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Some members of the Olive Lodge 583

Jill Seaholm

Elisabeth Thorsell

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Some members of the Olive Lodge #583 in Moline, Ill.

BY THE SWENSON CENTER STAFF & ELISABETH THORSELL

Historical Sketch

The Swedish Olive Lodge #583 in Moline, Illinois, was founded in 1875 by Job Tuffley, the Past Grand of the Odd Fellowship in Moline and twelve of its Swedish members. The statutes for the lodge state that only Scandinavians and people of Scandinavian descent can join the lodge and that its official language is English.

The membership of the Swedish Olive Lodge grew rapidly during the first few decades and in 1901 the Olive Lodge purchased a lot on 13th Street and 5th Avenue in Moline to erect a building for its members. The new three-story building downtown Moline was not however completed and ready to be occupied until in 1908. The membership reached 732 in 1919 which marked the peak for the membership. After the end of WWII the membership began to dwindle slowly. The lodge ceased to exist in 1987.

The mission of the Olive Lodge was to provide financial relief to its members during illness and to provide death benefits to beneficiaries. The lodge also maintained a burial lot at the Riverside Cemetery in Moline for members without families in the area. In addition the Lodge eventually added a social dimension to its activities and hosted gatherings for members and owned a tavern. The Swedish Olive Lodge followed the teachings set by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF) established in North America in 1819 which was to give aid to those in need and pursue projects for the benefit of all mankind.

Their archives were donated in 1992 to the Swenson Center in Rock Island by a former member. They were processed by David Wise and

Christina Johansson in 2004. The collection is 30 linear ft. in 54 boxes, and is open to research. More information on the contents can be found at

<<http://www.augustana.edu/x14795.xml>>

More was found

In the fall of 2010 Jill Seaholm wrote to the SAG Editor:

“Maybe about 10 years ago, a woman called me from the Mormon branch library across the river in Davenport, Iowa. She was cleaning out some file box and found a set of index cards that had lots of Swedish names on them. It appeared to be from some kind of lodge, but there was nothing on any of the cards that said which lodge. People were joining the lodge from other local places and

leaving it to go to other local places.

One day I happened to be looking in our Swedish Olive Lodge records for someone else and remembered those cards. I compared the cards to people in the SOL record book, and they matched! So the cards had come home to the right place where we had the SOL records!”

The listing

Here are now the people in the database. The earliest joined the lodge in 1901, but the majority joined from 1914 to 1947. After this listing there are a number of additions from *Emibas*, and these are ordered according to the numbers in the main listing.

Name of Brother	Bengt Sigfrid Gävert		
Address	1104-3 St.		
Date of Birth	February 26 th 1888		
Place of Birth	Ludersnäs, Kopparbergs Län, Dalarna, Sweden		
Initiated	3/1/1920	1st Degree	3/18/1920
		2nd Degree	3/15/1920
		3rd Degree	3/22/1920
Admitted by Transfer Certificate			
Admitted by Withdrawal Card			
From	N. G.		
Installed as V. G.	Date		
Transferred to			
Dropped	Reinstated		

The index card for Bengt Sigfrid Gävert, #42 in the list.

Last & first name	Street address	City	Birth date	Birth place	Län	Admitted
1. Abrahamson Frans O.	1822 9th St	Moline	1891-09-16	Kölingared	P	1916-03-27
2. Amandus Robert	1014 5th Ave	Moline	1890-06-06	Säby	F	1920-01-12
3. Anderson A. Carl F.	3712 15th Ave	Rock Island	1894-12-05	Gräsmark	S	1919-04-22
4. Anderson Carl J.	4526 8th Ave	Rock Island	1882-10-14	Jönköping	F	1919-09-08
5. Anderson Ernst Åke	<i>Address not listed</i>		1901-07-05	Gräsmark	S	1942-03-23
6. Anderson Gust A.	1026 14th St	Moline	1897-02-26	Vänersborg	P	1920-04-05
7. Anderson Sven	<i>Address not listed</i>		1903-05-02	Linköping	E	1943-05-10
8. Antonson Arvid Theodore	1442 25th Ave	Moline	1887-08-09	Eksjö	F	1919-10-27
9. Applequist Wm	151 4th Ave	Moline	1877-05-31	Visby	I	1917-01-15
10. Benson Axel	1122 5th Ave	Moline	1894-04-14	Axelatorp		1919-10-27
11. Benson Olof	1122 5th Ave	Moline	1889-12-28	Axelatorp		1917-01-22
12. Berggren Fred Godard	1415 11th St A	Moline	1883-09-24	Moline		1920-01-12
13. Bergman John Edward	913 16th St	Moline	1871-10-13	Tannefors	E	1920-04-05
14. Bernstrom Nels Axel	819 15th St B	Moline	1909-10-12	Åmneberg	T	1938-12-17
15. Bjurstrom Oscar	2318 18th Ave A	Moline	1884-10-30	Domnarvet	W	1917-02-19
16. Bjorklund Peter	1625 14th Ave	Moline	1884-02-22	Hernosand	Y	1916-11-13
17. Borg Robert L.	324 4th Ave	Moline	1904-09-29		W	1929-11-05
18. Borg Robert E.	2714 8th Ave	Moline	1885-12-22	Runne	DK	1915-11-22
19. Bucherer Gustav Adolph	1502 38th Ave	Moline	1905-01-14	Sahr Baden	DE	1944-10-30
20. Carlsson Adolph	532 39th St	Rock Island	1877-08-19	Westertryserum	E	1917-02-12
21. Carlsson Algot	4519 9th Ave	Rock Island	1889-09-20	Ökna	F	1917-01-29
22. Carlsson Axel R.	<i>Address not listed</i>		1902-09-17	Hagsby	H	1946-02-11
23. Carlsson John Emil	<i>Address not listed</i>		1891-10-28	Agunnaryd	G	1942-06-15
24. Carlsson K. Elving	228 45th St	Moline	1910-05-04	Vimmerby	H	1938-12-17
25. Carlsson Vig L.	<i>Address not listed</i>		1910-07-06	Lyburg		1946-04-17
26. Christensen Daniel	2811 15th St A	Moline	1899-06-01	Fredrikshavn	DK	1927-04-08
27. Christisen Fred C.	404 45th St	Moline	1879	Moline		1906-10-15
28. Christopherson Hilmer L.	1800 S Washington St	Joliet	1896	Moline		1919-03-31
29. Dahlstrom Carl G.	1227 3rd St A	Moline	1886-01-01	Moline	X	1919-02-10
30. Dahlstrom Sture Ragnar	408 1/2 13th St	Moline	1898-09-19	Ljusne		1919-02-10
31. Erickson Albert	1111 14th Ave	Moline	1889-07-06	Skåne	S	1917-01-29
32. Erickson Claus	1725 14th Ave	Moline	1869-07-22	Västergötland		1908-06-15
33. Erickson Erik A.	1122 5th Ave	Moline	1887-03-12	Örnsköldsvik	Y	1919-01-13
34. Goranson John W.	1109 3rd St	Moline	1882-04-22	Forshaga	S	1920-04-05
35. Granath Alfred	1301 15th St A	Moline	1879-04-27	Lönsboda	L	1917-02-19
36. Gronander Hilding	702 5th Ave	Moline	1908-08-27	Arvika	S	1936-01-14
37. Gunt Carl	1028 13th Ave	Moline	1894-03-21	Kil	S	1917-01-29
38. Gustafson Erick E.	1802 3rd St A	Moline	1888-01-21		H	1930-06-07
39. Gustafson Karl B.	<i>Address not listed</i>		1908-06-21	Hjälmseryd	F	1946-01-28
40. Gustafson Per Gustaf	1125 4th Ave	Moline	1905-03-25	Slättåkra	N	1926-01-18
41. Gustafson Oscar W.	301 16th Ave	Moline	1879-12-25	Moline		1917-06-17

42.	Gävert Bengt Sigfrid	1104 3rd St	Moline	1888-02-26	Lindesnäs	W	1920-03-01
43.	Hagman Hugo Carl	1202 6th Ave	Moline	1891-09-18	Djursdala	H	1920-03-01
44.	Hall Andrew E.	534 27th Ave	Moline	1885-09-24	Helgum	Y	1925-01-26
45.	Hall Eric G.	1328 12th Ave	Moline	1885-06-11	Vadstena	E	1929-05-27
46.	Ibsen Christ	1309 15th St A	Moline	1890-11-01	Bonsoholm	DK	1917-01-29
47.	Johnson Andrew	1704 17th Ave	Moline	1891-11-03	Hajom	P	1917-01-29
48.	Johnson August	1230 3rd St A	Moline	1880-04-19	Ålmhult	G	1917-01-15
49.	Johnson Carl Hjalmar	522 5th Ave	Moline	1879-04-21	Hjulsjö	T	1920-05-17
50.	Johnson David	723 13th St	Moline	1896-04-04	Ödeshög	E	1917-02-19
51.	Johnson Elias	1132 3rd St	Moline	1872-06-14		G	1917-02-19
52.	Johnson Hjalmer F.	1412 10th St	Moline	1896-07-27	Karlskrona	K	1925-04-16
53.	Johnson J. Severin	350 7th St	Moline	1891-12-07		E	1920-04-05
54.	Johnson John	1149 6th Ave	Moline	1889-10-09	Vå	L	1926-03-01
55.	Johnson John R.	1172 22nd St	Moline	1881-02-07		P	1920-04-05
56.	Johnson Swan	<i>Address not listed</i>		1899-07-31	Bollebygd	P	1942-02-23
57.	Karlson K. G. Viktor	738 22nd St A	Moline	1887-03-22	Stockholm	AB	1919-01-13
58.	Karlson Stig Gust Edwin	1101 11th St	Moline	1909-07-09	Helsingborg	M	1936-01-14
59.	Kask Rubert	<i>Address not listed</i>		1893-03-27		H	1947-02-24
60.	Krone Eric	1133 26th St	Moline	1880-05-19	Tidaholm	R	1917-02-12
61.	Larson Ernest	516 5th Ave	Moline	1897-12-17	Tidaholm	R	1926-01-18
62.	Larson Gust W.	1125 4th Ave	Moline	1904-04-01	Lidköping	R	1925-11-12
63.	Larson John	<i>Address not listed</i>		1901-10-18	Järna	W	1942-02-23
64.	Larson Oskar O.	1845 23rd Ave	Moline	1895-03-20	Kristianstad	L	1916-03-27
65.	Larson Swen	<i>Address not listed</i>		1906-04-21	Vårdnäs	E	1945-01-22
66.	Lindstedt Claus Wm.	227 44th St	Moline	1885-07-07	Hallaröd	M	1919-03-31
67.	Lunde Sigurd G.	1122 3rd St	Moline	1889-10-28	Oslo	NO	1931-12-14
68.	Magnuson Einar L.	<i>Address not listed</i>		1899-09-04	Forsrum	F	1924-03-11
69.	Markeson Axel Harold	1806 15th Ave	Moline	1892-01-08	Fors Haga	S	1918-04-08
70.	Markuson Hilding	<i>Address not listed</i>		1899-01-09	Fors Haga	S	1942-02-23
71.	Mellgren Carl J.	1006 5th Ave	Moline	1897-03-11	Västergötland		1936-01-14
72.	Nelson Arvid Julius	329 4th Ave	Moline	1891-07-11	Borgholm	H	1918-02-04
73.	Nelson Carl	2325 15th St	Moline	1885-11-13	Hörby	M	1926-02-01
74.	Nelson Fred G.	1540 7th Ave	Moline	1897-03-08	Bredsåtra	H	1919-02-10
75.	Nelson H.S.M.	84 1/2 18th Ave	Moline	1898-05-17	Öland	H	1920-03-01
76.	Nelson Hjalmar Gustaf	1311 10th St	Moline	1887-05-14	Eslöv	M	1917-01-22
77.	Nelson John	615 44th St	Rock Island	1879-10-11	Segerstad	H	1917-01-29
78.	Nelson John Paul	<i>Address not listed</i>		1897-01-08	Kalmar	H	1943-04-12
79.	Nelson Joseph Axel	1206 6th Ave	Moline	1894-07-29	Figeholm	H	1926-02-01
80.	Nelson Nels	1226 7th Ave	Moline	1882-03-10	Ö. Åspinge	M	1920-04-05
81.	Oakleaf Arvid	1026 14th St	Moline	1892-09-02	Nykroppa	S	1920-04-05
82.	Olofson Petrus E.	1910 15th St A	Moline	1886-12-15	Bollnäs	X	1917-02-19
83.	Peterson Carl J.	1910 15th St A	Moline	1877-11-27	Kristdala	H	1917-02-19

Last & first name	Street address	City	Birth date	Birth place	Län	Admitted
84. Peterson Claus	4526 8th Ave	Rock Island	1879-02-24	Råda	S	1917-02-19
85. Peterson David Ivar	538 39th St	Rock Island	1893-11-16	Linköping	E	1919-04-22
86. Rasmussen Carl B.	2120 18th Ave A	Moline	1883-04-12	Odense	DK	1917-01-22
87. Rydeen Oscar	1006 5th Ave	Moline	1882-11-28	Kristdala	H	1917-01-29
88. Rylander Nathan	438 16th Ave	Moline	1871	Moline		1901-05-13
89. Schon Gust	408 1/2 12th St	Moline	1883-07-28	Vingåker	D	1916-11-13
90. Skarp Viking	1134 5th Ave	Moline	1909-03-06	Markaryd	G	1938-12-17
91. Stipp A.F.	1512 11th Ave	East Moline		Moline		1914-04-14
92. Soderberg Gustaf Arvid	616 10th St	Moline	1904-07-05	Nykroppa	S	1928-11-05
93. Sparling Frederick	c/o Waikiki Dairy Farm Spokane, WA		1880-08-09	Calboy	DK	1918-04-08
94. Strand Gust	1207 1/2 11th St	Moline	1890-04-10	Sundsvall	Y	1917-01-22
95. Strandberg Adrian	1207 6th Ave	Moline	1893-07-19	Arnäs	Y	1920-01-12
96. Sundberg Herman A.	<i>Address not listed</i>		1895-08-02	Gräsmark	S	1942-02-23
97. Swan Axel	W.245 17th Ave E	Moline	1885-01-16	Stockholm	AB	1917-02-19
98. Swanson Adolph	1142 11th Ave	Moline	1894-05-02	Lönsboda	L	1920-01-12
99. Swanson Arvid E.	<i>Address not listed</i>		1898-11-15	Hanneda	G	1944-02-07
100. Swanson Burnette M.	<i>Address not listed</i>		1906-12-19	Andover, Henry IL		1947-04-21
101. Swanson Carl Gustaf	1155 1/2 12th Ave	Moline	1880-02-12	Skövde	R	1917-01-15
102. Swanson Emil Alfred	1014 5th Ave	Moline	1891-01-23	Moline		1926-04-19
103. Swanson Emil Swen	1109 12th St	Moline	1886-01-24		R	1920-02-02
104. Swanstrom Harold Gustave	2708 12th Ave	Moline	1903-12-13	Boxholm	E	1937-02-22
105. Swenson Swen	2423 5th Ave	Moline	1891-09-21		R	1927-11-21
106. Toline Oscar Emanuel	1109 12th St	Moline	1890-05-06	Leksberg	R	1920-03-01
107. Uddberg Gunnar	1225 1/2 5th Ave	Moline	1890-09-12	Fridaholm	R	1917-01-29
108. Ulner Alfred Julius	2325 15th St	Moline	1898-02-11	Malmö	M	1936-10-20
109. Wanholt Einar	1815 25th Ave	Moline	1885-05-08	Grenan	DK	1926-12-20
110. Winblad John A.	Barstow, IL		1888-02-25	Rytterne	U	1919-02-10

Endnotes:

The following additions/corrections have been found in the database *Emibas* during a quick search. More of these men can probably be found in Swedish records by doing additional research.

The *SAG Editor* will be happy to receive more information on these lodge members.

1. Frans O. Abrahamsson immigrated 1911 from Kölingared, using the surname of Karlsson.
4. Carl J. Anderson transferred from Muscatine Lodge #5.
5. Ernst Åke Andersson immigrated in 1922 from Gräsmark.
7. Sven Filip Anderson was born in Sankt Lars parish, E, and immigrated from there in 1923. According to *Emihamn* his destination was Orion, IL.
13. Johan Edvard Bergman was born in Sankt Lars parish, E, and immigrated from there in 1923..
14. Nils Axel Bernström was born in Hammar parish, T, and immigrated from there in 1923.
15. Karl Oskar Bjurström was born in Stora Tuna, W, and immigrated from there in 1910.
16. Petrus Björklund was born in Nordingrå, Y, and immigrated from there in 1904.
17. Lars Robert Borg was born in Stora Tuna, W, and immigrated from there in 1923.
18. Robert E. Borg's home place might be Rønne on the island of Bornholm, Denmark.
20. Adolf Viktor Karlsson Persson was born in Tryserum, H, and immigrated from there in 1897.
21. Johan Algot Karlsson immigrated from Ökna in 1923.
33. Erik August Ersson was born in Arnäs, Y, and immigrated from there in 1912.
35. Alfred Granath was born in Örkened, L.
37. Karl August Gunnt was born in Stora Kil, S, and immigrated from there in 1913.
39. Karl B. Gustafsson was born in Bringetofta, F, and immigrated from there in 1928.

41. Oscar W. Gustafson transferred from Wanlock Lodge #848, Viola, IL.
42. Bengt Sigfrid Gävert was born in Nås parish, W, and immigrated from Stora Tuna in 1910.
44. Anders Erik Hall immigrated from Skorped, Y, in 1903.
45. Erik Gotthard Häll was born in Rogslösa, E, and immigrated from Herrestad, E, in 1903.
46. Christ Ibsen was possibly born at Nexø on the island of Bornholm, Denmark.
49. Karl Hjalmar Johansson immigrated from Hjulsjö, T, 1902.
50. David Verner Johansson was born in Strå parish, E, and immigrated from Ödeshög, E, in 1912.
60. Erik Samuel Gottfrid Kron was born in Agnetorp, R, and immigrated from Tidaholm in 1905.
63. Björn Nils Johan Larsson immigrated in 1919 from Järna, W.
65. Sven Valdemar Larsson immigrated in 1927 from Vårdnäs, E.
68. Einar Ludvig Magnusson immigrated in 1916 from Forserum, F.
69. Axel Harald Markusson was born in Grava, S, and immigrated in 1911 from there.
70. Per Hilding Markusson was born in Grava, S, and immigrated in 1918 from there, and re-immigrated in 1923 from Forshaga, S.
71. Johan Klas Reinhold Mellgren was born in Södra Säm, P, and immigrated in 1927 from there.
79. Joseph Axel Nelson was probably born in Figeholm, Misterhult parish, H.
84. Klas Vilhelm Pettersson was born in Norra Råda, S, and immigrated in 1897 from there.
85. David Ivar Pettersson was born in Värna, E, and immigrated in 1910 from there.
92. Gustaf Arvid Söderberg has no place of birth in *Emibas*, but immigrated in 1926 from Kroppa, S.
94. Gust Strand *might* be identical with Gustaf Werner Standell, born on the same date in Indal, Y, who immigrated in 1909 from Timrå, Y.
96. Arvid Herman Sundberg immigrated in 1914 from Gräsmark, S.
101. Carl Gustaf Svensson was born in Jung, R, and immigrated in 1915 from Skövde, R.
106. Oskar Emanuel Tholin immigrated in 1931 from Leksberg, R. (It is not known if he had immigrated earlier and returned to Sweden; see when he joined the lodge?)
107. Gunnar Uddberg might have been born in Tidaholm, but not found in *Emibas*.
109. Einar Wanholt might have been born in Grenå, Denmark.
110. Johan A. Winblad was probably a member of the Erik Winblad family which, according to *Emihamn*, immigrated in 1901 from Göteborg with tickets for New York. Their home place is given as *Amerika*, which indicates that this family had been in the U.S. before, and now returned after a visit to Sweden.

The family consisted of Erik Winblad (41), wife Hanna (37), son John (13), daughter Signe (9), son Rudolf (4) and baby Axel (0).

Explanations:

The code letters for the various Swedish *län* can be found on the inside back cover of SAG.

DE = Germany
DK = Denmark
NO = Norway



This 1920s view shows Fifth Avenue in Moline, looking east from 14th Street. In the right foreground is the 1912 Peoples Service Building, which was replaced by a bank parking lot in the 1960s. Peoples Power and its successor, Iowa-Illinois Gas and Electric Company, had offices in the building over its entire history. Behind it is the 1918 eight-story bank building on the corner of 15th Street. In the left foreground is the 1922 Carbro Building, which housed Carlson Brothers office supply for decades. The first streetcar connection between Moline and Rock Island ran along 3rd Avenue (now River Drive), but by the time of this photo, the main line came into downtown Moline along Fifth Avenue. (Photo: <http://www.moline.il.us/departments/planning/historic>).