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Bits & Pieces

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Bits & Pieces



The 2008 Swedish Genealogy Days

It has recently been decided that the 2008 Genealogy Days (*Släktforskar-dagarna*) will be held in Malmö. The exact date is not known yet, but probably towards the end of August.

New Swedish Surnames

According to a note in the newspaper *Metro* on the 29 January 2007 more than 1,400 individuals had applied during 2006 to change their surname. In 2005 that figure was only around 870. In Sweden you have to apply to the Swedish Patent and Registration Office to have your named changed. You can make up your own name or use one that is suggested by the Office. Here is a list of names, made up at the Office web site: Brändbrant, Burbrant, Folkbrant, Gerdrant, Brändhammar, Folkehammar, Gerdehammar, Linge hammar, Brändmalm, Folkmalm, Brändmossen, Burmossen, Folkmossen, Gerdmossen, Lingmossen, Brändtorp, Burtorp, Folkorp, and Lingetorp. All might not be accepted by the Office, but a surprising number are. There is a link to the Office on p. 31.

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. For PC.

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

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

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The Hamburg Passenger Lists

On *Ancestry.com* you can now find the passenger lists of emigrants from Hamburg, Germany, during the period of 1850–1934, with a gap 1915–1919 due to World War I. These are the scanned pictures of both the direct and indirect emigration from Hamburg. The “indirect” emigrants were those that transferred to another ship, in England for instance, before reaching their final destinations.

These lists cover about 5 million emigrants, of which about 80% went to North America.

The years 1890–1913 are indexed and searchable in a database, but the search language is German. So if you are looking for someone from Sweden, you should enter “Schweden” under *Ethnicity/Nationality*. 3342 Swedes were found that easy way. Then some of them have garbled names, so as usual, fill in as few fields as possible, and think of spelling variations.

Ancestry.com is a subscription site.

A Swedish Monument in Iowa

A local group, *Swedish American Immigrant Commission*, in southeastern Iowa has been working since 2001 to build a monument in memory of their pioneering ancestors. The monument will be built at Munterville in Wapello County, where the first Swedes came in 1847. The focus of the monument will be a 7-foot bronze sculpture of an immigrant family centered on a circular base surrounded by a brick walkway.

For more information there is a web site at

www.swedishmonument.org/

(*The Des Moines Register* 28 Jan.2007)

British Passenger Lists

It has been said that Liverpool was so badly bombed during World War II that there was no hope of finding any British lists of passengers. It appears that the facts were better than that. British *Board of Trade* kept lists of all ships between Great Britain and the rest of the world during 1786–1970. These lists, containing names of passengers, are kept in the National Archives in Kew, London, and have been known, but not microfilmed. They were regarded as being too difficult to use, as they were kept by port and date of departure.

Now the British online service *Findmypast* has started a huge indexing program, done in Asia, on these lists. The total is supposed to be around 30 million individuals. As a start, the period 1890–1909 is available on their web site. This is a subscription site and you buy time units. 50 units costs £5, and you can easily buy more.

www.findmypast.com

Great Swedish Heritage Award

Swedish American Council will present this year's Great Swedish Heritage Award at a banquet in April to Dr. *Nils Hasselmo*. Dr. Hasselmo is born in Sweden, but immigrated in 1956 and has since had a distinguished career in the academic world. He is a former president of the University of Minnesota, and was the president of the Association of American Universities 1998–2006.

