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News from the Swenson Center

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Beyond Bergman – Modern Swedish Film

The Scandinavian Department at Augustana College and the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, also at Augustana College, hosted a Swedish film festival and symposium October 11–16, 2010. Five films by Swedish directors were screened in the week leading up to the symposium. The films shown were: Everlasting Moments (Maria Larssons eviga ögonblick), Good Evening, Mr. Wallenberg (God afton, Herr Wallenberg), The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo (Män som hatar kvinnor), Together (Tillsammans), and Let the Right One In (Låt den rätte komma in).

The Swenson Center was delighted with the turnout from the College and the Swedish-American community.

The conference concluded with a one day symposium with participants from Sweden and the United States, where the five films screened were discussed. The symposium participants from Sweden were: Leif Furhammar, professor emeritus of film studies at the University of Stockholm, and Maaret Koskinen, professor of film studies at the University of Illinois. The U.S. participants were: Rochelle Wright, professor emerita at the University of Illinois, Kjell Hilding, digital production manager in the Department of Art History and Visual Arts at Occidental College, and Larry Scott, professor of Scandinavian at Augustana College.

Swedish American Genealogist is online!

The Swenson Center is excited to announce that back issues of Swedish American Genealogist (1981-2007) are available free online. SAG online is hosted by the Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI) which includes a long list of other interesting digital collections such as the Swedish American Historical Quarterly and historical collections from the Newberry Library in Chicago. Please see this link for further information on the digital collections available through CARLI http://collections.carli.illinois.edu/index.php.

The direct link to SAG back issues is http://collections.carli.illinois.edu/cdm4/index_aug_sag.php?CISOROOT=aug_sag. The online version is the result of a year-long project initiated by the Swenson Center’s archivist Christina Johansson with the dedicated assistance from Augustana College student worker Marcus Gerber, class of 2011. Marcus patiently learned how to scan, OCR, and spell-check Swedish geographical and personal names as well as transfer the digital files to the CARLI server. The staff commends Marcus for his meticulous work and interest in this project.

Due to copyright issues, please note that the late Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig’s articles on the New Sweden settlement are not included in the online version of SAG. Please see the Swenson Center’s online listing of back issues (www.augustana.edu/x14857.xml) for information about purchasing copies of these articles.

How to search in old SAGs

There are several possibilities for searching for text within the SAG issues. Click on “Browse Collection” to either go page-by-page through every issue in the collection, or choose a year from the drop-down menu under “View issues by year” and browse one year at a time.

To search for specific personal names or places, enter a keyword in the search box at the left and you will be presented with thumbnail photos of the covers of the issues containing that word. Click on the image you are interested in and it will open to the first page of that issue where the word appears. There is a menu at the left showing the different page/image numbers, and you can click on them to go to different pages in that issue. The pages containing the searched word appear in red so you can see where you are within the issue. One can also click on “advanced search” across the top and search on phrases.

Please take some time and get to know the search site! We hope that SAG online will be useful to you.

(The links to CARLI and the online SAGs are also found on p. 38).