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Bits & Pieces

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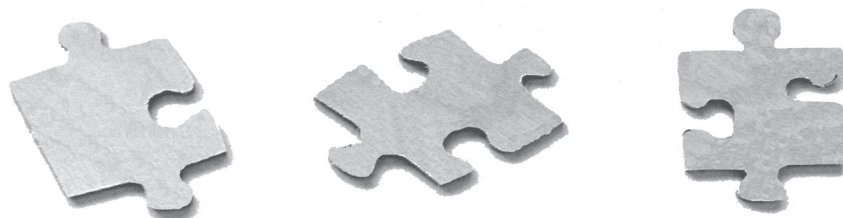
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Bits & Pieces



To Öland in the summer!

There will be a Swedish-American Day at Runsten on the island of Öland celebrated on *Sunday 19 July 2009*, according to information from the House of Emigrants.

An American festival in Kisa in June

There will be an American week celebrated in Kisa in southern Östergötland this summer. It starts on Friday 12 June and then on 13 and 14 June the annual Peter Cassel Days take place, in remembrance of the pioneers that left Kisa in 1845 for Iowa.

The idea of this week originates from the Peter Cassel and Andrew Peterson societies, the municipalities of Kinda and Ydre, businesses and associations in the area. We are getting ready for a “cultural exchange week” with a Swedish and an American mix that will form lasting friendships.

During the week there will be a number of activities; concerts, theater performances, a market, and much more.

See a link to the web site on p. 30.

Minnesota Day in Växjö

The customary *Minnesota Day* will be celebrated on Sunday 9 August in Växjö in the park by the House of Emigrants.

Genline visits the U.S.

Former CEO of Genline Peter Walenskog and some others will be in Arlington Heights, IL 8 May. On 11 May they will be in St. Paul, MN and they will also visit Lindsborg, KS and the NGS Conference in Raleigh, NC. (*SGSM Tidningen 1/09*).

Two new commanders

When the Swedish-American Historical Society (SAHS) celebrated its 60th Anniversary in November 2008 with a symposium and a festive dinner, two long-time officers were honored.

Society President *Philip J. Anderson* was given the rank of Commander of the Royal Order of the Polar Star, presented by Kerstin Lane, honorary Swedish Consul General for Illinois. The Swedish honorary Consul General for Minnesota, Bruce Karstadt, presented the same decoration to *Byron J. Nordstrom*, long-time editor of the *SAHS Quarterly*.

The SAG editor joins the congratulation chorus!

(SAHS Newsletter Feb. 2009).



The Kinship Center of Karlstad has moved

The Kinship Center (*Emigrantregistret*) in Karlstad recently moved to a central location in downtown Karlstad. To visit them, go to Residens-torget 1. Mailing address is still Box 331, S-651 08 Karlstad. E-mail: <research@emigrantregistret.s.se> They will open again in April.

Digitizing grant

The *Pro Suecia Foundation*, headed by Barbro Osher, has given a grant of \$15,000 to the Swedish-American Historical Society for digitizing the articles in the *SAHS Quarterly*, which means that all the articles will be easily accessible on the internet once the project is finished.

(SAHS Newsletter Feb. 2009).

Conference in October

Swedish Council of America, in partnership with the Swedish Colonial Society's centennial celebration and the American Swedish Historical Museum, will host the tenth “**Conference of Swedish America**” in Philadelphia, PA **October 22-25, 2009**. The Conference will focus on the legacy of the New Sweden Colony.

(SCA E-update, Dec. 2008)

Disaster in Cologne

On 3 March 2009 the city archives (*Stadtarchiv*) of the German city of *Köln* (Cologne) was destroyed. The archives were housed in a building that suddenly collapsed, maybe due to underground building work.

At least one person was killed, maybe more, as they have not yet been able to clear the rubble.

The archive had documents from the year 922 and onwards, they had 1800 medieval records and 358 books of city court and other records. It was the largest city archive north of the Alps. It is not yet known how much it is possible to salvage. At least one underground storage room was not destroyed, and it was possible to save tax records from the 11th and 12th centuries. The loss of irreplaceable documents is a loss to all researchers all over the world, whether one has German ancestors or not.