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The Last Page

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The Last Page

Dear friends,

By now summer is here in Sweden, everything is green and there are lots of wild flowers everywhere, and we hope for a long, sunny summer, as the winter was not much fun.

American friends tend to come here during the nice part of the year, and we always enjoy showing them some of the sights of Stockholm. There are many things to see here besides The Vasa Museum and Skansen.

One nice tour is to take the E18 towards Enköping and after about 25 minutes we exit from the highway and drive on a small rural road for a while, and then, suddenly you see the towers of Skokloster Castle, by Lake Mälaren, looking a bit odd among the little red houses. The castle was built from the 1650s and onwards by Count Carl Gustaf Wrangel, who got

to be very rich during the 30 Year War down in Germany, and then wanted just as nice a home as his German colleagues. Unfortunately he died in 1676 and the work on the castle stopped, as there was no more money. His heirs did not have any money either, so the castle is still unfinished, and gives a vivid glimpse of the 1600s.

Among the many items in Wrangel's collections are a number of Indian artefacts from New Sweden, supposed to be among the oldest in the world.

After all this history it is nice with a cup of coffee in the quaint old town of Sigtuna.

On the agenda now in Sweden is the efforts of the local city government of Växjö and the Kronoberg

county officials to more or less deprive the Swedish Emigrant Institute [SEI] of its independence, and merge it with a local museum.

The politicians do not understand that the SEI is an international institution, and should not be handled this way.

More than 1,600 genealogists and emigrant researchers have signed a petition to these authorities to leave the SEI alone and increase their funding, instead of taking it away.

SAG will of course follow this problem, and report back to you as the matter develops further. Lets all hope for the best!

Till next time!

Elisabeth Thorsell

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SAG Workshop Salt Lake City 12 – 19 Oct. 2008

Welcome to join our happy group of
researchers at the Family History Library in
Salt Lake City!

The SAG Workshop is the highlight of the year – a fun learning experience and a chance to do your Swedish genealogy with hands-on help from experienced Swedish genealogists.

The social side includes welcome and farewell receptions, a buffet dinner & entertainment, Swedish movies, etc.

Contact Jill Seaholm at 309-794-7204
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Limited number of spaces!