to have lectures in Swedish, exhibitions about the Swedish immigrants, and much more.

Contact her at
<stockholmbakery@gmail.com>
(*The Bridge 2011/3*)

EmiWeb now has Mormons too

The subscription database *EmiWeb* adds new databases all the time to their site.

Now they have added some 27,000 Mormon immigrants from Scandinavia, in a joint effort with Family-Search.org for the period of 1853–1920.

There is also a new database of about 4,000 Swedes in Alaska, with birth dates for most of them and when they came there, etc.

(*Link on page 29*).

A major grant to SweAme

The *Swedish America Heritage Online* organization [SweAme] (*see next page*) has received a major grant from the Barbro Osher “Pro Suecia Foundation.” This grant makes it possible for SweAme to continue the work entering all Swedes in the 1900 U.S. federal census for Maine and California in their database.

(*E-mail 20011 Nov. 14 from David Borg*).

Social Security Administration extends FOIA restriction to 100 years

Unfortunately, it's now official. I have been ordering Social Security applications for several decades, and have found them especially valuable over the last decade for assisting with my Army cases. A few years ago, I noticed that they were starting to block out names of parents on the applications – which is very unfortunate since that's the primary reason for ordering them. Still, the restriction seemed to pertain to applications for those born from 1940 or so on, and the explanation was that their parents could still be alive. So though I wasn't keen on it, I could understand the logic.

But recently – without any announcement – the Administration extended the restriction to 100 years – that is, 100 years from the birth of the applicant, so you can now only obtain this record in an unaltered state for those born prior to 1912.

(*Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak's Roots World 2011 Nov. 17*). *Link on p. 29*.

New U.S. ambassador to Sweden 2011 Oct. 3

The U.S. Embassy in Stockholm announced that *Mark Francis Brzezinski*, currently a specialized partner in anti-corruption law at McGuireWoods, has been chosen by President Obama as the new U.S. ambassador to Sweden.

Mr. Brzezinski has experience, both as a Director on the National Security Council and as an attorney at Hogan & Hartson. He has close ties to Eastern Europe from his time at the National Security Council, working mostly with the Balkans, Russia, Eurasia, and Southeast Europe, and from working in Poland as a Fulbright Scholar in the early stages of his career.

(<http://sacc-usa.org/>)

Swedish Bridge Conference in 2012

The dates are now fixed for the next Swedish Bridge Conference, which will be held in Karlstad 12–15 September 2012. The conference will be a joint arrangement with the Sweden America Center, Swedish Council of America, Karlstad City, The Swedish Federation of Genealogical Societies, University of Karlstad, and Vasa Order of America.

More information will follow when the plans have been fixed.

(*The Bridge 2011/3*)

70 years' privacy is enough

The Swedish National Archives (*Riksarkivet*) has changed the privacy rules, and decided that 70 years is enough. This means that many of the volumes of church records that end before 1940 may now be scanned and available on the SVAR website.

(*SVAR website 2011 Nov. 14*).

Swedish America Heritage Online (SweAme)

The new frontier in family genealogy research

BY DAVID BORG

Why a new organization?

Do you remember how it was when you got started – learning about your family history? You had heard that one of your aunts had put together a book many years ago. But, whatever happened to it? To make things worse, she was deceased, as also were most if not all of her siblings and other family old-timers. Back in those old days (pre-Internet) those issues (and others) imposed a difficult problem for getting started with researching and documenting your ancestors. It was all a very manually intensive and paper-oriented process.

In my case, my mother (Thelma Carlson Borg, who lived in Williamson County, Texas) had been the one who documented her family tree and helped me understand a few research techniques. But, it required a lot of family communication and waiting for the return of snail mail letters which was not efficient and was not very exciting to me.

We who do family research in Texas had one of the most important Swedish American family documents (in my opinion) that has ever been published. In the 1910s, our fellow Swedish cousins (so to speak – most were immigrants themselves) joined together and worked on a very significant project of collecting family information on more than 1,200 immigrant families. The result was a book *Svenskarne i Texas i ord och bild*, which was published in Swedish in 1918 and later translated into English, in 1994. This was great for all of

us “Johnnies come lately” to the genealogy research table, but the book was not well distributed due to its hardbound nature and limited publication. So, what could we do to help? How can we share this wealth of Swedish Texas information with new generations of researchers who also did not know that the book ever existed?

The internet explosion

Of course, the solution came to us as the Internet. To start with, we scanned the book and made it available online. But, we also utilized a genealogy software package that allows connecting families together without duplicating records. The Internet and software not only present the information online to anyone anywhere, but it also allows Registered Users the chance to make their own updates and additions to their records at no cost.

That was the easy part. We next realized that by looking at the U.S. census records, the original *Swedes In Texas* book only included about 25% of the total Swedish-born Texans in the 1900 census records. Would it not be of help and value to document online the other known 75% of the Swedes in Texas? No problem. It took us 3 years but now the families of all Texas Swedish immigrants are documented online as part of our SweAme website data base.

Our next thought was - why stop there? Why not include the data for all Swedish immigrants to America? The census records as viewed via

ancestry.com indicated that there were nearly 600,000 Swedish-born individuals living in the U.S. in the year 1900. No problem. Wait, let's think about that. In calculating the keying time for 600,000 individuals and their families, it was estimated to require one person 100 years - not very good. But, that also means that it will only take 100 people one year to complete the effort – that's not bad. That's a doable project. So, how can we do that?

Starting a new organization

It became obvious that we would need a lot of help. We would also need a nonprofit organization that could request and receive funds from donors and funding institutions who were interested in supporting online Swedish American projects. We would need an organization that could maintain a website that would be available for access to everyone at any time for no fee.

We therefore merged the original Swedes In Texas data into a new website called *SweAme* (link on p. 29) In October, 2010, we completed the process of becoming a nonprofit in the State of Missouri. In February, 2011, we received our 501(c)(3) status letter from the Internal Revenue Service.

This was accomplished with the help of an all-volunteer management team scattered from New Jersey to Arizona: Doug Anderson, Lissa Bengtson, Larry Blomquist, Elin Criswell, Jason Eckhardt, and Pam

Hicks. This year John Norton (2010 Swedish American of the Year) has joined our team as an organization advisor.

The SweAme organization has no assets and no overhead expenses. All organizational and technical expenses are covered by management donations. One hundred percent of all other donations are paid to the Registered Users who are performing the keying of the records to the online data base.

Growing an organization

We are now in our 5th year with this project and we are nearing the 120,000 records mark for individuals. Our current data base documents only about 25,000 Swedish immigrants. The other individuals are ancestors and descendants of the immigrants, from data that has been contributed by our 640-plus Registered Users on both sides of the Atlantic. These numbers change daily as ongoing efforts continue.

Our vision for SweAme is more than genealogy and connecting family trees together. It is a strong vision of preserving our past and present for future generations. Anything that can be captured by a digital camera can become an artifact image on the SweAme website. In addition, the item can be linked directly to a person or family which then becomes part of their family digital records.

The SweAme website has already demonstrated one of its key benefits – that is – connecting living cousins together from the different sides of the immigrant bridge. And, by expanding the scope to include all America, immigrants once lost by misspelled names and unknown locations, SweAme can now greatly increase the odds of a successful search for a “lost” ancestor.

The SweAme website data base is hosted on a modern and always transitioning technological platform that will evolve into future platforms and processes. The benefits of SweAme will continue to be enjoyed by many generations in the future.

Funding and current status

Our overall funding objective is to solicit funds from as many sources as can be identified. These sources include foundations, public organizations and individuals who have an interest in promoting the preservation of our common Swedish American heritage.

Swedish Council of America has become our first major contributor. For more detail you can visit our Contributors and Donors page (link on p. 29).

The funds awarded SweAme will be utilized to compensate individuals working from their homes (from anywhere in the world) who will:

- ◆ view selected online U.S. Census records,
- ◆ access the SweAme website, and
- ◆ update the data base utilizing The Next Generation (TNG) genealogy software.

At this point in time, SweAme has accumulated over:

- ◆ 91,000 Individuals (immigrants, family members and descendants)
- ◆ 23,000 Family units
- ◆ 16,000 Media documents (histories, photos, headstones, etc.)
- ◆ 560 Registered Users

The Swedish immigrants (from the 1900 census) have now been documented for the following geographic areas:

Alabama
Arkansas
Arizona
Delaware
District of Columbia
Florida
Georgia
Hawaii
Indian Territory
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maryland
Mississippi
Missouri
Nevada
New Mexico
North Carolina
Oklahoma
South Carolina
Tennessee
Texas
Vermont
Virginia
West Virginia

We have a very long ways to go to reach our primary objective, we can get there one step at a time – or, so to speak – one immigrant at a time.

If you are interested in contributing to the SweAme organization, please contact us via our website or send us an email:

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A Swedish shop in Elgin, Texas. Picture from Amerikabreven, by Otto Rob. Landelius (1957).

Life in the dugout

An eyewitness account of life in a dugout during the latter 1880s has been found

BY JOHN INGMAN, LENA KARLSSON AND
ELISABETH THORSELL

An older gentleman named John Ingman sent me some time ago a little booklet, called *Familjen Strand och deras jordkula i Målaskog* (The Strand family and their dugout in Målaskog), which was very interesting. John and a friend of his, Lena Karlsson, had produced this booklet to preserve the history of the Strand family and their home, a type of dwelling that disappeared, maybe as early as the later 1800s.

The people that lived there were *Israel Strand*, b. 1821 Nov. 21 in the soldier's cottage Långö in Agunnaryd parish in Sunnerbo härad (legal district) of Kronoberg's län, and his wife *Ulla Isaksdotter* and their children.

Israel's father was the soldier Göran Löfgren, and his mother was Catharina Carlsdotter. Göran (also recorded with a few other first names, Anders, Johan, etc.) was born in 1791 in Voxtorp, (Jönk.), and died 1861 Jan. 19 in the Agunnaryd poorhouse, where also some of his children lived at the same time. Catharina Carlsdotter was born 1788 in Agunnaryd, and died in 1839 Feb. 8 in a dugout on the lands of Stavhult Söd-ergård, also in Agunnaryd.

This was a family with many problems. In 1825 Nov. 18 Göran was sentenced to a year of hard labor in prison, at the fortress of Kristianstad, for *hemfridsbrott* (unlawful entering of a person's residence). When he came back he had lost his job as a soldier, left the family, and lived on his own ever after. His wife was sentenced to a fine and to be secretly

admonished by the parish clergyman in November 1828 by the Sunnerbo *Häradsrätt* (Legal district). Her crime? She had committed double adultery, a crime which in older times could have lead to execution.

Israel stayed on as a farmhand in Agunnaryd until 1841, when he became an enlisted artillery soldier at the Vendes Artillery Regiment in Kristianstad. He was then given the soldier's name of *Strand*, instead of his Göransson patronymic. He was an artilleryman for 10 years and returned to his home area and settled as a *torpare* (sharecropper) at Västrahult in Ryssby parish (Kron.).

In 1852 Dec. 3 he married Ulrika (*Ulla*) Isaksdotter, born 1826 Oct. 15 in Ryssby, and then they moved almost at once to the farm Kristians-torp, also in Ryssby, where Israel was a farmhand. Their two first children were born there; Peter Johan August, (b. 1854 Aug.17) and Stina Cajsa, (b. 1857 Mar. 26). Then something happened, unclear what, but from 1858 Israel and family are recorded at "the end of the parish" (*socknens slut*) and then as *försvarslösa* (without proper employment), and exactly where they lived is not recorded. During this period son Carl Gustaf is born 1860 Feb. 13. Later in 1860 they moved to a dug-out on the Thorsagård Östergård lands, and in 1862 they moved to their own dugout on Östraby Jeppagård lands, where they lived for many years. The youngest child is born there, son Ola Magni, born 1864 Feb.4.

From now on they did not move anywhere else. Son Peter died of a cold in 1869 Sep.22. Ulla's sister Anna Isaksdotter moved in with the family in 1869. She was ill and died already in 1871. The other children grew up and left home, but Israel and Ulla stayed until they could not cope any longer by themselves and had to move to the parish poorhouse.

This happened in 1904, and then Ulla died in 1912 Feb.22 at age 85, and Israel followed her in 1915 July 17, at age 94.

There were no new people that moved into their dugout, and it became the property of the parish poor board and was sold to someone for 5 *kronor* (about \$1), but nobody lived there any longer and it fell soon into disrepair.

In the 1930 an ethnologist travelled in the area, and noticed a painting of the Strand dugout and started to do some research on it, and finally located Gustaf Kling, who as a child had been a neighbor of the Strands and remembered them well. His memories of the Strand dugout and its inhabitants follows below.

Some local group decided in the 1950s to build a reconstruction of the dug-out, which was finished 1962 with furniture of the appropriate kind. There were organizational problems and the dugout fell into disrepair again. But in 1999 the local inhabitants' society, *Målaskogs Bygdeförening*, rebuilt it again, and it is now open to the public during the summer.

([Link on p. 29](#)).



This is a reconstruction of the Strand dugout.

Gustaf Kling's memories of the Strand dugout

In Ulla's garden

Around the house Ulla has planted all kinds of flowers, lilies and herbs of many kinds. She has lavender, sage, *isop* (hyssop) and *åbrodd* (southernwood), and they all compete to smell the sweetest.

Between the dugout and the lake there is a small vegetable garden, where Ulla mostly grows *bondbönor* (broad beans), and she cooks a delicious bean porridge of them.

A rowan tree stands before the dugout, it gives nice berries, that you

let get a little frost bite before picking them. She dries them and saves them for the winter.

Down by the lake is Israel's rowing boat, that he calls "The Ship".

We see the dugout from outside

The dugout has a hallway (*farstu*). Birch bark, soil and moss covers the roof. As a further protection Israel has also put on some boards.

At the back and along the walls we see windows that reach down to the ground. The glass is green and mounted with lead. The windows at the back are larger than those on other walls.

The chimney is built of rocks, that are above ground.

The dugout only has one room

The only room is both the kitchen and the daily room (*dagligstuga*). To the right is the stove with its cooking pots and the kitchen tools. In the big chimney you can see a door to the baking oven. The cat sleeps in a little space besides the stove.

When looking to the left we see a wooden cupboard where they keep household implements and food. A little wooden barrel, that used to hold snuff, is now the family water supply. It stands right below the window.

They fetched water from the lake.

At the furthest end is a bed made of simple boards; that is where the children sleep.

Under the window at the end of the room you will see a big oaken chest, where they keep their clothes.

We go inside

In the hallway fishing tackle and firewood are kept. There also the “*stopp*” is kept; it is a long pole of wood, and in one end there are some pieces of boards surrounded by rags. There is no *spjäll* (damper) in the stove, so instead the “*stopp*” is put up the chimney from the inside, when there is no fire in the stove.

The door into the room is just 5 feet high, so you have to bow to be able to enter the room. This is rather dark. The ceiling is black from soot. The floor is stamped earth and is also dark. The walls are a little lighter, especially the parts made of wood.

The dugout only has one room

The chest is also used as a bench. In front of it is a small table. The clock of the house hangs on the wall to the right of the chest.

To the right is the bed for the parents; it is nicer than the children’s and has some carvings on the headboard.

On the floor are three stools, one of them has a *ryggstöd* (back support). To the right of the stove there is a box on which Ulla puts her spinning wheel when it is not in use. The wheel of the spinning wheel will then reach the ceiling.

Gustaf Kling tells more

In this dwelling Israel Strand and his wife raised their children and sometimes also had other people living with them.

Nowhere else could you find such a comfortable feeling as in this simple abode.

You could sometimes see Ulla and Israel sit outside, looking over the lake, and talking about old times.

Ulla did not like the train that passed close by her home. She used

to shake her fist at it sometimes. Her children had used the train to leave home.

One day the doctor came for a visit to the dugout. He sits on the chest and is writing a prescription. Then Ulla came over and poured snuff on his writing. The doctor asked what on earth she was doing, and she just said “I am drying it”. (In the old days one used to pour fine sand on ink writings to dry the ink, and she just used snuff instead.)

Another day a clergyman came for a visit and remarked, after seeing the earthen floor, “Well, here you will not have draught on the floor”.

That the old people – Israel and Ulla Strand – loved their simple home, where they had lived for many years and raised their children perhaps I understood best when I witnessed the agony of them when they were taken by force from their dugout and transported to the Ryssby Poor House. Ulla, especially found it difficult to leave her dear place by the forest and the lake.

This was the end of the Gustaf Kling story.

Some other thoughts on the Strand family’s living conditions

Heating and cooking

The most important source of heating was the stove. They were probably allowed to collect firewood from the surrounding forest. The only condition was to not harm valuable trees.

In a crowded dugout the warmth of human bodies was also important. The thick walls gave good insulation, so they kept warm during the nights. During hot summer days they probably felt cool inside. All cooking was done in three-legged pots, or in pots put on three-legged stands.

Water, hygiene and the washing of clothes

They used the water from Lake Tjurken, which was clean and not dangerous to use for cooking or washing. They only had to be careful so they

did not wash themselves or any clothes near the place for fetching water. We do not know if they bathed or swam in the lake, as not many could swim in the old days. In the summer it was easy to keep yourself and your clothes clean. It was more difficult in the winter when the lake froze.

Toilets

It is not certain that they had an outdoors toilet (*dass*). Many people that lived in such simple dwellings had a latrine behind the abode. It was a hole dug under a pole, mounted between two trees, not so comfortable but useful. There was no toilet paper, so you had to use moss or leaves. Inside the dugout they probably had a chamber pot for nightly needs.

Beds and bedding

Gustaf Kling told that there were two beds in the dugout. Ulla and Israel slept in one bed and the children in another. Even if people had to sleep *skavfötters* (some persons in the same bed laid their heads in one end of the bed, and other persons laid their heads in the other end), the sleeping places were probably not enough for all of them, so some had to sleep on the floor. You would then make beds of spruce branches or straw. In the beds you had mattresses filled with straw or fern leaves.

If you had a sheet it was a bottom sheet; upper sheets were most uncommon. Comforters could be filled with sheep’s wool. There were no pajamas, people slept in their underwear. The bedding for those sleeping on the floor was put in the beds by day.

The keeping of clothes

Clothes were always a problem, perhaps you only had what was used every day. If you had some nice clothes they were usually kept in a chest, into which you also put fragrant flowers to keep the clothes smelling nicely.

Light indoors

The custom was to sit in front of the

fireplace and work or read. Kerosene lamps could be bought, but they were expensive as was the kerosene. Readymade candles of wax or candle-grease were also expensive to buy. If Ulla was to use a kerosene lamp or a bought candle for her work at the spinning wheel, then the outlay for light would be more than what she earned for her work.

Another way to get light indoors was to fix splinters of wood on the wall.

It was possible to buy matches. They were made with sulphur that you could light by pulling them along your pants. There was some phosphorus in them and they were poisonous.

Could they read and write?

In 1842 there was a new law instituted that obliged the parishes to start schools. All children had to go to school.

It is not certain that Ulla and Israel had gone to any school in their home parishes. But it is certain that Israel got a good education to become an artilleryman. The artillery regiments were known to give their soldiers good schooling, especially in mathematics.

The Strand children on the other

hand went to school. In 1860 the first school in the Målaskog area was built. It was situated some 400 yards west of the Målaskog railway station, just north of the railroad. This was not so far for the children to go.

Fishing and hunting

Gustaf Klang told that Israel had an *eka* (a skiff) and that there was fishing tackle in the hallway, so one understand that Israel used to fish in the lake. There were many fish in Lake Tjurken and it was important for the household. The children also became good fishermen.

There is nothing that tells if Israel had a gun or took part in any hunting. That he could shoot is certain.

Berry picking

There was an abundance of berries in the forest. They were used both to sell and for their own use. Especially unsweetened lingonberries were easy to keep during the winter.

The rowan tree in front of the dugout gave a good crop of vitamin-rich berries.

Going to church and examination

You had to go to church and take com-

munion at least once a year. Otherwise, we know nothing about the Strand family's religious status.

You also had to go to the household examination once a year. Then you had to show if you were able to read, and know your religion, especially the Ten Commandments.

The children that were to take confirmation lessons were recorded at the examinations. These took place usually at Holborna, the nearest big farm.

Sources:

Familjen Strand och deras jordkula i Målaskog, by Lena Karlsson and John Ingman.

Church records of Agunnaryd:

AI:15, p. 15, 105, 84, 209, 413; AI:6, p. 88, 74; AI:7, p. 90, 74; AI:8, p. 85; AI:9, p. 81; AI:10, p. 87; AI:11, p. 262.

Church records of Ryssby:

AI:13, p. 339; AI:14, p. 624, 617, 29; AI:15, p. 379. CI:7; p. 131.

(All church records from Arkiv Digital (AD Online)).



This map shows the area between Ljungby and Växjö in Kronoberg län. The Strand dugout was close to Målaskog, which is marked with the round dot.

Where is this painting now?



The above drawing was made in 1891 from a painting by well-known Swedish artist *Eva Bonnier* (1857–1909), who painted the scene in 1884. The title is *Music*. The painting is 25½ inches in height and 32 inches in width. "*Music*" was awarded a *mention honorable* at the Paris Salon.

It was first exhibited in Stockholm in 1891, on which occasion someone made the above drawing of it. Later, in 1893, it was exhibited in the Columbian Exposition of Chicago. It was then bought by *Mr. Ichabod T. Williams, Esq.*, who died in 1899.

In 1915 his collection was sold at auction, and this painting was bought by *Mr. George Francis Herriman* of New York. Mr. Herriman was born in 1862, Feb. 17 in Jersey City,

New Jersey,¹ and worked as a lumber broker in New York City. He was married to Helen Strange, who was born in 1878 in Canada.²

In 1939 May 31 George Francis Herriman died at his residence in White Plains, Westchester County, NY. In his very short obituary³ only his widow Helen Strange Herriman is mentioned and no children, so what happened to his art collection is not known.

Any information on where this painting is now would be most appreciated. The researcher who wishes for this information is *Gaga Bonnier*, a present day relative of Eva's.

Contact information:

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Notes:

- 1) U.S. Federal Census 1900, Passport applications 1920 (Ancestry.com).
- 2) U.S. Federal Census 1920.
- 3) *New York Times* 1939 June 4.

Babies born in Macinac County, Mich., of Swedish parents

COLLECTED BY ELISABETH THORSELL

During my recent stay in Salt Lake City, I had the opportunity to look through the county birth records for Macinac County in Michigan, and I collected the names and dates of babies, born of parents with Swedish-sounding names:

1885 Feb. 16 *John Verner Freeman*, St Ignace, son of Johan and Emma Freeman, he a laborer.

1885 Sep. 25 *Johan Johnston*, Gilchrist Hendricks township, son of Victor and Stina(?) Johnston, he Swedish, she Danish, he a laborer.

1887 Sep. 9 *Ellen S. Carleson*, Portage town, daughter of John and Elma Carleson, he a farmer.

1887 Aug. 7 *Selma Florence Emelia Nelson*, St Ignace, daughter of John Alois Nelson and Huldah Mathilda Norberg, he a farmer (this post has been corrected afterwards, which is the information shown here).

1889 Apr. 1 *Emma Falquist*, Cedar township, daughter of B(?) J. and Louise Falquist, he a laborer.

1889 May 9 *Frieda Carlson*, Portage township, daughter of John and Selma Carlson, he a farmer.

1889 Aug. 2 *Carl F. Gustafson*, Moreau township, son of Charles and Jennie Gustafson, he a fisherman.

1889 Aug. 15 *Emma J. Benson*, St Ignace, daughter of John and Josephina Benson, he a laborer.

1889 Nov. 7 *John Royal Strom*, Portage township, son of Anders G. and Elma Strom, he a farmer.

1889 Nov.12 *Ellen Augusta Gustafson*, Moreau township, daughter of Andrew (?) and (illegible first name) Gustafson, he a fisherman.

1890 Feb. 7 *Eva Miller*, Naubiwag, daughter of Frank and Jennie Miller, he a laborer.

1890 May 25 *Ernst Albert Gustafson*, Morau township, son of Ernst G A Gustafson and Christina Gustafson, he a fisherman.

1890 May 29 *Eligu Weston*, Cedar township, son of Charles Weston from Sweden, mother Mary Weston from Canada, he a farmer.

1890 Nov. 1 *Lilly Swanson*, Portage township, daughter of Peter and Annie Swanson, father a farmer.

1891Feb. 21 *Henning E. Strong*, Portage township, son of Andrew G. and Alma C. Strong, he a farmer.

1891 Apr. 10 *Caroline Johnson*, Naubiwag, daughter of August and Caroline Johnson, father a laborer (she is listed among the 1890 children, but the year later changed to 1891).

1892 Aug. 26 *Elizabeth Johnson*, Naubiwag township, daughter of Charles Johnson from Sweden, a millman, mother Jannie Johnson from Ohio.

1893 Jun. 24 *Andrew G. Strong*, Portage township, son of Andrew G and Alma Strong, he a farmer.

1893 May 15 *Ellen Weston*, Cedar township, daughter of John and Caroline Weston, he a farmer.

1893 Aug. 18 *unbaptized girl Blomquist*, Cedar township, daughter of Charles Blomquist and Allen (Ellen?) A. Johnson, he a laborer.

1893 Oct. 30 *Elsa M. Johnson*, Cedar township, daughter of Carl and Mary A Johnson, he a farmer.

Source:
FHL film 1007360



Solution to the Handwriting problem 28 (SAG 2/2011)

Transcription

PROTOKOLL öfwer Storskiftes-Delningen i Baggårds By

År 1775 den 19 Majj företogs Refning till Storskifte öfwer Baggårds Bys Inägor i Nordmaling Sochn, // Till ödmjukaste följe af Högwälborne Herr Barons, Landshöfdingens och Riddarens G. A Falkengrens den 2// i denne månad utfärdade Höggunstiga Förordnande. Wid denna förrättning woro närwarande, Nämnde-// mannen Nils Olofsson från Mo med samtelige Delägarne. ***** På begäran företogs först syn och besigt-// ning öfwer Ägorne, samt med Jordpröfningen, då åkerlandet fans bestå af skiljaktig godhet och skal likaledes// enligt Byemännens upgift, til större delen wara af fråst beswärad; och i anseende till dylik omwäx-// ling af bättre och sämre jordarter, ej mindre i de fråstfria, än som fråstländige åkrar ock, olika häfd och // upbruk, ordentelig gradering uti wissa skiften, til alla Jordägarnes fördel intet kunde anställas. ***** Landt-// mätaren war således föränlåten, at bifalla til deras åstundan, och tillåta dem at sin emellan til de Fyra li-// ka stora Skattehemman, föreslå åkrar af alla arter på följande sätt: **1^{mo}** Til första delen lades Bränn-// gården, Bränngårdslägdan, Hammarstycket, andra delen Nordan eller på Sandåkern, Norra Stycket på // Långtwäran, Västra Nylandet, och til fylnad af Södra Heden. **2^{do}** Til Andra delen, Kalfhägnaden, Hval-// landet, Gettegare, Norrest på Sandåkern, Södra Stycket på Långtwäran och Västra delen af Holmen. **3^{tio}** // Til Trediedelen, Södra Timmerkiälen, Lägdlösstycket, Gammelgården, kroktegarne, Tredie Stycket nordan efter// på Sandåkern och Norra delen af Siöåkern. **4^{to}** Til Fjerde delen; Norra Timmerkiälen, Södra Nylandet, Miö-// tegarne, Sönnerst på Sandåkern och Siöåkern, Östra Stycket på Holmen samt Hwalfstyckena. Efter anställd// fördelning och uträkning enligt denna öfwerenskommelse wordo alla skiften på marken utstakade til Bye-// männens närmare efterrättelse, på det, i händelse någon lott tilfallit sämre delar de må äga tilfalle sådant// utröna, och före låttkastningen aflämna deras ytrande om hwilket hemmansskifte de ännu odelte åkrar bor-// de tilhöra. Låttkastningen företogs och tilföll Abram Jonsson och Jon Larsson den Första, Johan Ersson// den andra, Anders Mårtensson den tredie, och Jon Nilsson den fjerde delen; men uppå widare betänkande och // til jemnlighets ärhållande, ingingo Jon Nilsson och Anders Mårtensson med hwarandra byte, i de twenne Södra// stycken på Sandåkern; Och för öfrigt öfwerlämnade Byemännen til Lantmätarens egen åtgärd, at efter bästa be-// qwämlighet fördela de ännu oskiftade åkrar, samt at skälilig tilökning tillägges den Första Lotten, såsom emot // de andra swagare befunnen. ** Efter förrättad utstakning, borde sedermera enligt särskilt öfwerenskommelse, // den första Lotten fördelas emellan Abram Jonsson och Jon Larsson, och tildeltes således den förre, Norra delen på// Nylandet, Nordan på Hammarstegarna, Västan för Långtegarne, Nordan på Sandåkern, Sunnan på Sörheden, // Sunnan på Bränngårdslägdan och Bränngården; Och den sednare, de andre delar af desse åkrar. Åkerslätten // åtföljer hwarje åkerlandsskifte, och har hwardera Delägaren bekommit der bredewid warande Upodlingsland, samt Fy-//ra skiften i den så kallade dalen. – Sluteligen påminte Anders Mårtensson, at Dals-bäcken såsom upgrundad, måt-//te af alla Grannarne gemensamt upgräfwas til watnets afledande från Slättlandet, äfwen som, at de andre Jordä-//garne med honom, borde från hwart hemman nästa höst utföra 20 Lass gjödning, på den Första eller swagaste låt-//tens åkerskifte. Widare war intet att påminna. År och Månad som tilförne.

And. Carl Fiellström
Nils Olofsson i Mo nämndeman

Editor's note: The sign // is to mark where each line in the original document ends, to help those who want to compare the original document with the transcription. Stars ***** are to show where the clerk made squiggles to fill out his lines.

Translation

Record of the Great redistribution (Storskifte) of land in Baggård Village

In the year 1775 on May 19 was undertaken the survey for the Great Redistribution of the fields of Baggård village in Nordmaling parish in the humble attendance to the highly favored commission, promulgated on the 2nd of this month, of the most nobly born Mr. Baron, county governor and knight G.A. Falkengren. At this occasion were present the permanent juryman Nils Olofsson of Mo and all the owners of shares in these fields.

By request first a survey and an examination were done of all the fields, and with this also an examination of the quality of the soil, when the soil of the fields was found to consist of various quality, and is also, according to the men of the village, to the larger part be exposed to frost. In the case of the land being so variable of better and poorer quality of soil, not lesser in the areas free from frost, as well as in the fields not exposed to frost, as well as some fields being well worked and others less so, it was not possible to grade all fields.

The surveyor was thus compelled to consent to their wish and allow them to suggest among themselves as owners of the four *skattehemman*, equal in size, the fields of all kinds in the following way: 1st to the first part was suggested *Bränngården*, *Bränngårdslägdan*, *Hammarstycket*, the second part of *Nordan*, or at *Sandåkern*, the northern part of *Långtwäran*, western part of *Nylandet*, and to fill out the lot also a part of southern *Heden*. 2nd To the second part, *Kalfhågnaden*, *Hvallandet*, *Gettegare*, northernmost part of *Sandåkern*, south part of *Långtwäran* and the western part of *Holmen*. 3rd To the third part south *Timmerkiälen*, *Lägdlösstycket*, *Gammelgården*, and the third part to the north at *Sandåkern* and the north part of *Siöåkern*. 4th To the fourth part; north *Timmerkiälen*, south part of *Nylandet*, *Miötegarne*, the south part of *Sandåkern* and *Siöåkern*, the eastern part of *Holmen* and the *Hwalfstyckena*.

After having done this division and calculation according to the agreement, all fields were staked out on the ground, so the men of the village could scrutinize them closer, in case some parts were given less favorable land, and it could be corrected before the drawing of the lots, and they could also present their views on what should be done with the yet undivided fields. The drawing of lots was now done, and Abram Jonsson and Jon Larsson got the first part, Johan Ersson the 2nd, Anders Mårtensson the 3rd, and Jon Nilsson the 4th. But after some consideration, and to make the parts more equal, Jon Nilsson and Anders Mårtensson decided to make an exchange of the two southern parts of *Sandåkern*.

Now the village men decided to entrust the surveyor to, after his own opinion, divide in the best way the yet undivided fields, and also add a reasonable piece of land to the first part that got the weaker fields.

After the staking out, after a special agreement, the 1st part ought to be shared between Abram Jonsson and Jon Larsson, and thus the former was given the northern part of *Nylandet*, north of the *Hammarstegarna*, west of the *Långtegarne*, north of *Sandåkern*, south of *Sörheden*, south of *Bränngårdslägdan* and *Bränngården*. And the latter got the other part of these fields. The haying comes with every field, and all field owners have also become each a part of newly broken land, and four parts in the so called valley. Finally Anders Mårtensson reminded everybody that the *Dalsbäcken* River has become shallow, and must be digged deeper by all the neighbors, so that the water can run off the *Slättlandet*, also that all the landowners, including himself, ought from each farm during the next fall cart out 20 wagon loads of fertilizer on the 1st or weaker fields of the 1st lot.

Nothing more was recorded. Year and month as above.

And. Carl Fiellström
Nils Olofsson of Mo, permanent juryman



Book Reviews

Here you will find information about interesting books on the immigration experience, genealogical manuals, books on Swedish customs, and much more. We welcome contacts with SAG readers, suggestions on books to review perhaps. If you want to review a book yourself, please contact the Book Review Editor, Dennis L. Johnson, at <1_viking@verizon.net> or Dennis Johnson, 174 Stauffer Road, Bucktown Crossing, Pottstown, PA 19465, so he knows what you are working on.

Making money

A Matter of Trust, Taking a \$2 Stock to \$140,000, Glen R. Johnson, Keller Publishing.com, 2011, Hardcover, Illustrated, 450 pages, Amazon.com, \$16.50 plus shipping.

Of the hundreds of thousands of Swedes who immigrated to Minnesota and adjacent Midwestern states in the nineteenth century, a few achieved great success and recognition, but most lived hard lives. The generation of their children, (1880's to 1960's) also produced quite a few accomplished and successful people. Most have now passed on from this earth. Less well known are the accomplished and successful from the third generation who were born in the 1920's and 1930's, and are now mostly retired. This was the generation born into the Great Depression, experienced World War II and the era of great population growth of the 20th century. (Many fell in World War II or honored their country as part of "The Greatest Generation," so named by Tom Brokaw in his book). These folks, like most of their predecessors, lived successful but unremarkable lives which mostly shared in the growing prosperity of the latter part of the century. A significant number were able to become notably successful in their fields and accumulate substantial wealth or otherwise gain personal recognition.

One of those in the latter group is *Glen R. Johnson*, now retired in Florida, who rose from humble farm beginnings in Minnesota to achieve success through his energy, imagination, and hard work in his newspaper career and political activity in his early years, and later as an innovative executive of a small investment company to help it grow to a multi-billion dollar corporation. His personal memoir, *A Matter of Trust*, has recently been published to provide a chronicle of his life. His book is dedicated to his wife, children, and extended family, and his life story shows what perseverance, hard work, and a little bit of luck can do in achieving the American dream.

Glen Johnson was born May 2, 1929, on the family farm near Lake Lillian, Kandiyohi County, a small town not far from Willmar in west central Minnesota. He was an only child but born into a large household which included his parents, his grandparents, an aunt, an uncle, and a hired man. His grandfather, Anders Gustaf Johnson, born 1860, came to America at age 10 with his parents Lutter Jonas Jonsson and Brita Persdotter in 1873 from Gagnef, Kopparberg län (Dalarna). Gustaf also had three sisters and two brothers in the family group, their destination listed in *Emigranten* as Willmar, MN. Glen's grandfather Gustaf married Christine, also from Dalarna, in about 1885 and Gustaf and Christine continued to live on the family farm in Lake Lillian. Glen's father, Oscar Johnson, was born in 1902 and later married Ruth Anderson from Stillwater, MN. Glen's mother, whose

parents had come from Dalsland in 1858. Glen's parents Oscar and Ruth continued to live on the family farm and eventually took it over, enlarging the farm to some 800 acres.

Although farm life was hard during the Depression, Glen describes his early years with warmth and affection. He had to rise early for chores and worked hard as soon as he was able, while attending grade and high school, and relates many humorous and adventurous anecdotes. The Armistice Day Blizzard of Nov. 11, 1940, is recounted in detail, a storm which I remember as well from another part of Minnesota. Glen was good at baseball and other sports and even tried out for the St. Louis Cardinals in 1946 and 1947, but did not make the cut. (He saw that as fortunate, considering his subsequent career.) Glen's father encouraged him to stay on the farm, but he sought an education beyond high school. He enrolled at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, attending with many World War II veterans on the GI Bill. He needed a change, however, and after one year transferred to the Minnesota School of Business in Minneapolis. Living near the University of Minnesota, he often attended their football games.

While living in Minneapolis, Glen met and fell for a Lake Lillian girl, LaVonne Corley. Later that year they were married at the Grace Lutheran Church in Lake Lillian (referred to as "The Norwegian Church"). Glen's church was the Swedish Lutheran Church, at the other end of town. They lived for a time in LaVonne's parents' home, then moved to the



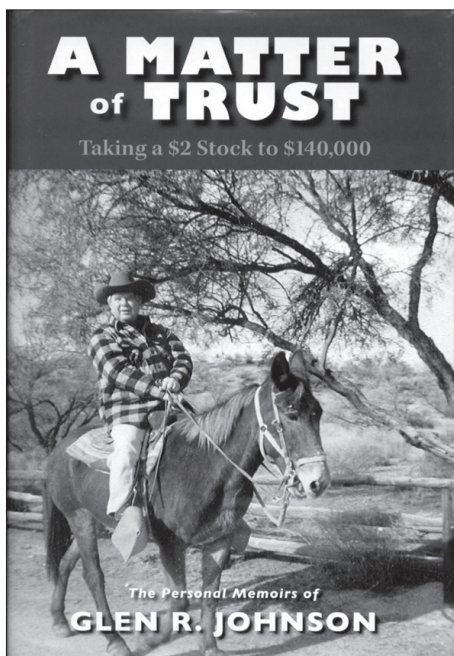
Book Reviews

summer kitchen on Glen's father's farm. He quickly realized that the farm would not support the people living on it unless he found other income. He soon had the idea to start a small newspaper and after several trial efforts, soon bought out an existing paper in the area, which he renamed the *Lake Lillian Crier*. This paper survived for some 12 years and, with other work and helping on the farm, supported Glen and his growing family. Their three children were born while Glen and LaVonne ran the newspaper.

Glen had early developed an interest in politics, writing editorials for his newspaper on many subjects, and working as precinct chairman in his own district. His instincts were strongly liberal, in spite of living in a conservative community, and his articles showed it. He began attend-

ing district and county meetings and assisted in campaigns in his district, learning many of the ins and outs of campaigning for office. He later ran Hubert Humphrey's campaign in his district, and got to know him personally. This led to an invitation to run for Minnesota State Chairman and contacts with many other state and national Democratic politicians, and to a job opening in Minneapolis as an area manager for the Savings Bond Program in Minnesota. His success in moving this program from last to first place among all state programs caused him to be appointed state director of the program.

Further success in this post caused Glen to be selected as national director of the Savings Bond program by 1967, and a move for his family to Washington, D.C. There his hard work and imagination caused the program to be greatly invigorated during his two years service. The election of Richard Nixon in 1968, however, meant he was replaced as a political appointee, and once again he was job hunting. Glen's many contacts in the banking business and elsewhere resulted in several job offers but with some negatives he did not like. After a short period with one credit card marketing company in



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Book Reviews

New York, he received a job offer “out of the blue” from an investment company based in Pittsburgh, Federated Investors. He joined the firm to market a newly created government securities fund, based on his success in marketing savings bonds with the Treasury Department. This position, and his move to Pittsburgh, shaped his life from that time on. He had been incredibly successful as a salesman, and he applied the same creativity and energy to this new assignment. His new Money Market Fund rapidly expanded, increasing greatly in value to the benefit of Glen and other early investors. A major part of his book is devoted to describing his approach to managing and marketing this fund, primarily to the trust departments of banks around the nation. From the time the Government Bond Fund was created, in 1969, Federated Investors grew from about 78 million dollars in managed assets to nearly 400 billion dollars by 2009, through growth of funds and mergers and acquisitions.

This growth brought great wealth to Glen Johnson as well as the perquisites of a successful executive, including the use of a personal business jet aircraft at his disposal. As he approached retirement, he and his wife moved to and expanded a large home in Marcos Island, Florida. He did not forget his roots or his Lutheran faith, however, as he moved into philanthropic and charity activities. He has maintained and restored his family farm in Lake Lillian as a historic site, his wife’s family cabin in Stillwater, and has been a major benefactor to the First Lutheran Church in Pittsburgh, Thiel College (a Lutheran-related college in Green-

ville, PA), the University of Pittsburgh, and Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN. He and his wife have also assisted the Florida Gulf Coast University, the Chautauqua Institution in Jamestown, NY, and the Seacrest Country Day School in Naples, FL. Glen has also served as chairman or director of Thiel College, Boston University’s Morin Center, Swedish Council of America’s Royal Round Table, Abraxas Group, Inc, LCA Board of Pensions, and Gustavus Adolphus College. He has also been the recipient of many awards and honors from these and other organizations.

Glen Johnson attributes most of his success to his exceptional skills as a salesman, inspiring confidence in others to invest in his products and marketing them with imagination and integrity. The salesman in him is somewhat rare in the mostly reticent and reserved Swedish Americans of his generation, but he seems to have been gifted with an unusually high level of skills in this realm. His memoir includes in the appendix testimonials from half a dozen prominent friends and associates who state their admiration of his unique skills and success in the investment field and in his leadership in philanthropic activities.

Glen Johnson does not dwell in the book about his family life, but does include many photographs and anecdotes about his own family and his extended family of relatives and in-laws. His life was not without pain; of his three children, two were tragically victims of chronic diseases in mid-life, his youngest daughter Lori to cancer and his son David to liver failure. He and LaVonne now enjoy six grandchildren of varying ages. He also recounts several adventures in his life, including learning to fly, vacation trips in a travel trailer with his young family, a trip to Sweden to hunt ancestors, his activities in owning several “collector

cars” in Florida, and even brief descriptions of the many secretaries he had over the years. He even confesses that his many years as a liberal came to an end by 2000, when Al Gore was nominated for President. He felt “his party had left him” and he became a conservative.

His has been a rich and full life for this descendant of poor Swedish immigrants in Minnesota. His book will be an invaluable resource for his family and later descendants as well as an inspiring story for many readers. Many family and business photographs and other illustrations are included to help tell his story, and the book is well organized and supplemented with appendices relating to his life. The book is an excellent example of a personal memoir although one need not be unusually wealthy and successful to undertake such a task. It would be desirable if all seasoned citizens would write their own memoir as a gift to their own family and descendants. They could then be better known to their descendants as a person, and just not names, dates, and places on their family tree. And for historians, the time covered by such a memoir gives a valuable picture of the attitudes and conditions shaping the lives of those that experienced them.

Dennis L. Johnson

(Note; the subject of this review is not related to the Book Review Editor).

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 <jillseaholm@augustana.edu>

Book Reviews



Island life in Sweden

Rose in the Sand by Julie Catterson Lindahl. Bloomington, IN: AuthorHouse, 2011. 244 pp. Amazon.com \$15.79.

Julie Catterson Lindahl is an American living in Sweden. *Rose in the Sand* is her uniquely personal voyage of discovery – of nature, of the ways of a new and different society, and above all, of herself. She presently describes herself as an author, columnist, and social entrepreneur. In her biographical note she explains how in 2000 she and her Swedish husband Claes decided to “take a temporary break from their safe, urban existence to try life with their small twins on an island in the Nordic wilderness.”

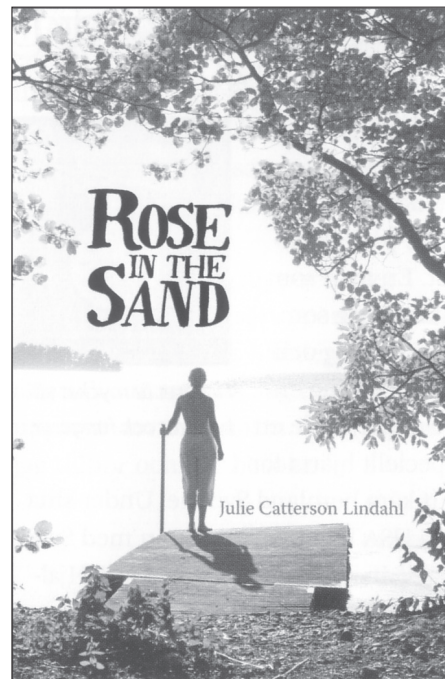
Up to that time, Julie had lived a highly cosmopolitan, big-city life on the fast track in many countries in different parts of the world. She was the daughter of sophisticated and widely travelled parents, had gotten her B.A. in English literature at Wellesley College, and her Master’s degree in International Relations at Oxford. This was followed by successful career in the international corporate world. Although she does not discuss in depth the motives behind the decision to move to a remote island on Lake Mälaren (which she does not name), they were clearly those that inspired Henry David Thoreau to move out into the woods to Walden Pond in Massachusetts in 1854, he wrote “to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life”

For Claes, this environment was not unfamiliar. On the island his grandfather had built his country get-away, which he had often visited as a boy, and in which the family now set up housekeeping. But for Julie and the small twins, it was all new.

What was intended to last only a year turned out to be a decade. Swedes traditionally break down the four basic seasons of the year into eight mini-seasons, such as “spring-winter,” “spring,” “pre-summer,” and the like, each only a few weeks long. This seasonal succession, each with its distinctive natural characteristics, provides the framework for Julie’s account of her family’s life on the island.

The account begins in “pre-autumn” with Julie standing alone with her thoughts on their boat landing in the rain. She reflects that up to now her life had been spent “in the pursuit of someone else’s dream, on a horizon far away from my own.” She realizes that although daunting, this move to the island was the “precondition for something strong and authentic to be born.”

The chapters following describe the Lindahl family’s Spartan – but not always so simple – life on the island and their neighbors there and on the nearby rural mainland, especially those who like themselves lived there year-round. They become intimately familiar with the nature that surrounds them, which they discover is not always so benign. Every living thing consumes other species and is, in turn, part of the natural food chain. There are dangers as well and some truly dramatic incidents, such as when Julie, returning from town by night, is blown adrift in a fierce winter storm, unable to start the motor in her boat. Altogether, she is remarkably courageous and determined to fit into her new environment. At the same time, she learns much about traditional Swedish customs and ways of thinking,



away from cosmopolitan Stockholm.

Rose in the Sand is a delight to read. Julie Lindahl writes beautifully, combining specific detail with sensitive, lyrical descriptions of the surrounding nature during the constantly shifting seasons, together with her own reflections of life. At times her prose is truly poetic.

After ten years, the family returns to urban life on the outskirts of Stockholm. Again, the reasons are not explained, but it would seem that the demands of practical life caught up with them. Julie, nonetheless, ends her account with the realization that “I need not fear that I would lose the person I had become during these island years. She had always been me.”

H. Arnold Barton



Merry Christmas!

Book Reviews



Survive in Sweden

Culture Shock Sweden! A Survival Guide to Customs & Etiquette, by Charlotte Rosen Svensson, Marshall Cavendish Corporation, Tarrytown, NY, 260 pages, 2009, 4th Ed, softcover, illustrated, Amazon.com, \$11.96 plus shipping.

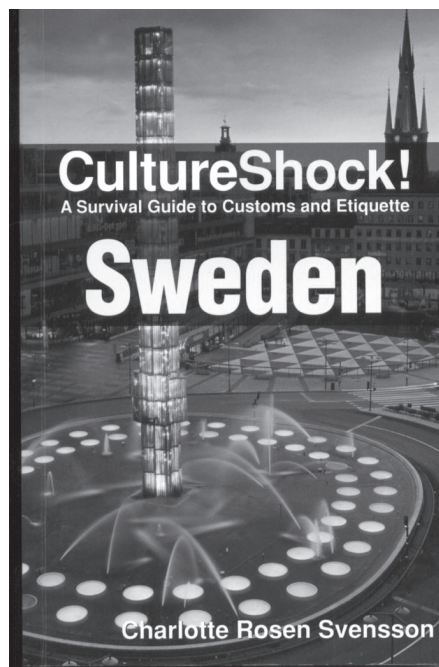
One of several travel guides for Sweden, this book appears to be aimed at the traveler who plans to live in Sweden for a time but is still useful for those planning a first visit or tour. The book is one of a series now numbering nearly sixty to date on various other countries, written by those who have lived in the countries for a considerable time. The author was born in the U.S. but taken to Sweden as a child. After she married, she and her husband, Bengt, moved to Sweden and lived and worked there for some years, so they have almost the experience of the native Swede plus the experience of living or working in a different country and becoming familiar with the customs and language.

In the opening chapter, the author briefly gives an overall view of the nation, touching on the regions of Sweden, climate, lakes and waters, history, the political system, religion, the love of nature, the flag, and the efforts to protect the environment. The Swedish people are described next, various age groups and sexes, the Royal Family, and immigration into Sweden.

Successive chapters touch on so-

cializing with Swedish friends, co-workers, and acquaintances, the process of settling in, differences in lifestyles, dealing with invitations, and entertaining friends. Help is there on finding a place to live, entering the Swedish registration and health care system, banks and money, telephone communication, traveling around, shopping, clothing, and many other aspects of living in Sweden. Useful tips such as the Swedish inclination for promptness, not pushing friendships too fast but letting them occur naturally, doffing shoes in visiting most homes, and avoiding overly opinionated discussions until you know a person very, very well.

An entire chapter is devoted to dining out, how to approach a *Smörgåsbord*, habits with regard to coffee or tea, shopping for foods, alcohol and social drinking, fishing, hunting, and picking of wild foods. For those who are inclined to sports, the outdoor life, self-improvement, the fine arts, and local travel, there is a chapter which outlines resources available and methods for taking advantage of them.



This is Sergel's Square in downtown Stockholm.

Engaging the Swedish language is addressed in some detail. Learning the language, including body language, is described, with tips on Swedish grammar, useful phrases, and difficulties in learning the correct usages. Differences in the use of terms for days, time, and numbers and many useful abbreviations help the reader with many of the practical aspects of learning to function in Sweden.

If you plan to do business in Sweden, there are descriptions of the economy and industry, working hours, vacations and leisure time, Swedes at work, and even finding work as an immigrant (not easy). If you plan to start your own business, there are tips included for that, too, and even for becoming involved in the many types of volunteer work available in Sweden.

A final chapter includes a review of Sweden at a glance, a culture quiz, a list of dos and don'ts, a glossary and resource guide, and suggestions for further reading. A complete index helps the reader find information quickly. The author grew up and was educated in the U.S., Germany, and Scotland, then lived and worked in many countries such as Australia, Hong Kong, and London. Later Charlotte married a Swede she met in Bangkok. She returned to Sweden to live with her husband and children, now living in a small town on the west coast. A stated ambition is to learn to correctly pronounce the 'sj' sound in Swedish, as it is pronounced on the west coast!

This inexpensive guide is recommended for the visitor, but is an especially useful guide to anyone who is not Swedish but may be moving to Sweden to live for a time, or may be transferred there by one of our many international corporations. And it is of interest to many Americans who just wish to know a little more about modern Sweden and its people.

Dennis L. Johnson

Interesting Web Sites

All links tested in
November 2011 and
should work

Swedish Genealogy on Rootsweb: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wgsweden/#County>

Lilly Setterdahl's blog: lillysetterdahl.blogspot.com

Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain: <http://www.jgsgb.org.uk/catalog/shop>.

Wisconsin Historical Society (Genealogy): <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/genealogy/>

Washington State Archives: <http://www.digitalarchives.wa.gov/Home>

Canada local history: <http://www.ourroots.ca/>

Atlas of Historical County Boundaries: <http://publications.newberry.org/ahcbp/>

Burials in Utah: http://history.utah.gov/research_and_collections/cemeteries/index.html

The Broman family from Bohuslän: <http://www.sweame.org/showalbum.php?albumID=263>

The Emigration Survey (in Swedish):

<http://www.ub.gu.se/sok/ebok/egna/textarkiv/emigrationsutredningen/>

The SweAme organization: <http://www.sweame.org>

SweAme Contributors and Donors page: <http://www.sweame.org/sweame/org/recognition.htm>

Ancestry.com's collection of vital records for the U.S.: <http://www.ancestry.com/vitals>

Canadian Headstone Project: <http://canadianheadstones.com/>

EmiWeb databases [\$\$]: <http://www.emiweb.eu/>

An online book about early Swedes in Minnesota:

<http://www.archive.org/details/historyofswedish02stra>

New web address for the Swedish Genealogical Society of Minnesota: <http://www.sgsmn.org/>

South Dakota graves: <http://southdakotagravestones.org/>

North Dakota graves: <http://northdakotagravestones.org/>

Målaskogs Bygdeförening (in Swedish): <http://www.malaskog.se/>

Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak's Roots World: <http://megansmolenyak.posterous.com/>

Park Genealogical Books (MN, WI, ND, SD, and more): <http://www.parkbooks.com/>

An unusual number of queries has temporarily moved the web sites one page

New and Noteworthy

(short notes on interesting books and articles)

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain has published guides to family history research. They include information on how to do research in a number of countries including Germany/Austria, Latvia/Estonia, Lithuania, Poland, and the United Kingdom. Other books include *Genealogical Resources within the Jewish Home and Family*, *A Guide to Reading Hebrew Inscriptions and Documents*, and *The Jewish Victorian 1861–1870*. The Lithuania and UK guides have been updated this year. Additional information can be found at the *links page (above)*. (From Nu? What's New? 25 Sep.2011).

Genealogical Queries

Genealogical 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 these queries to conform to a general format. The inquirer is responsible for the contents of the query.

We would like to hear about your success if you receive useful information as a result of placing a query in this publication. Please send us your feedback, and we will endeavor to report your new discoveries in this section of the journal.

Olsson, Johansson, Anderson, Wiberg

Does anyone recognize *Edvin Sigurd Olsson*, b. 1906 Jul. 6 in Köinge parish (Hall.)? His mother was the unmarried *piga* (maid) Anna Paulina Olsson, b. 1887 Nov. 22 in Okome parish (Hall.). Edvin became a foster child at age 2. His foster parents lived in Lindberg parish (Hall.) and they were Anders Larsson and his wife Anna Gustava Andersdotter. They also had another foster child, Josefina Kristina Andersson.

As a grown man Edvin became the father of son Stig Artur Ingemar, b. 1924 Sep. 19 in Skällinge (Hall.), his mother was the unmarried maid Olga Matilda Albina Johansson. Later on he had another child, daughter Inga Margit Alice Johansson, b. 1928 Nov. 5 in Gödestad (Hall.), but he was not married to her mother, Astrid Linnéa Johansson either.

Edvin emigrated 1929 from Lindberg (Hall.) and left the port of Göteborg on Apr. 22 with a ticket for Winnipeg, Canada, and traveled on the *S/S Laurentic*. According to a family tradition, Edvin is said to have married a girl from Finland and they had four children.

Edvin's biological mother Anna Paulina Olsson emigrated ca 1909, and might be identical with Anna Paulina Olsson, age 20, who left from the parish of Tvååker (Hall.) and next from Göteborg 1908 Oct. 21 with a ticket for Boston, MA. She is said to have lived in Canterbury, CT, and married to Anders Herman Anderson, born 1864 in Köinge (Hall.). They had daughters Ellen in 1909 and Martha in 1911, and by then are said to live in Brooklyn, CT. Anders Herman died in a workplace accident in 1913. His widow remarried to Gustaf Wiberg, from Sweden.



The only known photo of Edvin Sigurd Olsson.

1303

All information regarding these families is most welcome!

Ann-Marie Engfeldt, Fabriksgatan 2 F, S-432 78 Tvååker, Sweden. Phone: +46 340 472 44.

E-mail: <liza2@telia.com>

Åkesson, Arvidson, Tufvesdotter

We are looking for living descendants of *Nils Arvidsson*, born as Nils Åkesson 1861 Apr. 14 in Annelöv (Malm.), who emigrated in 1881 Apr. 14 from the same place. In 1890 he was married to Bothilda Tufvesdotter, b. 1865 Feb. 17 in Källs-Nöbbelöv (M), but not now found in the emigration databases. In 1900 they are living in Burke, Pipestone County, MN, and had the following children: Arthur William, b. 1890 Nov. 15 in Illinois; Herman F, b. 1892 Aug. 8 in Illinois; Anna L. b. 1894 Sep., in Iowa; Nellie S, b. 1896 Apr. Iowa; Oscar N., b. 1897 Sep. in Minnesota; Mary E., b. 1899 Sep. in Minnesota. By then Nils' first name was Americanized to Nels.

In 1910 they have all moved to Skagit Head, Island County, Washington. Another daughter has been added to the family: Esther, b. 1904 May 17 in Pipestone County, Minnesota.

Nels A. Arvidson died 1920 May 16 in Clinton, Island County, Washington. His widow Bothilda died 1945 Apr. 13 in Everett, Snohomish County, Washington, according to the Washington Death Index.

All information on the descendants is most welcome!

Stig Fristedt and Elvy Tufvesson Fristedt, Säbygatan 1, S-261 33 Landskrona, Sweden.

E-mail: <ess.fff@blixtnmail.se>

1304

Johnson, Halvorson

I am looking for relatives of my paternal great-grandfather, *Albert Daniel Johnson*. We currently have no information on his family or in what parish he was born.

Date of Birth: September, 1858.

Immigrated to the U.S.: 1880 or 1881.

Naturalized: 1885.

Albert Daniel married 1895 May 4, in Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri, to Ada Halvorson from Arapahoe County, Colorado. She immigrated to the U.S. 1882 June 2, from Göteborg och Bohus län. She is found in the *Emihamn* database as immigrating from the city of Strömstad, in Göteborg och Bohus län, but could not be found in the Strömstad moving-out records. According to the 1900 U.S. census she was born 1863 in July in Sweden, of Swedish parents.

Their children were: Albert Clarence Johnson, b. April 13, 1896; and Eugene H. Johnson b. November 5, 1906, both born in Kansas City, MO. The family lived in Kansas City, MO, during the marriage – at 1241 Jefferson and 1407 Indiana Avenue.

Albert Daniel returned to Sweden in August, 1927. He is not found in the Swedish Death Index 1901-2009, which is not complete. His wife Ada remained in the United States.

Any information or clues would be most welcome!

Dianne Johnson Kirk Email: <johngene09@att.net>

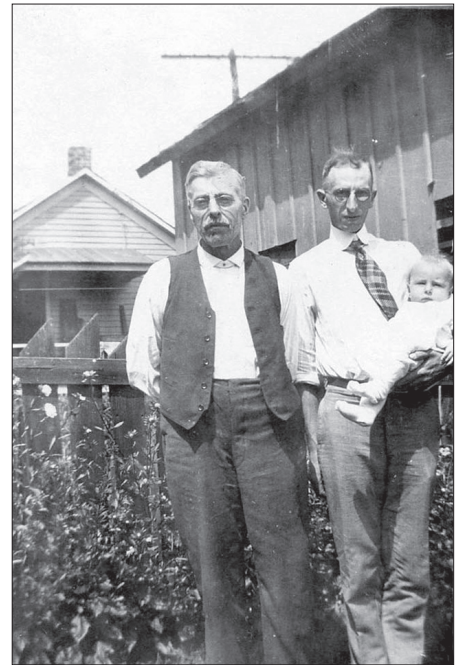


Photo is circa 1920 and from left to right are: Albert Daniel Johnson, Albert Clarence Johnson, and Virgil Johnson.

1305



This picture shows when a house called Blinkenberg in Hagfors, Värmland, burned, but the year is not known. Hagfors was built in the 1870s, when a new modern steel works was started here, and this building was one of the first lodgings for the workers there. (Picture from Norra Råda Local Heritage Association (hembygdsförening)).

The Last Page

Dear friends,

We have had an unusual fall here, it has been above zero degrees centigrades for months, and so is still the case. But snow makes the days lighter, so just a little would be fine, as it is very dark in the afternoon now.

Since last time I have visited the U.S. in September, a little earlier than usual, but it was fine weather all the time, I don't remember more than just one or two rainy days. I travelled in the company of Ingrid Nilsson from Skåne, who is now a new staff member of the SAG Workshop. We started out in Springfield, IL, where we went to the annual Conference of the Federation of Genealogical Societies, and maybe learnt a thing or two. Next we were

invited to spend a couple of days in Chicago, and probably learnt more, which might be useful for some articles in coming SAGs.

And then there was the annual SAG Workshop in Salt Lake City, which was just as much fun as we expected. This was the 18th time there for Jill Seaholm and me, so we are starting to feel quite at home in the library and in the city. Next year the new downtown shopping mall, *City Creek Center*, will be open when we come, so that will be something new to explore.

Since I came back I have mostly been working on proofreading and checking the information in the new *Svenska Släktkalendern 2012* (Swedish Family Register), which has been

published more or less regularly since 1912, and has now presented some 2700 different, more or less prominent Swedish families. It has now gone to the printers. While working on this I had good help of the digitized newspaper clippings that the *Swedish Genealogical Society* (Genealogiska Föreningen) has now put on the web for the members to use. It covers the period of 1935 to 1990.

Next week I am invited to speak at the Historical Museum in downtown Stockholm. My subject will be the Big Immigration and how to maybe find the relatives in the U.S. I hope it goes well!

Till next time!
Elisabeth Thorsell

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SAG Workshop *Salt Lake City* 23 – 30 Sept. 2012 !



We look forward to seeing old and new friends in our happy group of researchers !

The SAG Workshop is the highlight of the year – a fun learning experience and a chance to do your Swedish genealogy with hands-on help from experienced Swedish and American genealogists.

The social side includes both welcome and farewell receptions, a buffet dinner & entertainment.

Contact *Jill Seaholm* at 309-794-7204, or e-mail: <sag@augustana.edu>. You can now ask to be put on the mailing list for next year.

Abbreviations

Table 1. Abbreviations for Swedish provinces (*landskap*) used by *Swedish American Genealogist* (as of March 2000) and *Sveriges Släktforskarförbund* (the Federation of Swedish Genealogical Societies, Stockholm [SSF]).

Landskap (<i>Province</i>)	SAG & SSF <i>Abbr.</i>	Landskap (<i>Province</i>)	SAG & SSF <i>Abbr.</i>
Blekinge	Blek.	Närke	Närk.
Bohuslän	Bohu.	Skåne	Skån.
Dalarna	Dala.	Småland	Smål.
Dalsland	Dals.	Södermanland	Södm.
Gotland	Gotl.	Uppland	Uppl.
Gästrikland	Gäst.	Värmland	Värm.
Halland	Hall.	Västerbotten	Väbo.
Hälsingland	Häls.	Västergötland	Vägö.
Härjedalen	Härj.	Västmanland	Väsm.
Jämtland	Jämt.	Ångermanland	Ånge.
Lappland	Lapp.	Öland	Öland
Medelpad	Mede.	Östergötland	Östg.
Norrbottn	Nobo.		

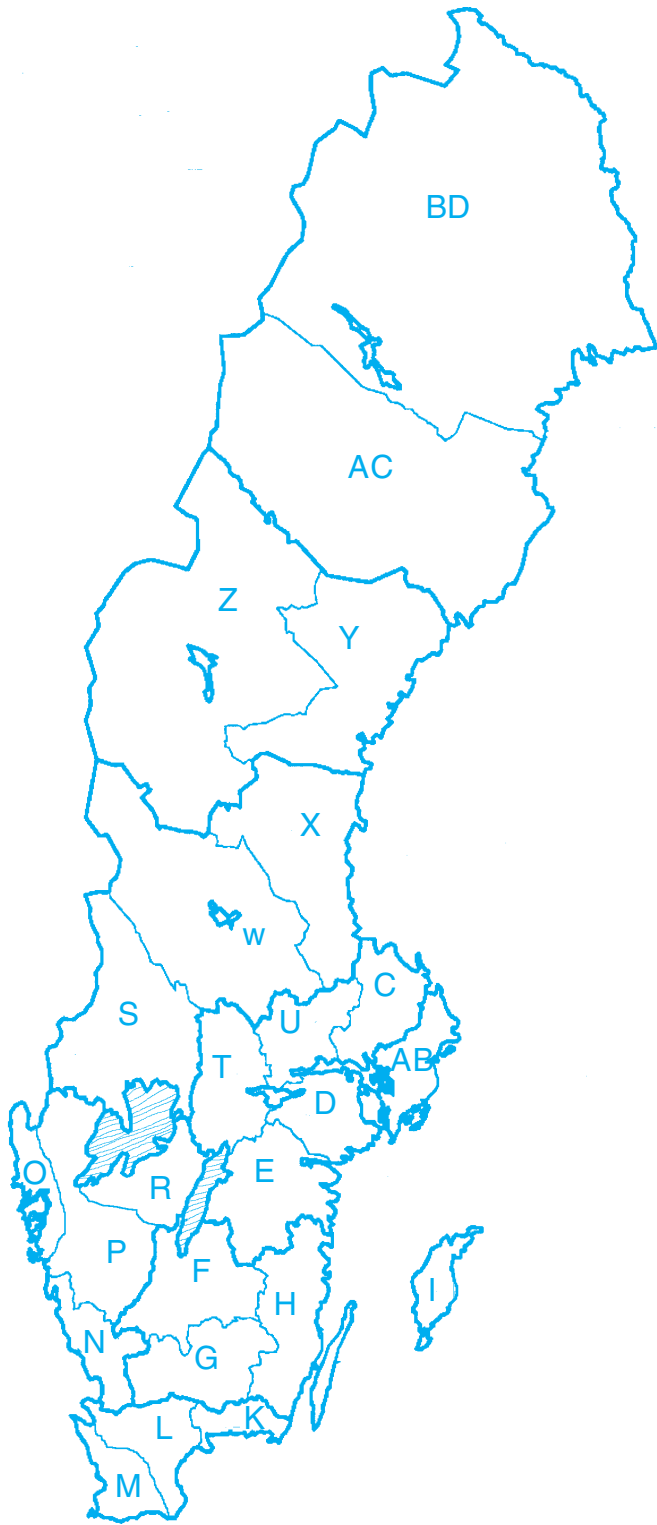
Table 2. Abbreviations and codes for Swedish counties (*län*) formerly used by *Swedish American Genealogist* (1981-1999) and currently used by *Statistiska centralbyrån* (SCB) (the Central Bureau of Statistics, Stockholm).

Län (<i>County</i>)	SAG <i>Abbr.</i>	SCB <i>Abbr.</i>	SCB <i>Code</i>	Län (<i>County</i>)	SAG <i>Abbr.</i>	SCB <i>Abbr.</i>	SCB <i>Code</i>
Blekinge	Blek.	Blek.	K	Stockholm	Stock.	Sthm.	AB
Dalarna ^a		Dlrn.	W	Södermanland	Söd.	Södm.	D
Gotland	Gotl.	Gotl.	I	Uppsala	Upps.	Upps.	C
Gävleborg	Gävl.	Gävl.	X	Värmland	Värm.	Vrml.	S
Halland	Hall.	Hall.	N	Västerbotten	Vbn.	Vbtn.	AC
Jämtland	Jämt.	Jmtl.	Z	Västernorrland	Vn.	Vnrl.	Y
Jönköping	Jön.	Jkpg.	F	Västmanland	Väst.	Vstm.	U
Kalmar	Kalm.	Kalm.	H	Västra Götaland ^c		Vgöt.	O
Kronoberg	Kron.	Kron.	G	Örebro	Öre.	Öreb.	T
Norrbottn	Norr.	Nbtn.	BD	Östergötland	Ög.	Östg.	E
Skåne ^b		Skån.	M				

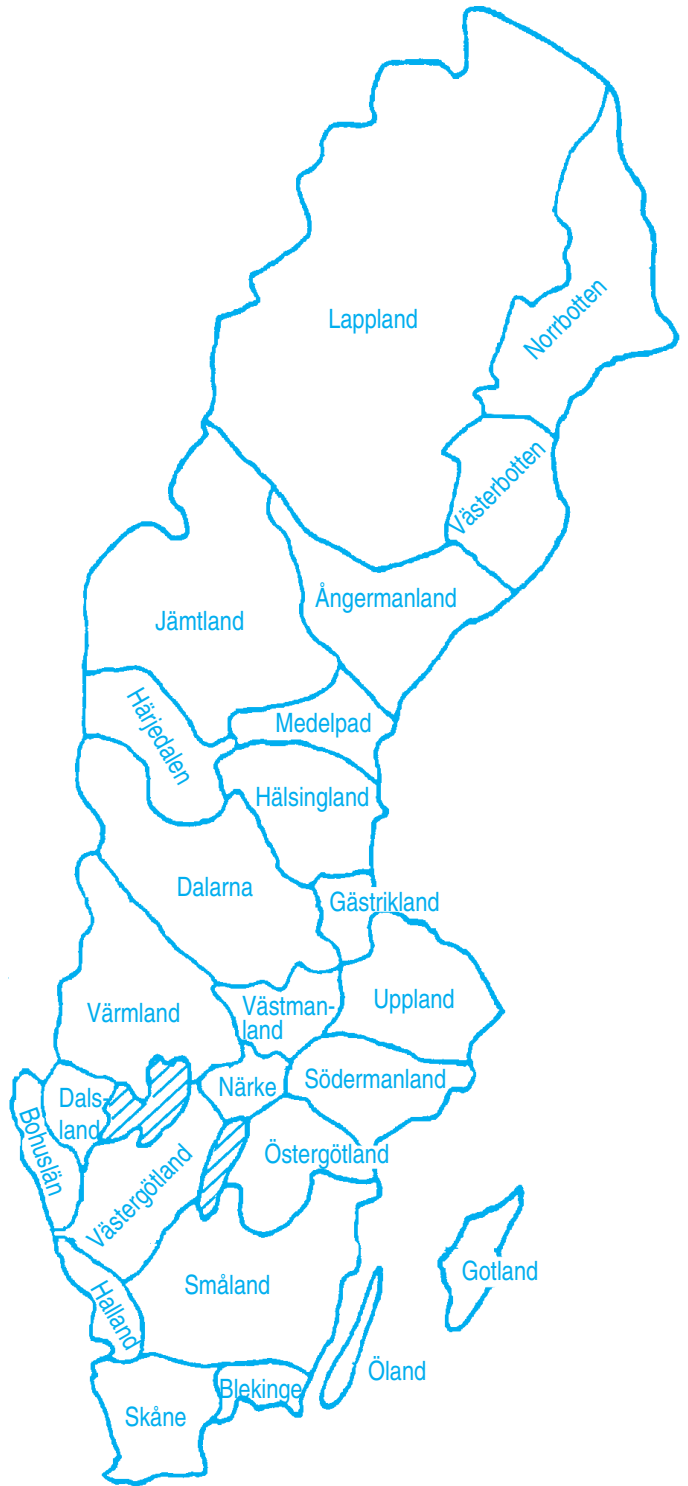
a formerly Kopparberg (Kopp.; W) *län*.

b includes the former counties (*län*) of Malmöhus (Malm.; M) and Kristianstad (Krist.; L).

c includes the former counties (*län*) of Göteborg and Bohus (Göt.; O), Skaraborg (Skar.; R), and Älvsborg (Älvs.; P).



The counties (*län*) as they were before 1991.



The provinces (*landskap*).