Bits & Pieces
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A sign of changing times
MINNEAPOLIS HUGE SALE

Dee Kleinow of Burnsville, MN, tells that the building has been bought by a nearby congregation and the archives have been moved to Luther Seminary. The congregation will continue to meet in a nearby building. The church will celebrate its 147th anniversary on April 29th before closing.

Glen Brolander and Eva Eriksson honored
Dr. Glen Brolander, Stillwater, MN, and Mrs. Eva Eriksson, governor of Värmland, Sweden, each received the Swedish Council of America’s Great Achievement Award on April 13, in conjunction with SCA’s 40th anniversary celebration at the MN Valley Country Club in Bloomington. One of Brolander’s most important contributions to the Swedish-American community was securing gifts, in both the U.S. and Sweden, for the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center at Augustana College. Glen chaired the Swenson Center Advisory Committee until 2004.

Mrs. Eriksson has been the chairperson of the Sweden America Center in Karlstad since 2004, and has spent time and energy on modernizing the work with subjects concerning emigration and immigration to Sweden. She says that the “Great Emigration is an important part of the Swedish cultural heritage.”

SAG congratulates the awardees! (Stillwater Gazette 2012 Mar. 30; Information from the Länsstyrelsen i Värmland 2012 Apr. 18).

Royal visit in October
Their Majesties King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden will visit the American Swedish Institute and Gustavus Adolphus College in October 2012.

The royal visit is in honor of the dedication of ASI’s new Nelson Cultural Center and other recent campus enhancements, and in the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the founding of Gustavus Adolphus College by Swedish immigrants in 1862. (SCA Website 2012 Apr. 21).

The 1940 U.S. Federal Census is here!
On Monday 2012 Apr. 2 the National Archives released the images of the U.S. 1940 Census to the eagerly waiting public. The interest was even bigger than anticipated so the servers crashed, but are now in order again.

Some links to good 1940 sites are found on the links page.

Civil War exhibit in Iowa
An exhibition called “The Fiery Trial: Iowa and the Civil War” will be in Stratford, Iowa, on May 31st.

For more information, send an e-mail to <SwedeBndIA@aol.com>

Swedish-American of the Year 2012

Ingvar Wikström (b. 1928 in Sweden) of Chicago, an Augustana alumnus and well-known former owner of Wikstrom’s Deli in Andersonville, has been elected to this honor for 2012. These days he sells Swedish delicacies online, and spends much time on preserving Swedish traditions. He has also received a Swedish Award for Gastronomy.

Genealogy Days in Gävle Aug. 25–26, 2012
Link on the links page.

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