

9-1-2007

Bits & Pieces

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Recommended Citation

(2007) "Bits & Pieces," *Swedish American Genealogist*: Vol. 27 : No. 3 , Article 7.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.augustana.edu/swensonsag/vol27/iss3/7>

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Bits & Pieces



Changes at the American Swedish Institute

The American Swedish Institute (ASI) in Minneapolis is in a process of rethinking its mission.

Some of the results of this was the closure on 1 September 2007 of the library and archives. The archivist Marita Karlisch left her job at the same time.

The local Swedish-American genealogists are not happy about this, and are considering moving their meetings elsewhere.

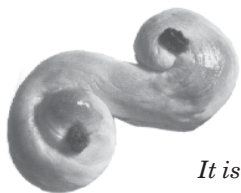
The Kinship Center in Karlstad is moving

The Kinship Center (*Emigrantregistret*) in Karlstad, Sweden, has for some years been housed in the same building as the Värmland Regional Archives (*Värmlandsarkiv*) in a not so central area of the city, which has made it difficult for many to find the Center. Now they will be moving to larger and very central facilities in the county governor's mansion by the *Stortorget* (Main Square) in Karlstad. The Kinship Center is also functioning as the Swedish office for Swedish Council of America.

The director, Erik Gustavson, says that the move also will enhance the possibilities for research, as many collections that have been in boxes for years now can be unpacked and used more easily.

The move will take place during the spring of 2008.

(*The Bridge* 2007/3)



It is Lussekatte time!

Genealogy Days 2008

The annual Swedish Genealogy Days (*Släktforskardagarna*) in 2008 will take place in the city of Malmö. During the weekend of 30–31st August there will be exhibitions, lectures, demonstrations of computer program and much more, open to the public and free entrance.

If you are planning a trip to Sweden at that time, do plan to join the many genealogists that are coming to Malmö.

www.malmo2008.se/enindex.htm

Cook County records to go online

In an article in the *Chicago Tribune* the Cook County clerk David Orr is cited as saying that at some time in January 2008 genealogists will be able to search online for copies of birth and death certificates and marriage licences.

The web site will be the home for the county's 24 million vital records. Records date back as far as 1871, as earlier records were destroyed in the big Chicago fire that year.

The scanning and indexing of all the records was completed in June, and the county is uploading about a million records each week, a process that should be finished by the end of the year.

The web site will allow searches by name, and once a proper person is found, the researcher will have to pay a fee to download the document and print it out on their own computer. It is not mentioned how much that fee is going to be. Certified copies will not be available online.

The records will be birth certificates 75 years or older, death certificates 20 years or older, and marriage certificates 50 years or older.

(*Chicago Tribune* 7 Sep. 2007)

Ancestry.com has a Swedish site

During the fall Ancestry has opened a Swedish-language site at

www.ancestry.se where you can search some Swedish databases, like the Passenger lists (same as *Emigranten Populär*) and church records for Värmland. The list says Värmland but it also contains records from Älvsborg, Skaraborg, and Göteborg och Bohus län, which makes your SAG editor a bit doubtful about their competence to handle Swedish records. I have not been able to see the quality of the pictures of the church records as you have to have a World Deluxe subscription to see them, which I don't have.

Swedish Council of America has a new logo and a new slogan



At the top is the three Swedish crowns and the three diamonds at the bottom symbolize the United States, Canada, and Sweden.

Scandinavian Seminar works with SCA

Scandinavian Seminar is an organization that offers educational travel for everyone, regardless of age. Their trips are a mixture of adventure and discovery and an introduction to Scandinavian culture. They have now become a formal partner of the Swedish Council of America.

www.scandinavianseminar.org