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Bits & Pieces

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Bits & Pieces



The 2006 Olov Isaksson Award

The Swedish Bishop Hill Society decided that the 2006 award should go to a long-time member who has worked to get Bishop Hill on the list of National Historic landmarks, and also been an excellent representative for Sweden, namely the former Swedish ambassador to the U.S. Count Wilhelm Wachtmeister.

(<http://home.swipnet.se/bishophill/>)

Ancestry opens a dialog with SVAR

During *Släktforskardagarna* (Genealogy Days) in Nacka in August, *Ancestry* was an exhibitor and also took the opportunity to learn more about Swedish databases. SVAR, a branch of the Swedish National Archives, caught their interest as they have a growing number of on-line resources, not just church records, but also tax records, prison records, and much more. Josh Hanna, a vice president of Ancestry Europe has since visited with SVAR in Ramsele for discussions with Anders Nordström, CEO of SVAR.

(*Tidningen Ångermanland* 2 oct. 2006)

Emigranten Populär

with 8 different Swedish databases is here! This includes *Emihamn* with more than 1.2 million immigrants from Sweden. This database is the only one that gives the immigrant's destination.

See *SAG* 2/06 for a closer description of the CD.

Price U.S. \$60 incl p.&h.

Elisabeth Thorsell

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Gloria Dei records now in print!

Now the first two volumes of the series *Colonial Records of the Swedish Churches in Pennsylvania* are available! The first volume, *The Log Churches at Tinicum Island and Wicaco, 1646-1696*, has documents on the early New Sweden period and the decades after. The records include minutes of vestry meetings and appointments, details on parsonage and church improvements, pew assignments (*bänklängder*), and church censuses. These records are supplemented by records from the archdiocesan archives of Uppsala, where the "American Mission" was supervised, and sometimes saw matters in another light than the people in the colony. The second volume is *The Rudman Years, 1697-1702*, which tells what was going on during the time Andreas Rudman was the minister of Gloria Dei.

In the works now is the time of Andreas (Anders) Sandel's ministry, 1702-1717.

The books are 240 pages in a library binding with an every-name index. They cost \$30 each (incl. postage and handling), and checks or money orders can be sent to **Gloria Dei (Old Swede's) Church, 916 South Swanson Street, Philadelphia, PA 19147-4332.** (www.old-swedes.org)

More passenger lists!

Ancestry.com has now added more years to the New York arrival lists, that now go to 1957. They also say they have re-indexed the Ellis Island lists. Another new list at Ancestry is the *Detroit Border Crossings and Passenger and Crew Lists 1905-1957*, that contains at least 1,578 individuals born in Sweden.

Scandinavian Folk Festival in Jamestown

The fifth festival was held in Jamestown, NY, this summer and was a great success with more than 3,000 participants who enjoyed concerts, lectures, workshops, and much more. Next summer the festival will be held 27-29 July, and more participants are welcome! The more, the merrier.

<http://scandinavianjamestown.org/>

Swedish Texans now indexed

Diligent student workers at Augustana College also help the Swenson Center to index old books with many Swedes in them. The latest magnificent effort has been to make a total name index to *Svenskarne i Texas i Ord och Bild 1838-1918, I-II* (publ. 1919), and to *The Swedish Texans* (publ. 1990). See the link on page 31.

The LDS have started to scan Swedish films

According to an article by *David Rencher* who is the Director of Records and Information Division at the Family History Library, in *Digital Genealogist* 1/06, the scanning of the original microfilms is now under way. Nifty programmers have managed to get the machines to scan 3 million pictures/month and soon will be able to do 10 million pictures/month. When the 15 new scanners are working, they expect to be able to scan 370,000 films/year. The first scanned Swedish films are to be found on the SVAR web site (by subscription) and are of much better quality than the old microfilms and fiche.