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## The Last Page

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# The Last Page

## Dear Friends,

We are getting close to the end of the year, and this has been a strange fall. It has not been so warm for centuries, and you do start to wonder if there might be something in the talk about global warming?

I spent the major part of October in Worcester, Massachusetts, among other places, and saw the glorious fall colors of New England. We have them too in Sweden, but our forests are mostly coniferous and don't change color in this spectacular way.

I also had the opportunity to meet with many genealogist friends, and as usual appreciated their kindness and generosity.

As a coincidence *The Family Tree Magazine* for October had a long article about Swedish research,

which I hope many noticed. I met the author, David Fryxell, several years ago, and we have kept in contact, and now I was able to help him a little with some hints on things in Sweden.

The workshop in Salt Lake City was a huge success, as you can read in this issue. We were a bit astonished at the plans to tear down most of the central city and build a new huge mall or shopping center, so familiar landmarks will be gone next year.

Well, what is happening in Sweden? We have a new government, an alliance between the four more liberal-conservative parties. They took over in early October and seem to be doing fine. We hope fervently that they will tackle a huge problem, the preservation of the vital records after

1991, when the tax authorities took over. The records for the last 15 years only exist in digital form, and they need to be transferred to some medium that will be readable still in 2300, as we now can read records from the 1680s, and the modern records must be there for our descendants. This will cost a lot of money, and the Tax Ministry and the Culture Ministry can not agree on who is to pay.

Otherwise we continue as usual, seeing more and more CDs and databases. The Genline company is now almost finished with their huge scanning project, most church records are online, for a subscription, but we always hope for more, and more.

Till next time!

*Elisabeth Thorsell*

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## SAG Workshop Salt Lake City 21 – 27 Oct. 2007

Welcome to join our happy group of  
researchers at the Family History Library in  
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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.

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Contact Karna Olsson at 207-338-0057  
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