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## News from the Swenson Center

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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*

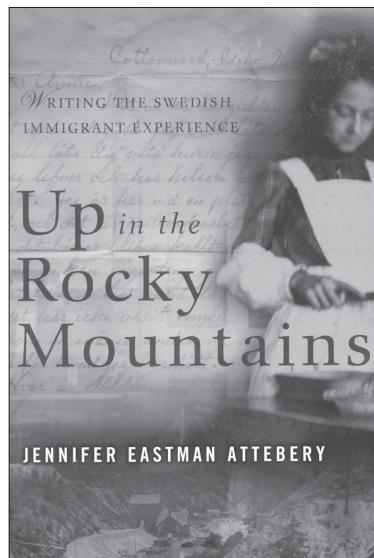
By Nils William Olsson and Erik Wikén (1995). 628 pages of Swedes, comments, and indexes.

**\$35 + \$5 S&H**

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Dr. Jennifer Attebery.



Dr. Attebery's book.



Dr. Lars M. Andersson.