6-1-2006

New CD Databases from Sweden

Elisabeth Thorsell

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.augustana.edu/swensonsag
Part of the Genealogy Commons, and the Scandinavian Studies Commons

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://digitalcommons.augustana.edu/swensonsag/vol26/iss2/14

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center at Augustana Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Swedish American Genealogist by an authorized editor of Augustana Digital Commons. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@augustana.edu.
New CD databases from Sweden

There are always new CDs in the works, and here are a few of interest to all genealogists

1. Emigranten Populär

This is an old friend in a new costume; the first Emigranten came out in 1996 and cost a fortune. This new version has a popular price, around $60, instead of roughly $200, and also has some new databases. The new version also allows you to search all ten databases at the same time, or just the ones you have marked.

There are still a few flaws. The Emigranten Populär does not speak English, but should not be too difficult to use for the eager researcher. Also one would have hoped that by now all the variants of parish names would have been corrected and ended up in a special field, so it would have been possible to search on the modern spelling, but not so. You still have 238 Hvetlandas, and 916 Vetlandas in Emihamn. Some people have also complained about the few search windows, they feel it should be possible to search for sex, counties, age, and other fields that do exist in the underlying database.

A hit from Emibas Värmland.

On the other hand, there are lots of good things on this CD. The first and most important is the Emihamn (about 1.4 mill. individuals), people leaving the main ports of Göteborg, Malmö, Stockholm, and others during the period of 1869–1950. Next comes Emibas for Göteborg (53,000) and Värmland (126,000), information based on the church records. Emisjö has information on 17,000 sailors mostly from Western Sweden, that jumped ship or got lost 1812–1930. Emipass has information on 16,000 persons who left Sweden 1812–1860, also mostly from Western Sweden. Emisal lists around 242,000 passengers on the Swedish America Line 1915–1950 (Greta Garbo and others). Emivasa lists about 58,000 members of the Vasa Order of America. Emilarsson is an index of all people that wrote to the emigrant agents Bröderna Larsson in Göteborg 1879–1911. In this database you get a source citation and can then contact the Regional Archives in Göteborg for a copy of the letter. These letters will be published on another CD in a few years.

On this CD you will also find some-
information about the ships that went from Göteborg to England, and even pictures of a few of them. This CD is warmly recommended.

2. Swedish Census 1900
This is another member of the series of Swedish censuses, where we already have 1890, 1970, and 1980. The first two ones are computerized versions of the summaries of the clerical surveys for 1890 and 1900, which were sent in from every parish to the Central Bureau of Statistics, the latter ones are based on the official tax registers. The first two ones (1890 and 1900) are joint productions of the SVAR branch of the Swedish National Archives (Riksarkivet) and the Federation of Swedish Genealogical Societies (Sveriges Släktforskarförbund).

One important feature of the new CD is that it is English-speaking: just click on the U.S. flag in the upper right-hand corner, and all the leadwords are in English. Titles and addresses are not translated. Also notice the big blue questionmark in the same corner. It will tell you about the contents of the CD and give hints on how to do an efficient search.

There are two search windows, one for adults and one for children – sometimes you just know the name of the ancestor and a few siblings, and then you could well use the children’s window. Also note that there are some helpful buttons to help you write the “Swedish” letters.

In the Swedish version there is also a “statistics” button, where you may see, for instance how many butchers there were in a certain town, or how many grufarbetare (miners) in another one. This CD is very useful, especially when you are tracing the siblings of your immigrant. There are of course mistakes, misread place names, surnames, etc., but it is a great lead into the church records.

3. Kugelberg
Kugelberg is a DVD with scanned pictures of newspaper clippings from the late 1800s and early 1900s of births, deaths, and marriages. They are arranged by surname, and more than 20,000 surnames are listed. The families here mostly belonged to the professional classes, officers, bank managers, civil servants, etc. Swedish.

4. Grill
The indispensable book by Claes Grill, “Statistiskt sammandrag af svenska indelningsverket,” which is necessary to use to find one’s soldier in the military records, has now also become a database, (in Swedish.)

Where to buy the CDs
1. Emigranten Populär is sold by the SAG editor for $60 incl. postage. E-mail <sag@etgenealogy.se> for more information.

For all the other CDs, e-mail the Federation for price, postage, and handling at <info@genealogi.se>