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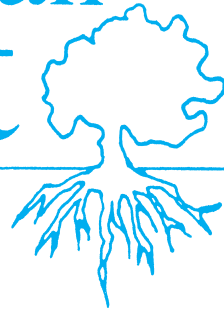
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Cover picture:

Per (Peter) Svensson Lundin with his railroad crew in Colorado. Peter is third from the left. Photo around 1900. (Lisa Lindell collection).

See article on page 14.

Joseph B. Oakleaf's boyhood journey to Kansas

– a sequel to B.P. Oakleaf's reflections in SAG 1/09

BY STEVE COX

In 1869, when Joseph B. Oakleaf was not quite eleven years old, his Swedish immigrant family left their home in Moline, Illinois, to make a fresh start farming virgin land in south-eastern Kansas.¹

Joseph Oakleaf remembered that trek to the end of his days.

His parents, Benjamin Peter (B. P.) Oakleaf (1827-1893) and Mary Oakleaf (1830-1905), were among the few Swedes – no more than 1,400 of them – who came to America in 1854.²

B. P. Oakleaf was twenty-seven years old and Mary twenty-four, when, with two young children in tow, they sailed for America. Leaving their home near Melbystrand, on the southwestern coast of Hallands län, they sailed from the port of Göteborg on June 25, 1854. Their son Christian, two and a half years old, died at sea. They landed in Boston forty-five days later and, along with other Swedes who had come on the same ship, the Oakleafs went directly to Moline. A few days later, their seventeen-month-old daughter, Christina, also died.³

B. P. found a steady job in the S. W. Wheelock paper mill, in Moline, and the Oakleafs started a new family. By 1869, they had three sons and two

daughters to make the trek to Kansas: Charlie (born 1856), Joseph (1858), Junia (1862), Lydia (1866), and Emanuel (1868). Two children had died in Moline, and the last Oakleaf child, Stephen, was born in 1871, two years after they arrived in Kansas.⁴

Neighbors

Just next door to the Oakleaf family in Moline lived Peter and Johanna Swanson, who had emigrated from Sweden in 1855, the year after the Oakleafs, and their five daughters. In age, the Swanson sisters fit with the Oakleaf children like cards expertly shuffled. Augusta or Gustie Swanson, the eldest, was born in 1855; she was a year older than Joseph's elder brother Charlie Oakleaf. Then came Lottie Swanson (1857), a year older than Joseph, and Nell Swanson (1859), a year younger than Joseph, and Jenny Swanson (1862), the same age as Joseph's sister Junia, and Pauline Swanson (1869), the youngest Swanson, born in January 1869.⁵

The Oakleafs and Swansons were among the few Swedes in Moline when they arrived, but more and more Swedes came until, by the

1870s, about half of Moline (population 7,800 in 1880) was Swedish.⁶

Moline was a compact, lively industrial city, full of things for children to see and savor – steamboats on the Mississippi, the railroad carrying goods and people to the West, the fire and smoke and bustle and rumble of workers and machines in the factories: when the John Deere plow shop worked late, the constant pounding of the drop hammers rattled the windows of the town far into the night.⁷

The Civil War came

The Civil War added to the excitement. Moline was far from the front, but Gustie Swanson remembered, as an eight-year-old girl, watching Confederate prisoners, captured at the Battle of Chattanooga of November 1863, being marched to the military prison on Rock Island, visible from Moline across a narrow channel of the Mississippi River.

The brick schoolhouse, built in 1843, was a short three-block walk from the Oakleafs' home. The paper mill where B. P. worked was downtown, six blocks away, and just five blocks east and around the corner was the home of Moline's most prominent citizen, John Deere, whose plow factory was the anchor of Moline's industry.

B. P. Oakleaf was an orphan who had made his way in Sweden as a soldier and had acquired, according to one chronicler, "a sound English education." Within six years of arriving in America, he held a personal



One of the early factories in Moline.

This is the wagon factory, but the others probably looked much the same.

The Swedish population grew from about 360 in 1860 to about 4100 in 1900, compared to the total population of 19,700.

estate of \$1,600 and real estate valued at \$600. His neighbor Peter Swanson, a farmer in Sweden, had worked in a sawmill for all of his fourteen years in Moline.⁸

The Oakleafs go west

B. P. Oakleaf was capable of better things than working at the paper mill. And breathing the chemical fumes of the paper plant made him ill. He had once taken a three-year break from the paper mill and its fumes to try farming in the Rock River valley. Finally, his doctor recommended that he go west for his health.

After the Civil War, land in the West was opening up. Late in May 1869, B. P. Oakleaf and Peter Swanson, both in their forties, quit their factory jobs, left their families in Moline, and went to Kansas, lured by the prospect of good, cheap land.⁹

By riverboat, train, and wagon, and finally on foot, the two men made their way to Labette County in southeastern Kansas. By June 10 they had staked claims on Osage Indian land in the valley of Pumpkin Creek. About two miles from their claims, settlers were organizing a brand-new town, Mound Valley.¹⁰

While B. P. Oakleaf settled his Kansas claim, Peter Swanson returned to Moline to spend the three summer months organizing the move and preparing to pilot a party of twenty or more Swedes to Kansas: his wife Johanna and their five daughters, B. P. Oakleaf's wife Mary, three Oakleaf sons and two Oakleaf daughters, and, in addition, as B. P. recorded, "Swan Peterson and family, Carl Olson and family, Mr. Swan Larson, Mr. Sandburg and youngest daughter."

Decades later, Joseph B. Oakleaf, the Oakleafs' second son, recalled this adventure as seen through a boy's eyes. It was a fast trip – in eleven days, between September 20 and September 30, they traveled more than 520 miles, 180 of them by wagon caravan, averaging all told better than 47 miles per day. For the final part of the route, by wagon, the party followed the Missouri-Kansas

stat line some 140 miles directly south from Kansas City to the southeastern corner of Kansas, and from there almost directly west 40 miles to Mound Valley. Joseph remembered the names of a string of towns along the route, perhaps the locations of inns where the party stayed rather than making camp each evening and breaking camp every morning.¹¹

The journey to Kansas

In his reminiscence, Joseph wrote: "Father could have purchased land around Kansas City for \$10 an acre, but it was hilly and rough and he didn't think it was very good for farming. He wanted government land so he continued on south and finally reached the quarter section on which he lived when he died.

"He reached there [Mound Valley, Kansas] about the first of June, 1869, and built a house.

"Mother and we children left for Kansas on the 20th day of September, 1869, and there were several immigrants who had just come from Sweden who went with her. She had to be the spokesman for all of them.

"We went to Rock Island [Ill.] and took a steamboat for Quincy [Ill.] in order to get the Wabash train, as that was the only railroad which went through Kansas City. We took the Wabash railroad at Hannibal [Missouri] for Kansas City.

"When we reached Kansas City, Mother went out and hired a couple of wagons and two men to take the caravan down through Kansas. We passed through Fort Scott and Girard, they are the only towns I can remember, and then on through Columbus, I remember that, and the county seat of Cherokee County and Oswego, the county seat of Labette County. When we came to a hill halfway between Mound Valley and home, he [Peter Swanson] pointed out to us a light which shone from a house not far distant, and he said that was where Father lived. We were walking, and how jubilant we were that we would soon see Father. We had not seen him since May. The creek was low so we could ford it a



Joseph B. Oakleaf as a young man.

short distance from the wagon road, and then we started up towards the house. It was a little bit uphill all the way, and the light shone brightly.

Joy at meeting

We ran ahead of Mr. Swensson [Swanson] and pounded on the door and called "Papa, Papa, Papa." He had gone to bed, for he didn't know when we were coming. He was overjoyed to see us and we just hung onto him as though we could never let go. The next day, the first of October, was my birthday, and I was eleven years old.

"The next day the caravan arrived. Father had not seen the Petersons since we left them in Sweden, and they surrounded him and left Mother sitting over on the wagon waiting for him to come over to her. He was so bewildered he didn't seem to know which way to turn, so finally she called out, "Peter, don't you know I am here too?" Then of course he came to his senses and helped Mother down.

"It was a wonderful evening, and we didn't get to sleep until early morning. Just think of it! Some had to sleep out in the wagon, some under the wagon, and the rest crowded into the house, which was only thirteen by sixteen and beds were made on the floor. That was my first night on the old homestead where I lived until the fall of '76 when I went east to school.

Moving to Kansas, B. P. Oakleaf took the long view. Near his own claim, he also purchased a quarter section of land for each of his sons, and three of the Oakleaf sons—Charlie, Emanuel, and Steve—farmed there all their lives. Indeed the home place remained in the Oakleaf family for more than a century¹².

B. P. Oakleaf also joined with other civic-minded settlers in building the community of Mound Valley. He was among those investing in stores and encouraging business ventures, and until the government established a post office in Mound Valley, B. P. Oakleaf himself carried the mail seventeen miles from the county seat, Oswego.¹³

Son Joseph goes to school

Still, the quiet farm town of Mound Valley stood in contrast to the busy little industrial city of Moline. Schooling was sketchy, and B. P. Oakleaf seems to have recognized that by nature his son Joseph was meant for business, not farming. By age fifteen, Joseph was clerking in a store in the larger nearby town of Independence, Kansas, and then in Peru, a smaller and newer town, founded in 1870 further west in Kansas.¹⁴

In 1876, which he called “the year of the great grasshopper plague,” Joseph Oakleaf went east to Bailey’s Mercantile College in Keokuk, Iowa, on the Mississippi River about a hundred and twenty miles downstream from Moline.

On graduation, he returned to his birthplace, Moline. Within three years, he married Josephine Anderson, a daughter of Swedish immigrants who came to America on the same ship with B. P. and Mary Oakleaf, twenty-five years before.

In Moline, Joseph B. Oakleaf became a successful lawyer and a well-known collector of books and manuscripts concerning Abraham Lincoln. He wrote this memoir in April 1930, just two months before he died at age sixty-two.¹⁵

Notes:

- 1) Ilene Oakleaf Bussman, *Descendants of Benjamin Peter Oakleaf* (2008), formatted by a second Oakleaf descendant, Anne Frank Chittenden.
- 2) Hans Norman and Harald Runblom, *Transatlantic Connections: Nordic Migration to the New World After 1800* (Oslo: Norwegian University Press, 1988), p. 115.
- 3) Bussman, p. 11.
- 4) Bussman, pp. 11, 12.
- 5) Birth dates of Swanson daughters in membership roll of the First Lutheran Church of Moline (founded as the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Congregation in Moline), in Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois.
- 6) Lilly Setterdahl, *Swedes in Moline, Illinois, 1847-2002* (Moline: Universal Publishers, 2003), p. 17.
- 7) John Diehl, a John Deere employee of 1874, described the shop of earlier days, as quoted in Wayne G. Broehl, Jr., *John Deere’s Company: A History of Deere & Company and Its Times* (New York: Doubleday, 1984), p. 230.
- 8) Bussman, pp. 11, 12, 13, citing William G. Cutler, *History of the State of Kansas* (1883), Labette County, Part 29, Biographical Sketches. Moline city directories list Peter Swanson as working as a “lastmaker” (probably a misspelling of lathmaker; 1856) and sawyer (1867).
- 9) Bussman, p. 12; B. P. Oakleaf refers to Peter Swanson as Peter Sfanon, and Joseph refers to Peter Swanson as Svennson. The Swanson family left Kansas for Colorado in 1876 (perhaps as a result of the grasshopper plague that Joseph mentions) and seems to have disappeared from the Oakleafs’ awareness. (The eldest Swanson daughter, Augusta, married a local farmer, Charles Tibbets, and raised her family on the Tibbets’ farm near the Oakleaf farms south of Mound Valley.)

10) B. P. Oakleaf reminiscence, Mound Valley (Kansas) *Herald*, April 27, 1882, reprinted in Mound Valley *Times-Journal*, (Thursday, August 21, 1969). See also SAG 1/09, p.1.

11) Reproduced in Bussman, p. 12.

12) Until 1976, after the death of his grandson, Marcus Oakleaf, in 1974. Bussman, p. 14.

13) As he testifies in his own reminiscence and as recalled by his granddaughter, Gertrude Oakleaf Belknap, Bussman, p. 14.

14) William G. Cutler, *History of the State of Kansas* (1883), chapter on Chautauqua County. Peru, Kansas, is coincidentally the birthplace of Madelyn Dunham (born 1922), the grandmother of President Barack Obama.

15) Bussman, pp. 12, 19.



Joseph B. Oakleaf as an elderly man.

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Else Andersdotter

– one of the models for Kristina?

BY ELISABETH THORSELL

In SAG 2/08 we told the story of Andrew Peterson, who left Sweden as Anders Pettersson in 1850 and became a farmer in Minnesota. He wrote diaries for many years, and author Vilhelm Moberg used those as part of the sources that described Karl Oskar Nilsson's life in Minnesota.

Andrew's wife *Else Andersdotter* is seldom mentioned. Still she was an important part of the pioneering life.

She was born in 8 Oct. 1835 at Brunslöv #8 in the parish of Östraby in Malmöhus county, the eighth child of the *rusthållare* and shoemaker Anders Ingemansson and his wife Elna Olsdotter. Anders died 3 May 1851 in Brunslöv (of a long-lasting illness), and his widow had to care for all the children.

In the later 1850s Elna immigrated to the U.S., and so did at least six of her children, and they all seem to have settled in Minnesota. Most of the children seem to have used variations of their father's patronymic as surnames; Ingeman, Ingemanson and Engman).

Else soon (15 Sep. 1858 in Waconia, MN) married Andrew Peterson and started her life as a pioneer wife.

Andrew and Else (called Ellen and Elsie in the various censuses) lived the rest of their lives on a farm in Laketown, Carver County, Minnesota. Andrew died 31 March 1898. They had nine children but none of them had any children in their turn.

In the 1920 census Elsie Peterson is still the "head" of household, and with her lived son John (56), son Charlie (54), son Frank J. (52), daughter Emma R. (49), and son Oscar B. (41). Elsie died 8 March 1922 in Carver County, MN.



Picture of Else Andersdotter Peterson around 1890–1900.

Else Andersdotter's ancestors

1 *Else Andersdotter*, born 8 Oct 1835 in Brunslöv 8, Östraby, M [C]. Died 8 Mar 1922 in Scandia/Waconia, MN, USA. To the U.S. in 1858. (Father 2, Mother 3)

Married 15 Sep 1858 in Scandia/Waconia, MN, U.S.A. to *Andrew (Anders) Peterson*, born 20 Oct 1818 in Sjöarp, Västra Ryd E. Died 31 Mar 1898 in Scandia/Waconia, MN, U.S.A.

Children:

Ida Peterson, born 5 Aug 1859. Died 2 Nov 1900.

George "Sture" Peterson, born 19 Feb 1861. Died 21 Dec 1928.

John "Axel" Peterson, born 16 Dec 1862. Died 6 Mar 1930.

Charles Peterson, born 8 Apr 1865. Died 30 Oct 1941.

Frank Peterson, born 29 Oct 1867. Died 22 Jun 1921.

Emma Peterson, born 11 Apr 1870. Died 17 May 1943.

Anna Peterson, born 14 May 1872. Died 19 Sep 1889.

Josephine Peterson, born 13 Aug 1875. Died 18 Oct 1908.

Oscar Peterson, born 3 Dec 1878. Died 24 Jul 1941.

Generation I

2 f *Anders Ingemansson*, born 31 Aug 1788 in Bjelkhults hus, Fränninge, M [C]. Died 3 May 1851 in Brunslöv 8, Östraby, M [Östraby Death records]. He was a *rusthållare* and shoemaker, first at Tulsåkra in Östra Sallerup, Malmöhus län, and moved with his family in 1825 to Östraby, also Malmöhus län, where he lived the rest of his life. Ref: Östraby AI:3:254. (Child 1, Father 4, Mother 5)

Married 16 April 1820 in Östraby to the following ancestor.

Children:

Nils Andersson, born 17 Feb 1821 in Tulsåkra, Östra Sallerup, M [C].

He moved to Skartofta in 1842, not followed.

Margareta Andersdotter, born 20 Feb 1823 in Tulsåkra, Östra Sallerup, M. She probably stayed in Sweden.

Elna Andersdotter. Born 2 Mar 1825 in Tulsåkra, Östra Sallerup, M.

To America in 1856 with her husband Hans Olsson Ringius and their children. They evidently soon came back, as they emigrated again 1868 from Västerstad parish, also in Malmöhus län (*Emibas*).

Hanna Andersdotter, born 2 Mar 1827 in Brunslöv, Östraby M. To America in 1858 with her husband Ola Johansson and their five children.

Bengta /Bertha Andersdotter, born 14 May 1829 in Brunslöv, Östraby M. She might have emigrated too, but is not found in *Emibas*.

Anna Andersdotter, born 12 Apr 1831 in Brunslöv, Östraby, M. To America in 1858, probably in the company of her mother and sister Else.

Ola Andersson, born 27 Nov 1833 in Brunslöv, Östraby, M, not followed.

Else Andersdotter, born 8 Oct 1835 in Brunslöv 8, Östraby, M [C]. Died 8 Mar 1922 in Scandia/Waconia, MN, U.S.A. (See 1).

Elisabet Andersdotter, born (twin) 21 Jun 1840 in Brunslöv, Östraby, M. To America in 1858. Lived at Brunslöv nr 8. (*Emigranten Populär, Emipass*)

Johannes Andersson, born (twin) 21 Jun 1840. Died 6 Apr 1841 in Brunslöv, Östraby, M.

3 m *Elna Olsdotter*, born 13 Sep 1798 in Sniberup, Östraby, M. To America in 1858. (Child 1, Father 6, Mother 7)

Married 16 April 1820 in Östraby to the previous ancestor.

Generation II

4 ff *Ingeman Mårtensson*. Lodger (*husman*) at Bjelkhults hus in Fränninge, M. (Child 2)

Married 30 Sep 1781 in Öved, M [E] to the following ancestor.

Children:

Anna Ingemansdotter, born 23 Jan 1785 in Bjelkhults hus, Fränninge, M [C].

Anders Ingemansson, born 31 Aug 1788 in Bjelkhults hus, Fränninge, M [C]. Died 3 May 1851 in Brunslöv 8, Östraby, M [Östraby F]. (See 2).

5 fm *Elna Persdotter*. (Child 2)

Married 30 Sep 1781 in Öved, M [E] to the previous ancestor.

6 mf *Ola Larsson*, born 17 Feb 1752 in Östraby, Östraby M. Died 30 Oct in Sniberup 10 in Östraby. Farmer at Sniberup 10, Östraby. (Child 3). Married 1st 21 May 1779 in Östraby [E] to Truen Nilsdotter, born 4 Dec 1749 in Östraby. Died 18 May 1793 (in childbed) in Sniberup, Östraby. Married 2nd to the following ancestor.

Children:

1. *Ingar Olsdotter*, born 4 Apr 1780 in Sniberup, Östraby M.

1. *Bolla Olsdotter*, born 5 Mar 1783 in Sniberup, Östraby M.

2. *Elna Olsdotter*. Born 13 Sep 1798 in Sniberup, Östraby M. (See 3).

7 mm *Margareta Svendsdotter?* born 1753 in Östraby, M (Child 3) Married to the previous ancestor.

-0-0-0-

[C] = date from birth records

[E] = date from marriage records

[F] = date from death records

M = code letter for Malmöhus län

(Research by Birgitta Rääf, Lena Kindstedt, and Elisabeth Thorsell)



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News from the Swenson Center

The 2009 Olsson scholar

— Erika Jackson-Eckerly

Erika Jackson-Eckerly of Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan has been named the Olsson Scholar for 2009.

Ms. Jackson-Eckerly is working on a project which she describes as follows:

The focus of my dissertation, titled “Scandinavian Preferred”: Nordic Ethnic Identity, Gender, and Work within Chicago, 1879-1933,” centers on the public and private representations of Swedish, Norwegian, and Danish women and men who navigated Chicago and transformed city spaces into their adopted homes. At the peak of migration from the Northern and Western European countries to America in the 1880s, several editorial commentators would create nativist dialogues that conceived of Nordic ethnicity as falling into the upper echelons of an imagined social pyramid.

Following these commentaries within newspapers, many Chicagoans began to form very specific social conceptions of the “typical” Scandinavian – images focused on both the physical and behavioral ideals of Nordic identity, equating Scandinavian women with fair beauty and men with a virile, yet gentle brand of masculine traits. The World’s Columbian Exposition of 1893 would play a vital role in the transmission of such ideals, as Sweden’s and Norway’s pavilions represented their own as well-educated, poised, and culturally proud – even in the wake of nativist calls for acculturation into American society for all who wished to be “American.”

In this era, the urban elite of Chicago’s Prairie Avenue district and the North Shore regions would come to view Scandinavians as equally trustworthy and poised, and would not only seek the services of recruiting

agencies within the city, but would place advertisements in papers such as the *Chicago Tribune* and the *Chicago Daily News* which would note their preference for Swedish, Norwegian, or Danish women and men as workers in their palatial homes.

These combined social practices would create a vital public discourse focused on representations of how Americans perceived Scandinavians. Therefore, my dissertation links the importance of these urban and suburban spaces to the ways in which Scandinavians made use of such perceptions to meet their needs, as many were able to find success and eventually move into the suburban edges of the city.

The ultimate goal of my study is to create a narrative that employs the study of labor, immigration/emigration, ethnicity, women and gender, consumer culture, and sexuality in an effort to better understand the experiences of Scandinavian immigrants in Chicago. Within my research of Scandinavian immigrants, I hope to move past older frameworks and interpretive methods to incorporate more contemporary and analytical concepts, including the study of ethnic identity and cross-cultural contact; comparative study of the dichotomy between the urban and suburban experiences of Scandinavian immigrants within Chicago; interpretation of cultural symbols to explore the creation of spatial, physical, and emotional ties Scandinavians formed with their cities and neighborhoods; and gender analysis to investigate the identities and experiences of Scandinavians as men and women at work, home, and leisure.

For my dissertation, I am currently in the process of drafting my second and third chapters, which

focus on representations of Scandinavians in the media and in public dialogue, as well as the experiences of work within the urban sphere. At the Swenson Center, the source that appears to be the most vital to my study is journalist Inge Lund’s impressions of the working conditions of Swedish immigrant domestics in her work, *En Piga i U.S.A.: ett pennskafts äventyr* – this perspective of an outsider to the job but an insider to the culture would help to better contextualize my discussion of Swedish domestics at the turn of the century. There are a number of works that also appear to explore the historical dichotomy of work and home, including Allan T. Nilson’s book, *They Built Railway Cars* on the Swedish perspective of the Pullman experiment; documents from Chicago’s Immanuel Woman’s Home; and Per Nordahl’s *Weaving the Ethnic Fabric* on Swedish-American radicals in Chicago. Within my work, I am also looking to expand upon the evidence of immigrant voices by using Anna Larson’s recollections of Chicago’s suburban regions in the 1880s in *Mom’s Letters Home*, and by exploring additional archival collections held at the Swenson Center. For my final chapters that focus on the growth of Scandinavians in the middle- to upper-classes, I intend to compare the records of the Swedish Blue Books from 1927 through 1930 to a collection of sources I have located at North Park University in Chicago. In completing my dissertation research, I am eager to explore the archival and library holdings at the Swenson Center and am confident that these materials will be essential to my study of Scandinavians in Chicago.

Those mysterious words – what do they mean? Part 2

BY ELISABETH THORSELL

Koja

A *koja* is a very small, probably also poor, cottage. My dictionary translates it as a “hovel.”

Bonde (pl. bönder)

In general it means farmer, but there were three kinds of farmers:

1) *skattebonde*; he owned his land, the children could inherit it, and he paid his taxes to the Crown directly.

2) *frälsebonde*; he farmed land belonging to a nobleman (*adelsman*), and paid his taxes to the nobleman, who kept it, as the nobility was exempt from ordinary taxes. After 1789 a *frälsebonde* was able to buy the land he had rented from his landlord.

3) *kronobonde*; he farmed lands belonging to the Crown and paid his taxes to the Crown. It was possible

from 1701 for the *kronobonde* to buy the land, and he had priority to buy the farm he lived on. This is called “*skatteköp*” and there are records about these purchases that can give a description of the various fields and other properties belonging to the farm, and also the price that was paid.

Inheritance of farmland

When a *skattebonde* died, one of his children usually took over the farm, and after evaluation paid the siblings their share of the value. The distribution of the inheritance (*arvskifte*) was regarded as a private matter, and does not often show up in the records of the local court.

But it was a different matter if the farmer wanted to sell land. If he had inherited it, it was called “*arvejord*.”

This type of land could not be sold out of the extended family, unless nobody wanted it. The intended sale had to be announced (*uppbjudet*) at three court meetings. If nobody in the family complained, then the buyer would get his land title (*lagfart*) during the fourth court meeting.

Land that people had purchased themselves (*avlingejord*) was easier to sell, but still had to be announced at three court meetings.

The records for purchases of land are kept in the records of the local court (*häradsrätt*), and are micro-filmed to the mid-1800s. During the 1800s the documents in possession of the farmer about land purchases start to be listed in the estate inventories (*bouppteckningar*).

Försvarslös

In the old days you had to have a steady job, like being a farmer, a tenant farmer, a craftsman, or be hired as a *dräng* or *piga* for a year.

If you did not have a master who gave you protection (*försvar*) and who could write a testimony for you, you might end up as being regarded as a vagrant (*lösdrivare*).

A vagrant could be arrested and taken to the county capital (*residensstaden*), and interrogated. These interrogations (*förhör*) are still to be found in the county records.

If your answers were not satisfactory, you might end up in the enlisted army, or be sentenced to work in a state-owned quarry.

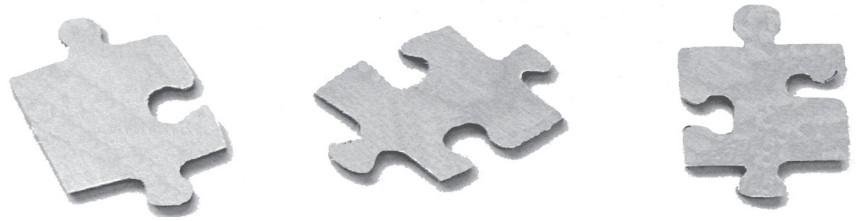
Women usually were sent to a female prison, where they worked spinning for factories.

If a vagrant could find somebody in the home parish to give him/her a job, he/she was released.



The interior of a “*koja*” in Åsle, Västergötland. Imagine man, wife and six kids in the one room!

Bits & Pieces



Olov Isaksson Award to Lilly Setterdahl

The Bishop Hill Society in Sweden has decided to award the 2009 Olov Isaksson Prize to Lilly Setterdahl of East Moline, Illinois.

The Society described Setterdahl as one of the most widely traveled documenters of immigration history. They noted her translation and publishing of letters from Bishop Hill settlers to Sweden, her extensive immigration research that she and her late husband, Lennart Setterdahl, carried out as they traveled within the U.S. interviewing and recording oral histories of Swedish Americans, and the resulting cultural and historical research articles and books that she has published.



SAG congratules Lilly!

Dalsland Conference on 13–15 August 2010

The three-day Emigration Conference starts with a tour of Dalsland on Friday, continues with seminars at Kulturbruket Mellerud on Saturday, and concludes with a church service on Sunday. The conference fee includes Friday lunch and supper, Saturday lunch, snacks and banquet, and Sunday church coffee with Swedish sandwiches.

See a link on page 30.

Dr Peter S. Craig Receives Award



Dr. Peter S. Craig will receive the Swedish Colonial Society's Lifetime Achievement Award at the Centennial Jubilee Dinner of the Society on 23 October 2009 in Philadelphia. Dr. Craig is considered the authority on the genealogy and biography of the Swedes who settled in New Sweden in the 17th century. He is also a descendant of many of them.

Dr Craig is also a Contributing Editor of SAG. SAG sends its congratulations!

Swedish Consulates in the U.S. to be Closed

At a press conference held 23 July 2009, Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs, Carl Bildt, disclosed that the consulates general in New York and Los Angeles will be closed in 2010. The cutbacks, which also include consulates in other countries, have been made necessary to restore order to the finances of the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. For the last years, since 2006, the ministry has a total deficit of 50 million SEK.

(*Svenska Dagbladet* 23 July 2009).

Chicago SAMAC Volunteer Awards

In April 2009 a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was held at the *Swedish American Museum* in Chicago. Each year the museum honors a "Volunteer of the Year." This year they honored two people who have done a lot of work to redo the Nordic Family Research Room in the museum, now renamed the Nordic Family Genealogy Center. The award recipients were Susan Jackson and Wayne Nelson, both longtime members of the annual SAG Workshop in Salt Lake City.

Thanks to Shirley Koelling for sharing this piece of news! And congratulations to Sue and Wayne!

The Swedish Genealogical Society Has a New President

In April 2009 Tomas Risbecker was elected president of the *Genealogiska Föreningen*, or The Swedish Genealogical Society, that started in 1933.

The society has had its ups and downs, but now seems to be regaining its strength. It has revived its journal *Släkt och Hävd*, which ceased publication a couple of years ago. The society has initiated a project to digitize its extensive collections, beginning with the large number of press clippings of births, marriages, and deaths from the 1930s onwards. The society has also recently published a CD with 7,000 Stockholm divorces from the 1800s.

Tomas Risbecker is a longtime SAG reader. He is now working on a book about brigadier general Carl Johan Stålbrand, a.k.a. Carlos J. Stohlbrand of Civil War fame.

www.genealogi.net

AHA Gathering VII at Augustana Celebrates Sesquicentennial

AUGUSTANA HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

The *Augustana Heritage Gathering VII* in Rock Island, Illinois, next June 10-13 will offer special opportunities to remember the beginnings of the historic Augustana Synod and its institutions during this 2010 Sesquicentennial Year of its founding in 1860.

Archbishop Anders Wejryd of the Church of Sweden, himself a former exchange student in Sparta, Michigan, has confirmed his participation, as have ELCA Bishop Mark Hanson, and Bishop Gary Wollersheim of the Northern Illinois Synod.

In recognition of the role played by Swedish operatic star Jenny Lind in funding early Augustana ministries, Sweden will also send its 2010 Jenny Lind Travel Scholarship winner and her accompanist to the gathering for a special Friday evening Jenny Lind concert, in connection with traditional Midsummer festivities.

Symposia and lectures are now being developed to tell the many stories of Augustana ministries, with special emphasis on the role of women and foreign ministries. Topics include the Americanization of the Augustana Synod, founder Lars Paul Esbjörn's continued contacts with, and interest in, the Augustana Synod after returning to Sweden, Augustana hymnody, and the impact of Augustana traditions on contemporary church life and ministry.

A day tour of Augustana Synod immigrant sites in the area is being planned to include the Jenny Lind Chapel and Augustana Lutheran Church at Andover, and nearby sites related to its earliest ministries, including First Lutheran Church of Moline and other locations in and around the Quad Cities.

Remember your heritage. Enjoy a Midsummer celebration. Explore the legacy of the Augustana Synod.

A registration form will be in the Augustana Heritage Association Fall Newsletter which is sent to all members of AHA. To become a member, check out the web site.

Välkommen!



The Rev. Lars Paul Esbjörn (1808-70), the founder of the Augustana Synod. Photo courtesy of Special Collections, Augustana College, Rock Island.

Web site: www.augustanaheritage.org
E-mail (local contact): AHA@graceknoxville.org
Phone (AHA at LSTC): 1-800-635-1116 ext. 712



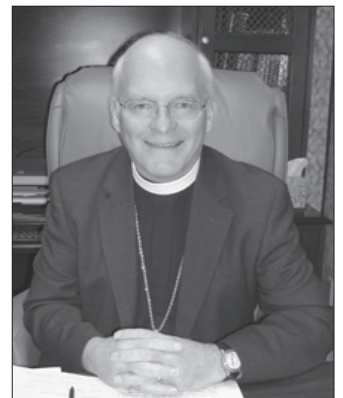
Jenny Lind, singer.



Archbishop Anders Wejryd of Sweden.



Bishop Mark Hanson of the ELCA.



Bishop Gary Wollersheim of the Northern Illinois Synod.

A couple of new Swedish CD databases

During the annual Genealogy Days (*Släktforskar dagarna*) held every year in different locations, this time in Falköping, a number of new CD-databases were shown. Some of them might be of interest to some of the SAG readers.

1. Divorced in Stockholm



This CD lists 7,220 divorces registered in the minutes of the Stockholm City Consistory, which was the court of the church in Stockholm. The database is searchable on the first name and the surname of the people involved. A hit shows the date of the decision in the Consistory, and then you would have to contact the Stockholm City Archives (*Stadsarkivet*) to ask them for copies of the document concerning this divorce.

As an example, the date of decision of divorce for Anders Gustaf Brown and Olivia Augusta Laurentia Lejkell (misspelled Lajkell), was found to have been 8 Jan. 1884 [grandparents of Nils William Olsson, SAG founder].

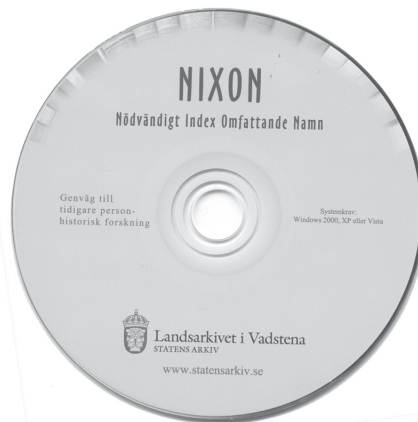
This CD has been produced by Genealogiska Föreningen [Swedish Genealogical Society] and costs about 200 SEK.

Their e-mail is [<info@genealogi.net>](mailto:info@genealogi.net)

2. Nixon (Necessary Index Of Names)

Since 1994 the staff of the regional archives of Vadstena has been working on indexing a large number of books of genealogy and biography, mostly concerning the area of *Östergötland*, *Småland*, and *Öland*. By now the database contains some 500,000 names with a reference to the name of the book, and even a number of sources in the archive.

The search interface is a little bit unusual, in that you will have to remember to use capitals in names, not *bjälbo*, but *Bjälbo*, nor *lundin*, but *Lundin*.



Nixon costs about 395 SEK, and more information can be had by e-mailing [<claes.westling@landsarkivet.vadstena.ra.se>](mailto:claes.westling@landsarkivet.vadstena.ra.se)

3. PLF disc 2

The genealogical society of Oskarshamn, called PLF, has for many years worked on a database on all people born, married, or died in Kalmar county. They have extended their project into nearby Jönköping and Östergötland counties, and in 2006 a set of four CD discs was released. Those discs have been very useful, and PLF keeps updating. Recently they published a new version of disc 2, which covers the middle part of Kalmar county and “some parishes” (52) in Jönköping county.



The PLF cds, there are four of them, can be very useful if used with care. All dates must be checked in the original records, just as in all other databases.

For more information, see the link on page 30.

Some other CD:s

There are new versions in the works for both the *Kronoberg* and the *Jönköping* area databases.

For *Blekinge* Björn-Åke Petersson has produced 3 CD:s with transcriptions of the introductions in the estate inventories (*bouppteckning*) for the *Östra härad* (1737–1840), for *Karlskrona city* (1790–1828) and for the *Medelstad härad* (1699–1799). The price is 300 SEK each + postage.

For more information, contact [<peterssonkallinge@yahoo.se>](mailto:peterssonkallinge@yahoo.se) The Östgöta Genealogical Society sells CD:s with the same kind of transcriptions for all the *härad*er and the cities of *Östergötland*.

For more information, contact [<barbro.behrendtz@telia.com>](mailto:barbro.behrendtz@telia.com)

For more news about available CD-databases, you can check out this web site: <http://www.dis.se/cdindex.htm> which is a part of the DIS web site. DIS is The Computer Genealogy Society of Sweden, started in 1980. You can not buy CD:s from them, but they can tell you where to find them.

Elisabeth Thorsell



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A Swede in Joliet prison

BY ELISABETH THORSELL

How many of your 19th century ancestors do you know this much about?

This young man evidently ran afoul of the law and ended up in Joliet Prison, Joliet, Illinois.

This is what the prison records tell about him:

Name: Otto Nord

Date of reception: 23 Dec. 1886

Number: 8044

County Court: Knox

Crime and sentence: Horse stealing, 3 years 6 months

Age: 26

Height: 5 ft 8½

Weight: 170

Complexion: Medium dark

Eye color: blue

Hair color: brown

Nativity: Sweden

Occupation: farm laborer

Religion: catholic [!??]

Education: R & W 4 years

Habits (alcohol): moderate

Are parents living? Or

age of prisoner when

parents died: Mother living, father age 25.

Father's POB: Sweden

Mother's POB: Sweden

Age of prisoner when

he left home: 22

Conjugal staus: single

When discharged: 23 Oct. 1889

In Sweden

What was Otto's background? According to *Emibas* Otto Ludvig was born 23 March 1860 in Fliseryd in Kalmar län, one of at least seven children of the homestead owner Erland Nord (b.1823 in Döderhult) and his wife Maria Persdotter (b. 1831 in Döderhult). When Otto left home in 1882 for the trip to the U.S., they all lived at Kvarntorp 1 in Fliseryd.

In the prison record it says that Otto's father died when Otto was 25 years old, and Erland Nord did die 7 Aug. in 1885, according to Fliseryd AI:11, p. 338.

Of Otto's siblings his sister Maria Sofia, born 9 May 1863, left on 11 Nov. 1883 for Galesburg (*Emihamn*). A few years later sister Emma Julia, born 23 July 1866 in Fliseryd, left for America on 5 Sept. 1887 (not found in *Emihamn*).

In America

Otto had a ticket for Galesburg when he left from Göteborg on 19 May 1882, and so far nothing more is known about his early life in the U.S., except that he was sentenced in Knox County in 1886. If he for some reason had to steal a horse, then he probably was wise to do it in the more civilized part of the country; further out west he might have been hanged from a tree.

As he was released after less than

3 years in prison, he probably showed good conduct.

He is not found in the 1900 U.S. Federal Census, but in 1910 he is living in Rockford, Winnebago County, IL, and works as a finisher in a furniture factory. He is married to Mathilda Christine, a fellow Swede, born ca 1871, and they had been married for seven years (ca 1903). She probably was a widow as there were children in the family older than that: Edward (18), Walter R (16), Norma M (14), and Harold E (10). The youngest was Ture L. Nord, born ca 1904. By 1930 they are still in Rockford; Otto is now a janitor in an apartment building, and stepson Edward S. Olson is an assistant in a bottling factory.

So after his time in prison Otto Nord came back to an ordinary life, which probably was a blessing for him, instead of becoming one of the many "missing Swedes."

A link to the prison records is found on page 30.



Joliet Prison, where Otto Nord spent almost 3 years.

Finding Sissa (and much more)

– A journey into the past

BY LISA LINDELL

In 1997, my article “Searching for Sissa” appeared in the *Swedish American Genealogist*.¹ Over a decade later, I am still engaged in and fascinated by the pursuit of family history. Although I know little Swedish beyond a few basic terms and am certainly a genealogy amateur, a breakthrough in the Sissa search and recent discoveries on a related line have rekindled my excitement in tracing my Swedish roots. In my research, I have relied upon the indispensable work of family members, record keepers, and genealogists, and have greatly benefited from the wealth of information and original records now accessible online.

“Searching for Sissa” was the story of researching my great-great-grandmother (the mother of my father’s maternal grandmother). Swedish-born Sissa was a Kansas immigrant who died in 1887 at the age of forty-one.² Surviving her were her husband Nels (whom she had married in Illinois) and ten children. The youngest was two-week-old Phillop, who, sadly, died a week after Sissa; and the oldest was my great-grandmother Jennie, who at seventeen was obliged to take on a mother’s role.

Sissa’s background

Sissa’s ancestry and even her maiden name were unknown to our family and presented a challenge to trace. In our search, we consulted obituaries (including one initially sending us on a false trail), family letters and diaries, church and census records from Illinois and Kansas, and, finally, the Bräkne-Hoby, and Gammalstorp parish records in the county (*län*) of Blekinge in southern Sweden.

There we found a Sissa Jönsdotter born in Fogdakärr, Bräkne-Hoby, on the exact date as our Kansas Sissa. This Sissa Jönsdotter moved to Gammalstorp parish in 1860 and left there for America in 1869, shortly after my great-great-grandfather Nils Jönsson emigrated from the same parish.³ (Unlike with Sissa, Nils’s immediate ancestry and path from Sweden to America were, happily, straightforward to track.)

The right Sissa!

In my 1997 article, I could not state with certainty that the Sissa Jönsdotter we had found in the Swedish records was my great-great-grandmother. Since that time, however, I have discovered parish records which wholly convince me that we do indeed have the right Sissa.

In two household examination rolls (*husförhörslängder*) from Gammalstorp parish in the 1860s, the Sissa we had traced from Bräkne-Hoby and my great-great-grandfather Nils

are listed on the same page in the village of Agerum.⁴ Their close proximity explains how they would have known each other prior to Nils’s immigration to America in 1868 and the couple’s marriage upon Sissa’s arrival in 1869.

Even before I became certain of her identity, I had begun searching the Bräkne-Hoby records to find Sissa Jönsdotter’s ancestry. I was able to follow her father’s line back one generation and her mother’s line back two generations. But then I came up against a seemingly insurmountable barrier, caused by the loss of critical church records in nineteenth century fires in the parishes of Jämshög (*Blekinge län*) and Näsrum (*Kristianstad län*) where Sissa’s parents were from. I had almost given up tracing the line further when I serendipitously happened upon <http://www.jamshog.net/>, a website devoted to the local history of Jämshög and Kyrkhult parishes. Scarcely daring to hope, I wrote to

18	41	14	Fastlandet	v.	Näsrum	62
	32	24/6	Agerum			27/10
	41	10	N: 43	v.	p. 220	1868
19	36	25	Sjövisberg			
	43	1	Näsrum	v.	Näsrum	13- 63
20	44	14	Blekinge	v.	721	64
21	37	15	Agerum		p. 978	64
22	48	21	Agerum	v.	p. 82	64
23						
24						
25	46	12	Hoby	v.	p. 28	65

The Gammalstorp clerical survey (*Husförhörslängd*), AI:18, [1861-1866] page 379, showing Nils Jönsson and his future wife Sissa working at Agerum #42.

the site manager with my dilemma and got an immediate reply, "I can help you!" followed in a few days with about thirty new family names, some of them going back to the 1600s. My source for this welcome new information, genealogist *Maj-Britt Sundin*, has spent over twenty-five years compiling the family lines of Jämshög and Kyrkhult parishioners. What satisfaction to finally be able to complete the search for Sissa and fully place her within our family history.⁵

Another track

In the meantime, the difficulties with Sissa led to other unexpected results. While stalled on Sissa's line, I became absorbed in tracing a related Swedish line, that of my great-grandfather Peter Lundin (the husband of Sissa's daughter Jennie. His Swedish name: Per Svensson), which led to intriguing discoveries and broadened my historical knowledge.

Like Sissa, Peter emigrated from Sweden, a young adult, and died an untimely death. After arriving in America in 1886 from Våghult in Kyrkhult parish, Blekinge, Peter settled in Gypsum, Kansas, and found employment with the Missouri Pacific Railroad. He married Jennie in 1895, and the couple moved to Colorado, where Peter continued railroad work. In 1904, while working as a section foreman near Colorado Springs, Peter was fatally injured in a fall from a building. He died at the age of forty-four,⁶ leaving Jennie with three young children and another child on the way.

Jennie, who was once again shouldering weighty family responsibility, moved back to Kansas and successfully raised her children on a farm near Assaria in Saline County.

Peter's background

As I began work on Peter's family, research already done by family members proved invaluable. My uncle had traced one line of Peter's ancestry back five generations, and both he and my father have preserved many family papers and pho-

tographs. My father's font of stories and memories from treasured times spent visiting his grandmother Jennie and the family at the Kansas farm were also of great interest. In 1997, my father had a headstone placed on Peter's previously unmarked grave in Colorado Springs to honor his grandfather's memory and to benefit future generations interested in family history.

Following Peter's lineage back to Sweden, we learned that Peter's mother Elna Ingemansdotter had died when Peter was just five years old and that Peter's father subsequently married Elna's sister Inga.⁷

Unexpected roots

In pursuing the ancestry of the two sisters, I have been excited to learn more about my family's religious and cultural heritage. A sense of personal connection with events and movements of the past brings history fascinatingly alive. Our research soon uncovered a seventeenth century German connection.

Peter's third great-grandfather Lorentz Christian Schöning was born in Germany (likely in Brandenburg) in 1681. Unfortunately, information about his ancestry is yet unknown. After immigrating to Sweden, Schön-



Peter and Jennie Lundin ca 1900. (Lisa Lindell collection).

ing resided in Malmö in Malmöhus län (now part of Skåne län), and, in 1712, came to Jämshög. There, he served as *klockare* for forty-five years. The *klockare* (literally "one who tolls the bells") was the parish clerk or sexton. Schöning's duties included teaching the children and youth of the congregation. Upon his



Jämshög church, photo from about 1900. Picture from "Kulturmiljöbilder," at http://www.kms.raa.se/cocoon/bild/public_search.html

death in 1761 at the age of eighty, Schöning was buried in the main aisle of the Jämshög church. Jöran Johan Öller, in his account of Jämshög parish published in 1800, commended Schöning's exemplary instruction, beautiful handwriting, and thoroughness and honesty in his job.⁸

Online sources

The ready online accessibility of primary sources and email communication has been of tremendous help in my research. Through this means, I was able to establish with certainty the ancestry of Lorentz Schöning's wife Anna Catharina Corvin, my sixth great-grandmother. I was especially fortunate to receive the generous assistance of Blekinge genealogist (and sixth cousin) *Hans Rosenlund*, who shared with me the estate inventory of Anna Catharina's sister Maja, identifying Anna Catharina as the full sister of Maja and daughter of Wilhelm Corvin. Anna Catharina was the daughter and granddaughter of parish pastors (*kyrkoherdar*) from Ronneby, Blekinge. Her father Wilhelm Corvin was ordained in 1692 and her grandfather Hans Willumsen Corvin in 1654. Brief biographies of both of these men are included in the *Lunds Stifts herdaminne*, a multi-volume work providing historical information about the pastors of Lund diocese.

Many men of the cloth

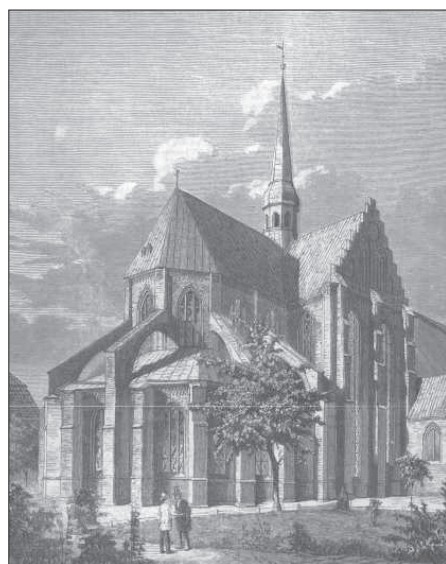
I discovered that many other men in the Corvin line entered the ministry as well. Notable among these was Hans Hansen Raffn (the maternal grandfather of Hans Willumsen Corvin), who served as parish pastor and dean of St. Petri in Malmö in what is now the southern tip of Sweden. I learned that Raffn (sometimes known by his Latin name Johannes Johannis Corvinus) was popular with his parishioners and was also a translator of literature and hymns. In 1625, Raffn died of the plague and was buried at the altar of St. Petri church in the same tomb as Claus Mortensen, a predecessor at

St. Petri and producer of the first Danish hymnal (*Malmö-salmebogen*), published in 1528.⁹

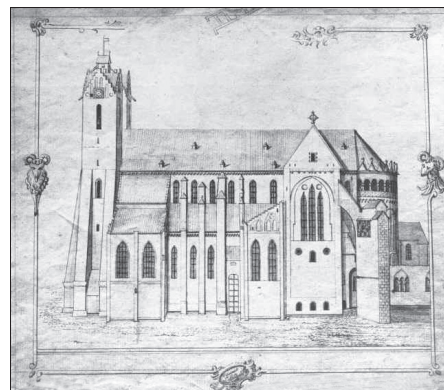
They were Danes!

This Danish reference brought to light a part of Scandinavian history of which I had been previously unaware. In going back in time, I found that my Swedish ancestors and their fellow citizens had unexpectedly turned Danish. Southernmost Sweden belonged to Denmark until the Treaty of Roskilde in 1658. Thus, my seventeenth-century progenitors changed nationalities, even though they remained in the same location.

In researching these new Danish ancestors, I came upon Baltzer Jacobsen (my twelfth great-grandfather and the paternal great-great-grandfather of Hans Willumsen Corvin). Jacobsen served as archdeacon in Lund from 1562 until his death in 1585, when he was buried in the Lund Cathedral (*Lunds domkyrka*). Born around 1522 in Malmö, Jacobsen grew up as the Protestant Reformation swept across northern Europe. Malmö, in fact, was one of the first Scandinavian cities to embrace Protestantism in the 1520s and played a leading role in the evangelical movement. Malmö's alliance with the Hanseatic League



The Malmö Sankt Petri church. Illustration from 1867 in Ny Illustrerad Tidning.



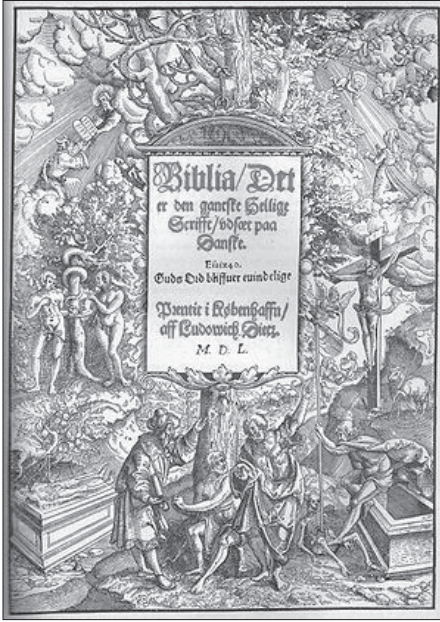
Drawing of Lund Cathedral by S. Abildgard from 1753. Source: http://www.kms.raa.se/cocoon/bild/public_search.html

closely connected it to the towns of northern Germany, bringing in ships bearing not only trade goods but also the Protestant faith. Local reform leader and hymn writer Claus Mortensen was the first Lutheran pastor in Malmö.¹⁰

While tracking Baltzer Jacobsen, I learned that he attended Wittenberg University in Wittenberg, Germany, in the 1540s. Here, professor Martin Luther had ignited the Reformation with the posting of his 95 theses in 1517 and his doctrine of justification by grace through faith. A roster of the Danish students attending the university during the time of the Reformation shows that Jacobsen matriculated in July 1543. During Jacobsen's years at Wittenberg, Luther was still active, serving as the dean of the theology faculty until his death in 1546. I find it amazing that a direct ancestor of mine lived in such close proximity to Luther, no doubt influenced and inspired by this revolutionary figure and giant of the faith.¹¹

Bible translators

Also meaningful to learn and to savor was the fact that two of Jacobsen's relatives, both early converts to Lutheranism, were instrumental in the first translations of the Bible into Danish. Jacobsen's brother-in-law Christiern Petersen was first to produce a full translation. This Bible, completed before 1543 and reworked and published by a royal Bible commission in 1550, was declared by



The first page of the Danish Bible from 1550.

King Christian III as the official Bible of Denmark. In 1524, Jacobsen's probable uncle Hans Mikkelsen (Mickelsen) had been the first to translate the New Testament into Danish.¹²

As I persevere in tracing my family's roots, I feel blessed to have discovered such remarkable stories and ancestors. My genealogical quest has been a richly rewarding experience. In addition to the historical learning opportunities, I love the puzzle component. Carefully fitting together the clues and discovering a new ancestor or lead is always exciting and a powerful enticement to persist.

Notes

1. "Searching for Sissa," *Swedish American Genealogist* 17.1 (March 1997), pp. 23-28.
2. Sissa died 24 July 1887 near Salemsborg, Saline County, Kansas.
3. Sissa Jönsdotter was born 12 January 1846. She left Gammelstorp parish on 20 April 1869 to come to America. Nels left Gammelstorp parish 29 May 1868.
4. Gammelstorp parish (Blek.) Household Examination Rolls Vol. AI:18 [1861-1866], p. 379; vol. AI:1:20 [1866-1871], p. 442.

5. Sissa's father Jöns Pettersson was born 6 May 1804 in Jämshög parish and died 1 June 1855 in Fogdakärr, Bräkne-Hoby parish. Sissa's mother Berta Carlsdotter was born in Näsrum parish on 2 November 1801 and died 6 June 1855 in Fogdakärr, Bräkne-Hoby; no cause of death is listed for either of them. I am indebted to Maj-Britt Sundin for her help in supplying the names of further generations of Sissa's ancestry. (Sundin, "Re: Seeking help in tracing ancestors from Jämshög," email message to author, 26 April 2009).
6. Per Svensson (Peter Lundin) was born 22 July 1860 in Våghult, Jämshög parish. He left Kyrkhult parish 9 March 1886 to come to America. He married Jennie Johnson 12 October 1895 in Salina, Saline County, Kansas. Peter died 15 December 1904 in Colorado Springs, El Paso County, Colorado.
7. Elna Ingemansdotter was born 12 March 1834 and died 26 November 1865 in Jämshög parish. She married Sven Svensson on 4 November 1859 in Våghult, Jämshög. Inga Ingemansdotter was born 7 August 1822 and died 24 November 1884 in Jämshög parish. She married Sven Svensson on 26 October 1866 in Våghult, Jämshög.
8. Jöran Johan Öller, *Beskrivning öfwer Jemshögs sohn i Blekinge* (Wexjö: A. Thetzells enka, 1800), pp. 316, 320, 323, 349.
9. The family was known variously as Corvin, Corvinus, Rafn, Ravn, Rauffin, and Raffn, all meaning raven or crow. Helpful sources in tracing this family line were A.U. Isberg, *Bidrag till Malmö stads historia* (Malmö: Författarens förlag, 1895), pp. 68-75; Gunnar Carlquist, *Lunds Stifts herdaminne* (Lund: C.W.K. Gleerups förlag, 1943-), series 2, vol. 2, pp. 32-35 and vol. 13A, pp. 329, 352; C.F. Bricka, ed., *Dansk biografisk lexikon* (Copenhagen: Gyldendal, 1887-1905), vol. 13, p. 539.
Genealogy web sites, including Jens Jensen Yde's Slækt at <http://www.starch.dk/private/niels/yde6.asp>
Bengt Jönsson's Hemsida at <http://hem.passagen.se/nbbj/>
Hans Rosenlund's Släktdatabas - Genealogy Files at <http://hans.alltidhult.se/tng/> were of great value. I am grateful to Hans Rosenlund for providing the proof needed to connect my family to the Corvin/Raffn line. (Rosenlund "Re:

Corvin," email message to author, 14 July 2008).

10. Geoffrey Rudolph Elton, *The New Cambridge Modern History: The Reformation, 1520-1559* 2nd ed. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990), p. 146; Ole Peter Grell, "Scandinavia" in *The Early Reformation in Europe*, edited by Andrew Pettegree (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992), p. 107.

Sources providing information about Baltzer Jacobsen include Holger Frederik Rørdam, "De Danskes Studeringer i Vittenberg i Reformationstiden" in *Ny kirkehistoriske Samlinger* vol. 1 (1857-59), p. 467; Rørdam, *Historiske Kildeskrifter og Bearbejdelser af Dansk Historie især fra det 16. Aarhundrede*. Monumenta historiae Daniacæ (Copenhagen, 1887), vol. 2, pp. 283-284; Johan Corylander, *Berättelse om Lunds Domkyrka på Allernådigste Befallning* (Lund: C.W.K. Gleerups Förlag, 1884), pp. 128-129, 181; Richard Bonnevier, "Re: Burials in Lunds domkyrka," email message to author, 20 February 2009.

11. Wittenberg University was established in 1502. Martin Luther (1483-1546) began teaching there in 1508.
12. Christiern Pedersen was the husband of Baltzer Jacobsen's half-sister Else. Hans Mikkelsen is believed to have been a brother of Baltzer Jacobsen's father Jacob. Both Hans and Jacob were mayors of Malmö in the early sixteenth century.

For information on the Danish Bible translations, see Lillemor Santesson, "Nordic Language History and Religion/Ecclesiastical History III: Luther's Reformation" in *The Nordic Languages: An International Handbook of the History of the North Germanic Languages*, edited by Oskar Bandle, Kurt Braunmüller, Lennart Elmevik, Gun Widmark (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 2002-2005), vol. 1, pp. 414-418; James Townley, *Illustrations of Biblical Literature, Exhibiting the History and Fate of the Sacred Writings* (New York: Carlton & Porter, 1856), vol. 2, pp. 33-38.

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The Swedish Colonial Society



BY HERBERT R. RAMBO

Founded in 1909 at Philadelphia, Penna., by a group of prominent academics, the Swedish Colonial Society is America's oldest Swedish historical organization and unique in this country because of its relationship to the Swedish royal family and the Swedish government.

Over the past century, the Society's research has become the foundation for the study of the New Sweden Colony (1638-1655), the short-lived effort by Sweden to claim a stake in colonial America. After 1655 the Swedish flag no longer flew overhead, but the Swedish and Finnish colonists remained as the majority population in Delaware, South-eastern Pennsylvania, and Southern New Jersey under successive Dutch and English rulers. They lived with a considerable degree of self-government until the arrival of William Penn and the flood of several thousand English Quakers ended the so-called "Swedish Nation on the Delaware" (1655-1681).

New Sweden was unique among the American colonies because the colonists lived peaceably with the Lenape Indians and the friendship between the two communities continues into the 21st century.

It was also in 17th century New Sweden where Swedes and Finns carved homes from the forest and introduced the most iconic symbol of the American frontier, the log cabin.

Over the years the Society has published 13 books, beginning with *Swedish Settlements on the Delaware* (1911) by Dr. Amandus Johnson. Additionally, the Society is in the midst of publishing the seven-volume

work *Colonial Records of Swedish Churches in Pennsylvania*, edited by the Society's renowned historian Dr. Peter S. Craig and Dr. Kim-Eric Williams, the leading translator of 17th century Swedish.

The most public face of the Swedish Colonial Society is the national award winning website

www.colonialswedes.org

and the *Swedish Colonial News*, the undisputed journal of record for the New Sweden Colony. The colony was a brief but significant chapter in America's colonial past.

In 2000 the Swedish Colonial Society moved its historical archives to the professionally managed Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, making scholarly research readily available on a daily basis.

Historical preservation has been a high priority over the years. The Society coordinated the effort leading to Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church being the first religious building in American to win designation as a National Historic Landmark in 1942.

The Society established "Printz Park," honoring Royal Governor Johan Printz who lived on that site. The Society also worked with the State government to preserve the Morton Homestead with its ties to Declaration of Independence signer John Morton.

The Society coordinated the return of the Rambo Apple Tree to Sweden, where it had been extinct following a severe winter in 1709-10. The species survived because a New Sweden colonist took its seeds to America in 1640. The first planting in Sweden, financed by the King, was by the U.S.

Ambassador to Sweden and Swedish officials at the start of the Carl Linnaeus Tercentennial in Uppsala, Sweden, in 2006.

Currently the Society is working with the American Swedish Historical Museum to develop an action plan for the many historical artifacts at the closed New Sweden Farmstead Museum, Bridgeton, NJ.

In addition to being a historical organization, the Swedish Colonial Society has a hereditary program. Those able to prove their descent from Swedes coming to America between 1638 and 1783 are awarded Forefather Member status certifying that they are among America's oldest Swedish families.

A unique aspect of the Swedish Colonial Society is its connection to Sweden's royal family and recognition by the Swedish government.

King Gustav V was the first "High Patron," serving as the Society's honorary leader and establishing the tradition that continues today with King Carl XVI Gustaf. In 2003 Crown Princess Victoria accepted "Deputy High Patron" during her visit to Philadelphia and Wilmington, Del.

Sweden's ambassador to the United States Jonas Hafström is the Society's "Patron," another honorary leadership position, and the Swedish government has authorized the Society's use of the "*Tre Kronor*" as appropriate for an organization headed by His Majesty the King. Among the current leadership there are five recipients of the "Order of the Polar Star" awarded by the King.

The Old Picture

On this page we publish old pictures sent in by our SAG readers. If you have a picture you want to see on this page, either send a digital copy, scanned in at no less than 300 dpi and saved as a jpg or tiff file, or send a good paper copy to the editor at the address shown on the inside cover. Do not send any originals, as we can not accept responsibility for them. Neither can we promise to publish all pictures.



This picture is called *Minne af Svenska Gymnastik Föreningen[s] i New York City Första årsfäst[!] d. 15 Dec. 1905* (Memorial of the first annual party of the Swedish Athletic Society of New York 15 Dec. 1905). It was sent in by *Georg Lundblad, Möllegränden 12, 252 23 Helsingborg, Sweden.*

His e-mail: luaxel@telia.com

Mr. Lundblad's father, the photographer *Axel S. Lundblad*, took the picture, but is also in it himself. He is the young man at the right with his elbow sticking out. Axel Lundblad was born 30 July 1883 in Helsingborg, and left Sweden in 1902. He first spent some time in Cadillac, MI, with an aunt and uncle to learn the English language. In 1903 he moved to New York and started to work as a photographer. He returned to Sweden for a visit in 1910, and to stay in 1913, but returned again in 1915 to the U.S., and lived in Jersey City, NJ, until his final return to Sweden in 1918. He worked as a photographer in Sweden, and died on 8 Aug. 1976 in Helsingborg.

During his time in New York he was one of the founders of the Swedish Athletic Society. In 1905 they had their first public appearance in Carnegie Hall; the members were *I.K. Rahmn, M. Peterson, C. Rahmsen, E. Stocklassa, H. Peterson, G. Moe, W. Lidfelt, W. Olson, A. Anderson, B. Holmqvist, N. Gruggel, S. Wester, W. Lundblad, J. Carlson, A. Mellgren, W. Sahlberg, H. Carling, T. Åsbrink-Melander* (the instructor), *T. Sjögren, A. Lundblad, C. Witgen, G. Widman, C. Bergman, and W. Witzell.*

How long this society survived is not known, but more information can be sent to the SAG Editor.

Handwriting Example XXI

Ar 1810 den 13^{de} Martii vore undertecknade, och
Förret Delsbo på Örgänge ägor Laga Bouppteckning
förättad efter Riksgrenadieren Israels Östenstiernas
hvilken afledit på Norrtälje Sjukhus den 13^{de} April
Månad 1809, men icke blefven af Rapporterad som
död, förtän man derom nu fått saker undersättelse
häft med sitt förra gifte 3^{de} Wäro, en Son och 2^{de} döttrar,
konen Johanna och dottern Lovisa och Anna Stina,
men om dessa dottrar visande, så man annu obekant
om i sednare gifte, med nu visande Anders Kristina
Wahlström, och 2^{de} dottrar, vid Namn Stina och Maria,
hvilka rätt äfven som till Sonen Johannes, de som förbröder
Anders Jonsson från Malaxanders infaldde sig af besök,
och i Ankans fides och Wäro Ruffhallaren Magnus
Wälsson i Örgänge som biträde, och upptecknad och

This is the first page of the estate inventory (*bouppteckning*) for the soldier Israel Östenstierna, born ca 1765, lived at the Delsbo soldier's cottage in Tidarsrum, Östergötland, and died at the military hospital in Norrtälje in April 1809, during the war with Russia.

Israel's inventory is an example that shows that a soldier might not have died in his bed at home, and then been registered in the death records of the parish where he lived.

There is a note in the clerical survey that Israel had died in 1809, but

with no date or place of the death. The researcher then needs to go to the military records and find a note in the muster rolls about his death.

This was done for Israel, but the date must be wrong. The researcher was told that he had died in May 1810, but when his estate inventory was found, the date indicates an earlier death. The inventory was taken on 13 March 1810, but it also mentioned that Israel had died almost a year before.

On this first page it is listed what was known about his death, and then

his widow, the children from his first marriage and the children of his present marriage are also listed, as well as which relative had come to guard the rights of the children.

It is not mentioned here, except that it was not known where the children of the first marriage were living, but Israel and his first wife were divorced, which was rather unusual at that time. Another problem for the researcher to solve!

Source:
Kinda häradsrätt FIIIa:48:1111 (Regional archives at Vadstena).

Volunteers to Bring Historic Sweden Church Records Online

The following announcement was written by FamilySearch:

Falköping, Sweden

FamilySearch and Svensk Arkivinformation (SVAR), a division of the National Archives of Sweden, announced today the launch of the largest online indexing initiative undertaken to date. The two groups unveiled plans to engage Swedish volunteers throughout the world to help create a highly searchable, free online index to the historic parish registers of Sweden—200 years of recorded Swedish history as documented in the Sweden church records – comprising over 400 million names.

In 1608 the Archbishop of Sweden asked the clergy to begin making records of births, christenings, marriages, and burials of all the residents of Sweden. By 1686 they were conducting regular examinations of the population of each parish. The church records (often called “parish registers” or “church books”) span over two centuries and chronicle the vital life events of an estimated 418 million people who moved in and out of parishes in Sweden.

“The church records are a key source for genealogists seeking Swedish ancestors because nearly everyone who lived in Sweden was recorded in a church record,” said David Rencher, FamilySearch chief genealogical officer. “The challenge now is to make those records, which are written in Swedish, available to researchers worldwide,” concluded Rencher.

“We are very pleased with the excellent cooperation we have enjoyed for many years between FamilySearch and the National Archives to microfilm and scan the Swedish church records. Now we are going to create an index that will revolutionize genealogy research in Sweden. The simplicity of finding and reading about one’s ancestors on the

Web in the millions of scanned records will attract many beginners of all ages,” said Anders Nordström, director of SVAR. “To the academic researcher, this is an entirely new means. It makes it possible to do research within disciplines on a micro level, an extent that was never possible before now,” added Nordström.

The way Swedes passed on a family name throughout the centuries is another reason why the indexing initiative is so important to family historians. “Imagine being in a Swedish community 200 years ago and 10 out of 100 people have the same first and last name as you. That’s how small the naming pool was in Scandinavia,” said Jeff Svare, FamilySearch Scandinavian collection management specialist.

If you were Anders Andersson, your father could have been Anders. Your brother could have also been named Anders, as well as your uncle. To help distinguish which Anders Andersson you were referring to at the time, locals added the name of the farm (residence) of an individual to keep them straight. “Otherwise, when you’re trying to search for Anders Andersson today, your ancestor falls into the proverbial fog of same-named people and you don’t know who they are without the additional context,” added Svare. The FamilySearch index will include the residence or farm name from the individual’s vital record. This information has been extracted to assist patrons in identifying their Swedish ancestor.

The goal is to engage the Swedish community in creating a highly searchable, free online index to the Sweden church records. When complete, the index will be the single largest point of access to information contained in the historic parish registers of Sweden. The free index will link to images of the original records hosted by the National Archives of Sweden (SVAR). In addition to the

free public index that will be made available, SVAR might charge a nominal fee for public patrons who want to view or print the images.

FamilySearch is the global leader of online indexing. It launched its online indexing program in 2008, and tens of thousands of volunteers recently helped reach another major milestone by indexing their 250 millionth name. FamilySearch currently has 65 online indexing projects underway.

For this project, FamilySearch will create digital images of the Sweden church records provided by SVAR. Volunteers worldwide will then use FamilySearch’s Web-based indexing tool to view the digital images and extract only the desired information from the image. That data will then be processed and published online in searchable indexes linked to the digital images.

Volunteers need only Internet access and the ability to read Swedish to contribute to this historic effort. A unique quality control process ensures a highly accurate, finished index. Each document is transcribed by two different indexers, wherever they are in the world. Any discrepancies in their two extractions are then forwarded to a third volunteer – an arbitrator – who makes any needed corrections between the two interpretations.

The project will start with records from Örebro, Uppsala, and Södermanland counties. Indexing will begin with the earliest year available for each parish and continue through 1860. A typical downloaded “batch” (group of records) will take a volunteer about 30 to 40 minutes to complete. The indexing utility has built-in tutorials and helps. Anyone interested in volunteering for the Sweden Church Records project can do so at

indexing.familysearch.org.

A little boy was found dead – was he killed by his mother?

BY ELISABETH THORSELL

My favorite parish in Sweden is Nordmark in eastern Värmland, partly because we have our summer home there, and partly because some of my roots go deep down there in the the mineral-rich and rocky soil.

I have spent many hours going through the church records, mostly finding something I have not seen before.

One day I noticed in the death records for June 1817 that the pastor had written about a little boy from the village of Grundsjön who had been murdered by his mother.

In the clerical survey I found that his mother was named *Lisa Matsdotter*, born 25 Jan. 1792, a daughter of the mining farmer (*bergsmän*) Mats Matsson and his wife Stina Jansdotter from the nearby village of Sandsjön.

On 25 May 1817 Lisa had married the young *bergsmän* Petter Nilsson from Grundsjön, born 19 March 1788, and moved into his house. This was only a month before the little boy died. Why did he have to die?

The boy was murdered directly after his birth and was never baptized. This suggested that he was not the son of Petter, and that Lisa had married while she was carrying somebody else's child.

Rumors

Lisa had tried to hide her pregnancy, and her fiancé and later husband had not noticed anything, which is a bit surprising. But the women of Grundsjön had sharper eyes, and one of them, a relative of Petter's, had asked Lisa outside the church if she thought she was doing the right thing in marrying Petter in her state. Lisa had denied everything and told this woman to mind her own business.

Petter had heard the rumors, but regarded them just as spite and envy. But the women of the village kept looking at Lisa and noticed changes in her body, and started to talk. Within a few days the rumors reached the ears of the local pastor, Arvid Olsson, and one of his pastoral duties was to uphold the morals in the parish. He contacted the bailiff (*länsman*) Erik Brattström, and both men went to Grundsjön to question Lisa.

Confession

After receiving severe admonitions from the pastor and the bailiff, Lisa finally confessed that by Midsummer she had given birth to a child, which she first had hidden in the forest, and the next day put in a cavity in the floor of the local smithy and then covered with soil, where the little corpse was now found by the bailiff.

Lisa's explanation for her actions was just that she had never told Petter that she was pregnant by another man, out of fear that if he heard this, he would change his mind and not marry her. She would then lose all her future support from this man, whom she "truly loved." Another reason for her confession was that one of the local married women had examined her breasts and found them full of milk, a fact that was hard to deny.

Court records

After her confession Lisa was arrested and taken to the local prison, where she was kept until her trial, which took place in August of 1817. First I could not find any records of her trial, but then realized that as this was about a murder, there would have been called an extraordinary meeting of the *Färnebo häradsrätt*.

This was most often done when there was a serious crime to try, and it was called an "*urtima ting*" [court meeting out of time]. And as it could be supposed that Lisa was sentenced to death, the case was transferred to the Court of Appeal (*hovrätt*), which was the *Svea Hovrätt*. Those records are kept in the *Riksarkivet* (National Archives in Stockholm) which is where I found that Lisa had been sentenced to be beheaded and afterwards burnt, according to the sentence by the local court.

The *Svea Hovrätt* looked at the case and wanted more information, so the case was sent back and more people were heard. The most important was Lisa's boyfriend *Jan Jansson* of Sundsjön, who told that he lived close to Lisa's parents and that he had had intercourse with Lisa many times, until he heard that she had become engaged to Petter. She had never told him that she was pregnant.

Lisa also told more details about what had happened, like that her husband had been in the forest felling trees for charcoal burning while she was giving birth.

Petter was also heard and said that he had been totally unaware of Lisa's condition and that in her he had found his happiness for all times, and that he wanted her to be spared from the death penalty and was eager to resume the marriage, after she had gone through her punishment.

The *Svea Hovrätt* finally decided not to change the verdict of the *häradsrätten*; Lisa was still to be beheaded and burnt.

She was given the option to write to the King for mercy, which she did, and her sentence was changed to eight years in a female prison.

What happened next?

At that time there were only three female prisons (*spinnhus*) in Sweden, one in Stockholm, one in Norrköping and one in Göteborg. The first two have indexes on the internet, and she was not found there. Luckily she was found in Göteborg, where she served her time, and was released in 1826.

Petter had said the he would wait for her, but in 1825 he got a divorce and remarried. When Lisa was out of prison the first thought was that she had gone home to her family in Värmland, and when her father died in 1833 she was mentioned in his estate inventory as a married daughter, but with no indication where she lived. Next I started to look in the

local tax lists (*mantalslängder*) for married Lisas of the right age. Then I thought I should check the prison records again, in case I had missed a clue. There I found a reference to the church records of the Göteborg poor-house (*Fattighusförsamling*). In their marriage records only one marriage was listed for the early 1800s – Lisa's marriage 29 August 1826 to a Johannes Johnson from Starrkärr in Västergötland!

How they met I have no idea, but they must have known each other for some time, as Lisa gave birth on 7 Sept. 1826 in Starrkärr to a daughter Brita Stina, just a week after her marriage.

Lisa and Johannes, who was born

16 Jan. 1783, from then on lived in a dug-out on the Sandhem Södergård lands in Starrkärr.

Little Brita Stina died 27 Dec. 1826, and Lisa's son Emanuel, born 1 Sept. 1829, died 18 Jan. 1843, but by then Lisa was already dead. She died 6 June 1838 of typhoid. Johannes stayed on in his dug-out and died 13 March 1860 of old age.

Lisa and Petter, her unfortunate first husband, had a number of siblings, with many descendants. Petter also had a son Nils in his second marriage with descendants, but the whole story seems to have been forgotten in Nordmark, almost 200 years ago.

October 16th–17th 2009 Swedish Fall Research Conference in Minnesota

The *Swedish Genealogical Society of Minnesota* will host a day and a half Fall Research Conference featuring SwedGenTour2009; Genline Sweden/Genline North America; and Swedish American Genealogist (SAG) participants! Many vendors will have genealogy related items for your review.

SwedGenTour 2009

The SwedGenTour2009 is a group of four renowned Swedish genealogists touring the United States for the sole purpose of helping Swedish-Americans learn more about their heritage. These four individuals participated in previous SwedGenTours and have decided to continue the tradition with the SwedGenTour2009. On all the previous trips, the group has been successful in helping many individuals get started with their research as well as breaking down brick walls. The SwedGenTour 2009, Genline and SAG parti-

cipants will also support the SGSM Fall Research Conference with presentations and demonstrations on how to use the various resources for Swedish genealogical and historical research; on Swedish genealogical online resources; Swedish genealogical CDs; and Swedish emigration.

The SwedGenTour2009, Genline and SAG participants will assist individuals with their personal research. The group will have access to most major Swedish online and CD genealogical resources including resources specific to regional areas such as Kalmar, Jönköping, Halland, Jämtland, and Stockholm. In addition, the group will have access to the Dalsland project (70,000 names from Dalsland including emigrants), index of names for the Swedish American churches, and additional names of emigrants not yet included in the Emibas CD and more.

The SwedGenTour2009 participants will be *Anneli Andersson*, *Anna-Lena Hultman*, *Charlotte Bör-*

jesson, and *Olof Cronberg*.

Genline

The participants from Genline.com, *Jan Eurenus* from Stockholm, Sweden, and *Kathy Meade* of Chicago, are also very experienced genealogists and will help with your Swedish research problems.

Swedish American Genealogist

The participant from the SAG will be *Elisabeth Thorsell* of Järfälla, Sweden. She is presently the editor of the *Swedish American Genealogist*, published by the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center in Rock Island, Illinois. Elisabeth has co-authored a number of manuals on Swedish genealogy. She also has extensive experience in doing Swedish research for Americans for 30 years.

For more information, go to
<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mnsqsm/9frcinfo.htm>

The solution of the Handwriting Example XXI

Transcription

År 1810. den 13 Martii voro undertecknade, uti Torpet Delsbo på Örsgänge ägor Laga Bouptekning förrättad efter Lifgrenadieren Israel Östenstierna, hvilken aflidit på Norrtelje Sjukhus uti Aprill månad 1809, men icke blifven af Rapporterad som död, förrän man derom nu fått säker underrättelse, haft med sitt förra gifte 3ne Barn en son och 2ne döttrar Sonen Johannes och döttrarna Lovisa och Anna Stina, men om desse döttrars vistande är man ännu obekant om; i sednare giftet med nuvarande Änkan Kristina Nilsson dotter äro 2ne döttrar vid Namn Stina och Maria, hvilkas rätt äfvensom till Sonen Johannes, deras Farbroder Anders Jonasson från Malexander instälde sig at bevaka och å Änkans sida dess Broder Rusthållaren Magnus Nilsson i Örsgänge, som biträde, och upptecknades och...

Translation

In the year 1810 we the undersigned in the cottage Delsbo on Örsgänge lands did the legal estate inventory after the the Life Grenadier Israel Östenstierna, who died in Norrtälje Hospital in the month of April 1809, but who has not been reported as deceased until now, when certain information of his demise has been obtained. Had with his former wife 3 children, 1 son and 2 daughters, son Johannes and daughters Lovisa and Anna Stina, but where these daughters are now living is not known; in his later marriage to the present widow Kristina Nilsson are 2 daughters by name of Stina and Maria, whose rights as well as those of son Johannes are guarded by their paternal uncle Anders Jonasson from Malexander who was present; for the widow her brother the *rusthållare* Magnus Nilsson of Örsgänge was present as her assistant, and was recorded and

That the gentlemen who made the inventory did not know where the older daughters live was because after the divorce between Israel and his first wife Ulrika Lovisa Björklund in 1802, she had taken her daughters and moved to Östra Ny parish, also in Östergötland, but quite a distance from Delsbo in Tidarsrum parish, where Israel lived.

Rusthållare: a man who owned a farm that was big enough to enable him to keep a cavalry soldier and his horse.



A soldier's cottage from the 1830s, probably just the same as in the 1700s.



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.

Sad story of troubled families

Severed Ties and Silenced Voices, Separation and Adaptation in Two Swedish Immigrant Families, Roger McKnight, Nordic Studies Press, Chicago, 2008, 293 pages, Softcover, Illustrated, American Swedish Institute, Minneapolis, \$15.00 plus shipping.

Not all immigrant stories are based on heroic figures who left Sweden to begin new and prosperous lives in America. This book by Roger McKnight records the stories of two Swedish families who came separately to Minnesota in the late 1860's and settled as neighbors on pioneer farms on the prairie near Kansas Lake in Watonwan County, near St. James, in southern Minnesota. (This was the same decade in which my own great-grandfather came with his family to settle in Bernadotte, west of St. Peter in Nicollet County, less than thirty-five miles from Kansas Lake). While the lives of my own ancestors came from very similar circumstances in Sweden to confront very similar conditions in Minnesota, there the parallels in the lives of these families with my own took a vastly different course.

The author, a professor of Scandinavian Studies and Swedish at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN, has written several books about the immigrant experience, has studied and taught in Sweden, and

is a student of Swedish American culture and social history in Minnesota. Not related to any of the persons who are the subjects of his book, Prof. McKnight, in the course of researching prison records in Stillwater State Prison in Minnesota came across the records of an inmate which, in turn, led him to research the families involved in a case of a murder which had taken place in the winter of 1872-73 near Kansas Lake. As the author unravels the stories of these families, the murder, and the aftermath of this incident, we learn a great deal more.

Woven into this story of the histories of the two families in Sweden, one from Värmland and one from Halland, are many rich details about the social conditions at the time in Sweden, local customs, economic conditions, folk culture at the time, and much more. The plight of the very poor and their lack of opportunity in their homeland, the separation of families and their uprooting to immigrate to America, and the difficulties of ocean travel are all described in great detail.

Finding their way to a destination in Minnesota and the difficulties of establishing farms on the prairie as pioneer settlers are all part of the background of this story, bringing to readers a highly colorful and vivid picture of what this immigrant life was like in the 1860's. A group of photographs are included to show many of the individuals involved in the story and the places they lived, both in Sweden and in the U.S.

This story centers around Lars Fredrik Johannesson Holm and Karolina Andersdotter who grew up

in troubled, impoverished families in Värmland in several parishes near Lake Vänern. They married in 1862 and, by 1868, immigrated with their two daughters, and an older sister and her family, to America. After three years of westward travel following the railroads, they settled in Watonwan County near Kansas Lake in Minnesota. The other central figure in the story was Anders Johannesson, born in 1833 in the parish of Breared in Halland, just across the strait from Denmark. Anders married Johanna Persdotter in 1862 and moved in with his parents to work their farm, his older brother having become a tenant farmer nearby. By 1867, after famine years and the loss of their farm, Anders left for America with his parents, brother, and sister. He left behind his wife and two sons. By 1869, Anders settled on homestead acreage near Kansas Lake.

The two families had met and become acquainted during their travels to Watonwan County and settled in as near neighbors on land opened up for settlement by railroad construction. Anders's name had become Americanized to Andrew Johnson, and Lars Johannesson Holm and Karolina became Lars and Caroline Johnson. (Several neighbors were also named Johnson, so the reader is pressed to keep all these unrelated Johnsons straight). Lars, with a history of bizarre behavior dating back to his years in Sweden, became increasingly unbalanced and efforts were made to have him committed to an asylum after several violent acts. He left home to go wandering shortly before the Novem-



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ber blizzard of 1872, and never returned. In the spring of 1873, his body was found with many head wounds on the shore of Kansas Lake.

Rumors flew, and Andrew Johnson was eventually charged with his murder. He and Caroline had run away together soon after the discovery, but he was found, returned to St. James, and convicted of the murder of Lars Johnson. He was sentenced to serve twenty years in Stillwater State Prison.

These tragic events shattered two families. Andrew is in prison, Carolina (the victim's wife) leaves to later remarry in Wisconsin, Andrew's family in Sweden is abandoned, and others go on with heavy hearts, carrying the tragic memories of their once hopeful lives. The author has followed the broken pieces of these families, along with several other participants in the tragic murder and trial, and reveals more of the details of their lives and that of their descendants. Many of these descendants remained unknown to each other, with no knowledge of the tragic events of 1872 until recently, when Prof. McKnight tracked them down to interview them. Also revealed are the final days of the released Andrew Johnson, who returned to farming in Kansas Lake, and later to work and retirement, living with a son in Duluth.

Severed Ties and Silent Voices is a sad story of troubled families, and a reminder that not all went well for all of the hundreds of thousands of Swedes who immigrated to America. This kind of story is no doubt repeated numerous times in many sad variations if one were to try and

chronicle every family who came to America in this period. Yet this massively researched and documented work by Prof. McKnight helps us all better understand the circumstances and difficulties faced by so many immigrants in dealing with troubled families, hardships, poverty, alcoholism, mental illness, separations, and the breakup of cultural and religious ties brought about for so many by the immigration experience. And this gives readers a better appreciation of the strengths of those who overcame all these hardships to keep their families intact and their heritage of cultural and religious ties strong as they became citizens of their new land.

Dennis L. Johnson

A young Swedish girl

Growing Up in Sweden in the Shadow of World War II, Lilly Setterdahl, Fidlars Doubleday, Inc. 2008, 167 pages, Softcover, Illustr., Amazon.com, \$11.00 plus shipping.

Those of us born in the 1930's and before all have vivid memories of life during World War II. We remember the bombing of Pearl Harbor, rationing, gasoline shortages, collecting scrap metals, relatives in military service, blackouts, news from the war fronts, and many other of the many changes to our lives during the five years that Americans were in the war.

This recent book by Lilly Setterdahl adds to our recollections the memories of a writer in the same age group who was experiencing the war

while growing up in Sweden. The author's astonishing memory for details from that time in her life provides a vivid picture not only of the effects of this war on neutral Sweden, but also a detailed look at daily family life in Sweden during those years.

Lilly Setterdahl was born in the small village of Sivikan, in Frändefors parish, Dalsland, near the south end of Lake Vänern, not far from Uddevalla. Her parents were Adrian and Elin Anderson; her father was a farmer and small businessman. Lilly began school in 1938, just before the war began in Europe, and she had an older brother and a younger sister and brother. Much later, in 1957, she married Lennart Setterdahl, and the couple immigrated to the U.S. and settled in Cleveland, OH. They both had a strong interest in learning more about Swedish-Americans, and this interest turned into a career for both of them.

Moving to Quad Cities in 1971 to pursue these interests, her husband became a chronicler of the records of Swedish-American organizations and numerous church records. Lennart amassed large collections of photographs and interviews, many of which are now at Augustana College, Bishop Hill, the Emigrant Institute in Växjö, the Royal Library in Stockholm, and other archives. His untimely death in 1995 ended this partnership but brought Lilly's work into more prominence. She has now authored some eleven books about Swedish-Americans in various cities in the U.S. and even a recent book of fiction. Lilly is well-known to the Swedish-American community and continues speaking and writing about Swedes in the U.S.

In **Growing Up In Sweden**, Lilly describes in some twenty chapters the many aspects of her life in Sweden during the World War II years, ranging from her home, her village, her parents, grandparents,



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siblings and pets, other relatives, her country school, her church, the town of Vänersborg, games, faith, fears, accidents, her parents' work, and more.

Ever-present in the background is the looming presence of the war in Europe and how it affected their lives.

She remembers well their fears of invasion as the neighboring countries of Denmark and Norway were occupied by German forces and the near-total cutoff of trade with the west, with food rationing, shortages, and substitutions for coffee and other favorites. Many Swedes with cars or trucks, such as her father, were forced to adapt them to run on charcoal, gasoline was so scarce. The entry into the war of the U.S., refugees from Finland and elsewhere, transit through Sweden of German soldiers, disruptions to family life, deferral of schooling, and other effects of the war are all remembered in detail. She concludes with a description of the ending of the war, and the ending of her childhood. She soon left her little village to continue her education and eventually move to the U.S., but has returned often to her home in Sweden.

In a brief epilogue, the author adds a chronology of the war years, including such items as her father's service record, the ringing of all the church bells in Sweden when Poland was invaded, Swedish aid to Finland and Norway, and a summary of civilian and military casualties for the countries in the war in Europe. The book is laced with many personal and family photos of this period of her life in Sweden, her home, her family, and many other places and people which

were part of her life at the time.

This is an engagingly readable book, filled with all of the details of daily life in Sweden during these war years. This is especially so for those having similar memories of the same years here in the U.S. who can relate to the similarities and the differences. Few of us would have the powers to recall the amazing degree of detail that Lilly Setterdahl has recorded in her memoir of that period. Younger readers will also find this book both engaging and illuminating about these remarkable years, and the effects on the lives of those who experienced them.

Dennis L. Johnson

Polycarpus von Schneidau and his family

Immigration och Emigration under 1700-tal - 1800-tal - 1900-tal. Med den svenske emigranten i Chicago Polycarpus von Schneidau som centralfigur, by Nils Fredrik Beerståhl. Falköping, 2009, A5 leaflet, 48 pp. Can be purchased from the author, Mössebergsgatan 11 D, SE-521 32 Falköping. **(In Swedish)**

For more than fifty years, Nils Fredrik Beerståhl has collected genealogical material about the family of Polycarpus von Schneidau (1812-1859), the famous Swedish daguerrotyper in Chicago. His interest comes from his own connection to the family. His maternal grandmother's paternal grandmother was Hedvig (Hedda) Elisabeth Strömberg, a daughter of Anders Strömberg (1772-1848), farmer (*lantbrukare*) in Lerdala parish, who was an illegitimate but acknowledged son of Polycarpus's

grandfather's cousin Fredrik von Sneidern (1734-1796). Hedda's brother had issue, among which there were emigrants, so there could be Strömbergs of von Sneidern paternal origin still flourishing in the U.S. Beerståhl's theory was that the Strömberg name is composed by Fredrik von Sneidern himself through combining the first part of his stepmother's name Strömsten with the last part of his mother's name Swedberg.

The title of Beerståhl's leaflet is "Immigration and Emigration during the 18th - 19th - 20th Century." The title is misleading: the Swedish immigrant in Chicago, Polycarpus von Schneidau, is the central figure and almost nothing on immigration and emigration in general is described. A more suitable title would have been "A Rhapsodical Overview of the von Sneidern-von Schneidau Family", since that is what Beerståhl has written. He goes as far back as the origin, when the name was Schneider(n) (German: 'tailor') later von Sneidern. This was changed by some family members to von Schneidau, because they thought – or hoped – that they were descended from Frantz Schneider, who had been ennobled by the German emperor in 1649 with a typical German two-part noble name, Schneider von Schneidau. In Sweden, the von Sneidern-von Schneidau family never was ennobled. As a family of officers they had social status on level with noble families, and Polycarpus's family tree gives proof of this – almost all of his ancestors, except on the paternal line, were nobles.

Beerståhl reveals some findings on the von Sneidern arms, more specifically the colors of it in an enamelled brooch, and has noted parts of merit lists of some of the officers of the family.

Magnus Bäckmark



Book Reviews

Swedes in Texas

Stuck in the mud at Post Oak Island, by Charlene Hanson Jordan, 1361 County Road 464, Elgin, TX 78621. E-mail: charlenehansonjordan@yahoo.com Price \$19.95 + tax 336 pages, letter format, ill., index, bibliography. 2008.

This well-researched book is about a small community in an oak grove in central Texas, not far from Elgin and Austin. There is much about the early history in the first section of the book. For instance the Confederate general Robert E. Lee was a guest in a home here before the Civil War.

During the later 1890s many Swedes settled in the area. Some of them were featured in *Svenskarne i Texas* (1916–1918), but many were also left out for various reasons. About 80 Scandinavian households eventually bought land and settled here.

The agricultural land was mostly black and gumlike soil, so some people left and moved to California, Colorado, Washington State, and Wisconsin among other places.

Here is also described how the Swedes kept themselves to themselves and did not interact so much with other ethnicities. The *lutfisk* became a cherished traditional dish, as in other Swedish-American communities (**ed:s note:** I have not eaten *lutfisk* since I became big enough to defend myself).

Most of the Swedes came from Småland, supposedly an effect of the

influence of early immigrant S.M. Swenson from Barkeryd. Others came from Västergötland, Närke, Hälsingland, and Skåne.

The central place in the area was called Type, where there was a post office for a few years and a general store, and even a printing press. There were also two churches in Type; one a Free Mission Church, and the other was Bethlehem Lutheran Church. There does not seem to be any microfilmed Swedish American church records from this area.

There are many memories told about the early life in the area, how

hailstones killed calves, rabbits, lambs, chickens, and even broke through the roof one year. Further misery was added when that family's milk cows ended up in a cattle drive, and never returned.

Later their luck changed and they could buy new cows and start a new crop.

A macabre story is told about an old couple who died in Sweden, and their son had them photographed in their coffins (they died within days of each other). Then he hanged an enlargement on the wall in his home, as the author, his granddaughter, re-

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members. Another story is about Willie Schiller who ran the grocery store in Type, and was said to carry his money in a molasses bucket across the street from the store and saloon to his home. Having problems with burglars, he rigged a shotgun in the store and loaded it with blanks the first time, but later with real ammunition, and then forgot all about it, and managed to shoot himself and later died from the wounds. As the rumor was that he had buried his money in his backyard, many people dugged there, but nothing was found.

Oil was of course important, and many of the settlers built derricks and drilled for liquid gold, and some were lucky, while for others it was just a dream.

There is a cemetery at Type, and in this book there is a list of the people buried there from 1908, mostly people with Swedish names, and there are even two tombstones with Swedish inscriptions. Those are for Anna Amalia Hanson (d. 1910) and Christina Fredrickson (d. 1915). There are very few people buried there after 1950, as the younger generation had become more assimilated and moved to the cities.

An important invention is also mentioned; the advent of the barbed wire around 1877, which made life so much easier for the farmer that wanted to grow crops, but of course was not liked by the cattlemen who preferred the huge, open prairie, where they could drive their cattle everywhere.

It is really rather fun to read all these memories from a way of life that is almost completely gone.

Then there is an appendix, which lists all the families in the area in alphabetical order, the first being August Adamson, born 25 March

1861 in Vistorp (VäGö), which tallies with the information in *Emibas*.

Dates do not seem to have been always checked in Swedish records, but rather found in *Svenskarna i Texas*. The part that is especially interesting to modern Swedes is the information on what happened next, how families grew and children moved. This is very difficult for us to find from afar, even though the internet has made that kind of research easier. Also very valuable is the notes on changing the surnames, like Björklund to Borkland, Björkman to Burkman, or just a Johanneson who chose to use the name Blomberg; so difficult to find for the one who is looking for him!

Anyone with relatives that went to Texas would do well to study this book. It has a good name index and a long list of literature and records that have been used in the compilation of this book, as well as informative endnotes.

Elisabeth Thorsell

New and Noteworthy

(short notes on interesting books and articles)

Ancestry Magazine Sept/Oct 2009 has a very good article on "Following the Footsteps of Ellis Island's Immigrants," which shows in details the immigrants' route through medical examinations and other inspections. Well worth reading.

Swedish genealogists Ted Rosvall and Anna-Lena Hultman have just released (in Swedish) a manual for Swedes on how to trace the immigrants in the U.S., *Emigrantforskning*, published by the *Sveriges Släktforskarförbund* (Federation of Swedish Genealogical Societies). The book, 112 pages, describes how to search first in Swedish records, and then goes through various U.S. records, mostly those that can be found on Ancestry: census records, draft registration cards, and much more. Rootsweb is included as well as Familysearch, Findagrave and USGenweb, even Facebook. The Swedish-American church records are mentioned, but somewhat hard to access, as are the Swedish-American newspapers, but there is a project hopefully starting soon to digitize those papers. SAG is also mentioned. This book might be of interest to American researchers too, but you need to read Swedish!

The *Swedish American Historical Quarterly* 2/09 has an interesting article, by Claes H. Jacobson, about John Anderson a.k.a Johan Albin Andersson, born 25 March 1869 in Vinberg (Hall.), who left for the U.S. as a small child in 1870. The family settled in Pennsylvania, but went west in 1883 to Valentine, Nebr., close to the border of South Dakota and the Rosebud Sioux Indian Reservation. Soon John had grown up and started to work as a carpenter, saved money and bought a camera. With this he started a second career as a photographer, and in this way saved much history about the Sioux and their ways of life.

Interesting Web Sites

All links tested in
Aug. 2009 and
should work

The Swedish Genealogical Society of Colorado:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cosgs/index.html>

Some Swedish Military History: <http://hem.bredband.net/b111807/English/index-eng.htm>

The 2010 Dalsland Emigration Conference:

<http://www.emigrationdalsland.com/en/conference.html>

News about Swedish business and politics today: <http://www.swedishwire.com/>

First settlers of New Sweden, Maine: <http://jeanbduncan.com/swede/index.htm>

A blog on New Sweden: <http://aroostookrabbit.blogspot.com/>

The Swedish Bishop Hill Society: <http://home.swipnet.se/bishophill/indexeng.htm>

A searchable database of all marriages in Skåne (in Swedish):

<http://www.digiarkiv.se/index.php?lsubmenu=regvig>

Arkiv Digital (Swedish church records in color): www.arkivdigital.net

PLF Oskarshamn (CD:s for Kalmar county and more):

<http://www.plfoskarshamn.se/default.aspx?meny=sprak&id=2>

A list (in Swedish) of many genealogical CD:s: <http://www.dis.se/cdindex.htm>

Prisoners in Joliet (IL) prison: <http://genealogytrails.com/ill/convicts/convictregister.htm>

The Minnesota Swedish Fall Research Conference:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mnsqsm/9frcinfo.htm>

Almost 200,000 graves in Stockholm for free (and in English: <http://hittagraven.stockholm.se/>

A genealogical wordlist in English, Swedish, Danish, Norwegian, Finnish, and Icelandic [just enter the word you want translated in the little search window and click on "Finn" (find)]:

http://www.nordgen.com/index_ordbok.htm

Links to Danish genealogy: <http://www.dis-danmark.dk/dis-english.asp>

Links to Norwegian genealogy: <http://www.disnorge.no/eng/index.html>

Another Norwegian link: <http://digitalarkivet.uib.no/sab/howto.html>

Searchable Finnish extracts of church records:

http://www.hiski.fi/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=109&Itemid=286&lang=en

**All the above web links will be found as clickable links on
www.etgenealogy.se/sag.htm**

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.



Larsdotter, Ohleson

Pell Katarina Larsdotter (b. 2 July 1871 in Järna [Dala.]) immigrated to the home of her *moster* (maternal aunt) Ål Carin Samuelsdotter/Nelson in Valparaiso, NE, on 30 March 1888. She left the port of Göteborg on 6 April 1888 with a ticket for Valparaiso, NE, and travelled alone.

Katarina remained in Nebraska until 1895 during which time she married another Swedish immigrant, Andrew Lawrence Ohleson and produced a son with the same name.

In 1895, the Ohlesons moved to Kansas City, Missouri, where Katarina and Andrew lived out the remainder of their lives.

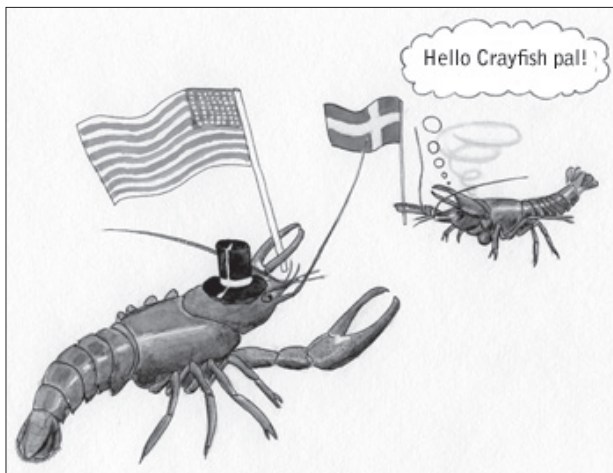
In the attached photo, Katarina is the pretty girl on the right in the second row (see arrow). It, more than likely, was taken during Katarina's early years in Nebraska. I would like to know who the other five women are. At least some are probably others of my family who immigrated to the Midwest.

All information most welcome!

← Brian Samuelson, 19415 N 132ND Dr., Sun City West, AZ 85375-4503. Ph.: 623-214-1338
E-mail: <brsam10@cox.net>

1291

Send queries to SAG! Everything is not online!



The Crayfish time is here!

In late August many Swedes put on funny hats, tie funny bibs around their necks, and often sit in the garden with lighted moon-shaped paper lanterns tied on strings above the table.

What are they doing? They are enjoying a crayfish party (*Krästkiva*) where crayfish, cooked in beer and dill and lots of salt, are eaten cold, together with a glass of beer or aquavit, or even milk, accompanied by a tasty Västerbotten cheese and toast. Special drinking songs are sung, some say that for every claw you must down a little aquavit and sing a song. The eating of crayfish must be done exactly right, following the rules, or others will call you “not a true crayfish lover,” which is a hard thing for a Swede to hear.

The Last Page

Dear friends,

Summer has been and is now gone, at least here in Sweden, where we can feel fall leaves coming down and the days are getting shorter every day.

We have spent most of our summer in the old house in Värmland, where house repairs and yard work keep us busy. It is a joy for us to go back there every summer and connect again to the members of the family that lived there a hundred years ago, to go to the cemetery and check the graves, and generally to live a more quiet life than in the city.

This summer I had the pleasure of meeting a new cousin from the area, who had found me on the internet, when I had posted a photo of his great-grandparents wedding. This

young man is a 5th cousin to my sons, and in a few weeks I hope to introduce him to an American cousin, who is a 3rd cousin to his father. It is amazing, isn't it?

During the summer I have spent time on building a database of all people who have died in "my" parish during the period of 1901 to 1946, and so are many other researchers around the country working on their parishes. This will hopefully result in a new version of the *Swedish Death Index*, covering the period of 1901 to 2009, which will be released next August.

The third weekend of August was spent by me and many others in going to the Swedish Genealogy Days (*Släktforskardagarna*), this year in

Falköping in Västergötland. As usual it was hot and people were everywhere, but lots of fun. All major providers of church records online were there, as well as several of the archives and about 50 different societies, and all of them sold books, and CD:s, and wanted you to become a member. There were also several lectures, with some very popular lecturers. And, of course, a fancy dinner with awards handed out, and music and entertainment.

The usual greeting on the Sunday, when everything closed, was "See you next year in Örebro"!

Till next time!

Elisabeth Thorsell

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Limited edition NWO tote bag!

This very special tote bag was made for the 2007 SAG Workshop in Salt Lake City, and there are a few left for sale. The tote bag is of sturdy material and is perfect to carry genealogy notebooks and copies in, maybe even a laptop computer.

The cartoon of Nils William Olsson was drawn by his son Christopher in 1981.

The price is \$10 + \$3.50 for sales tax and shipping in the U.S. and Canada, each (\$13.50).

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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.		

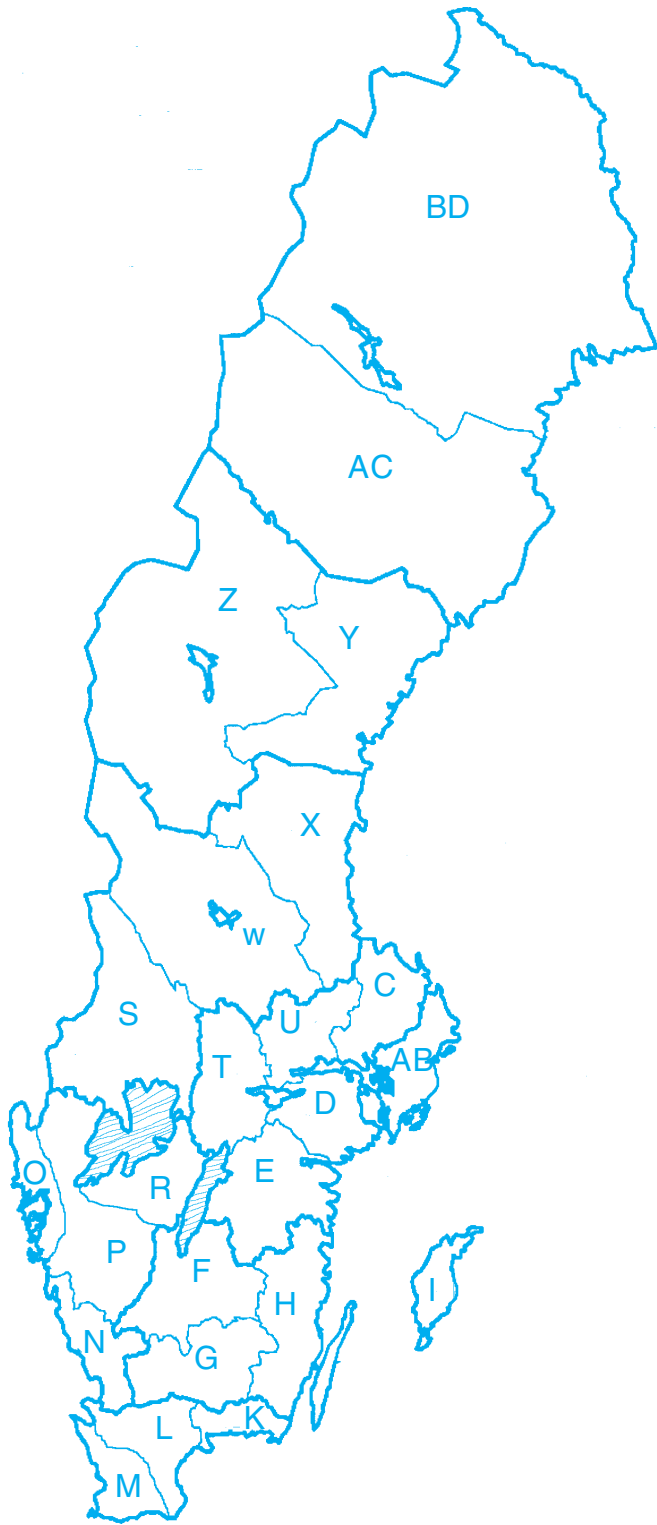
Table 2. Abbreviations and codes for Swedish counties (*län*) formerly used by *Swedish American Genealogist* (1981-1999) and currently used by *Statistiska centralbyrån* (SCB) (the Central Bureau of Statistics, Stockholm).

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				

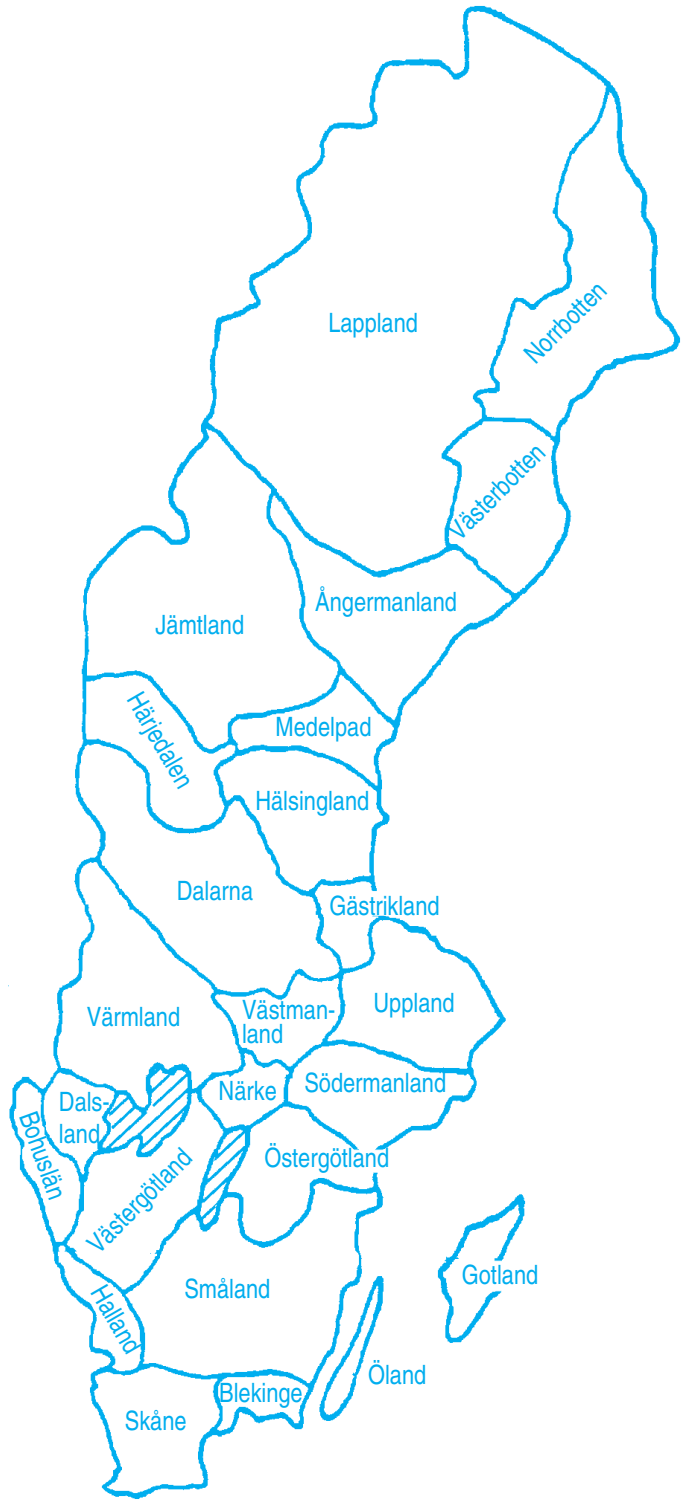
a formerly Kopparberg (Kopp.; W) *län*.

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*).