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## The Last Page

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# The Last Page

## Dear friends,

At first this was a very strange winter, snow and traffic chaos in early November, then warm weather and no snow until the middle of January, but now there has been snow and cold for a couple of weeks. This is good, as the school children have a week of winter holidays at the end of February, and now they can be out skiing and playing in the snow, before spring comes.

It is also the time of the *semla*, the cardamom bun with marsipan filling and lots of whipped cream on top. You are only supposed to eat those from the first Tuesday in Lent until Tuesday in Easter week, but the bakery shops cheat and start selling them right after Christmas. As a child we had to first eat brown beans and fried

slices of pork, and then we each got a *semla*. This was often served with hot milk in a deep soup plate. Now I think that this traditional meal was a leftover from the hard-working farming days, when you needed a lot of calories to survive.

Some traditional meals still survive; any self-respecting luncheon place must have peasoup and pancakes on the Thursday menu.

In SAG 3/06, on p. 29, I wrote about the 3-CD set of scanned books on Swedish estates and farms (*Gods och gårdar*), but forgot to give you the web site and the e-mail to the producer. The web site you will find among the web links on p. 29 in this issue, but the e-mail address is <info@obdr.se>.

As you will have read in the article about SVAR, the Swedish church records will fairly soon be available in much better scans, thanks to the cooperation between SVAR and the Genealogical Society of Utah, and that is fine.

But if you have a really favorite parish, where all of your ancestors lived, then you might have a lot of fun if you buy color digital pictures of the records. I just bought the records for Nordmark in Värmland, and am in danger of spending all my time with those, instead of working on SAG.... Take a look at *Arkiv Digital*, you might like what you see. It is a new company and there is yet no information in English. See p.29!

Till next time! *Elisabeth Thorsell*

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Contact Karna Olsson at 207-338-0057  
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Limited number of spaces!