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The Last Page

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The Last Page

Dear Friends,

Even though this is the June number, these lines are written later, at the end of the summer. This year Sweden had again a very warm and dry summer. From the end of June until early August the temperatures stayed in the middle or high 80s, something we are not accustomed to. Many people left the cities and moved to their summer homes, perhaps a little red "stuga" or a modern vacation home on an island in the archipelago.

My family and I went to the "stuga" in the Värmland forests, where it was fresher and cooler than in the city. It was the first time that it has been so warm that I wore shorts for many weeks there.

Our place has been in the family

for a couple of generations, and the buildings are getting old. We noticed that the barn had started to sag in one corner, and finally decided to do something about it. Now the heavy tile roof is gone, replaced by a modern metal roof, which should be safe at least for the next 30 years. By then, it will be up to Ossian and the others of his generation to ensure the well-being of the barn.

Another matter came up on the horizon, my trusted laptop suddenly died on me, and has gone to the shop for repairs. That made me realize the importance of **back-ups**, and I hope that those of you who are computer users, remember to do back-ups regularly. If possible, you should also burn a CD with the most important files

at least once a year, and place them in your bank, or with someone who lives in another part of the country.

Because of the lack of water, the birches started to turn yellow already at the end of July; this also affected the blueberries, but we hope the lingonberries have benefitted from the rains in August. These things are tokens of the approaching fall, which for me first means *The Bridge Conference* in Karlstad, and then this year's tour to the U.S. Besides the all-important SAG Workshop in Salt Lake City, I will also visit Worcester, Mass., and Philadelphia, and hope to see many of you!

Greetings from Sweden!

Elisabeth Thorsell

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SAG needs more Queries and Questions!

For this issue SAG had no *Genealogical Queries* at all. The Query box is empty, but waiting for the subscribers to send in queries about their lost ones. Perhaps one of the reasons for the emptiness is the message boards on the internet, though I would suspect a printed query to have a much longer life than an internet one. Someday someone may pick up an old SAG and find a query that tells exactly where the ancestors came from, or where they went.

The same goes for the *Question Chest*, where we try to answer questions about other things than genealogy. We want questions like "What was the price of a ticket from Göteborg to New York in 1904?" or "What is a suscepatrix?" or "How long did it take to become a master copper-smith?" or any other thing you are wondering about.

We did have one or two questions, but they were lost in a computer crash in April, so please send them in again.



This is *Ossian Thorsell*, born 23 June 2006 in Spånga, Sweden. In the picture he is one month old. It is a gift to be so relaxed in his mother's arms.

Ossian is a new reminder of why so much time is spent on digging up names, dates, and details of his ancestor's lives – so he and his brother and other siblings, and relatives will know where they came from, which might help them find out where they are going.