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## Bits & Pieces

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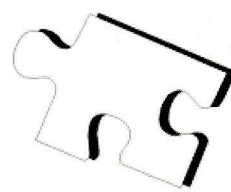
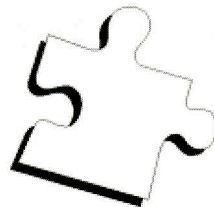
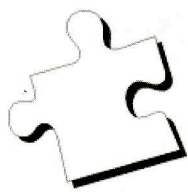
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# Bits & Pieces



## New version of PAF in the works

A message on a Germans to Russia mailing list recently told that the LDS church has been working intensively on the next version of Personal Ancestral File (PAF). Their goal is to make the program more user-friendly, so it will encourage more LDS members to do their own genealogy, more graphics, time lines, personal stories, etc. To make the program available to as many as possible, it might be based on some kind of a web browser, which should work on Windows PCs, Macs, and Linux machines.

(Thanks to Ruth Schultz for sharing this info!)

## Fryksdal Court Minutes

Gunnar Almqvist was a diligent researcher who devoted his life to the study of the records of the Fryksdals *häradsrätt* (district court) in central Värmland. He transcribed short excerpts from court records from 1602 to 1740 that have been published in three volumes in Swedish.

Now there are plans to publish a fourth volume for the years 1741 to 1750, which will be an excellent source for anyone with ancestors in the Fryksdalen area. This will also be in Swedish with an index of people mentioned and also of villages and farms.

The publishers, the local historical society of Östra Emtervik (*hembygdsförening*), needs a number of subscribers before they can have this volume printed.

The cost is 300 SEK + postage. Contact Matts Nilsson, Södra Ås, S-686 96 Östra Ämtervik, Sweden. E-mail: <lilian.mattsnilsson@swipnet.se>

## The Day of the Folk Costume

The International Day of the Folk Costume (*Folkdräktens Dag*) will be celebrated at Skansen in Stockholm, Sweden, on August 21st.

Anyone who is dressed that day in a Swedish costume or a costume from any other country will have a free entrance to Skansen that day, a saving of 60 SEK.

There will be a parade, dances and craftsmen working in the various houses.

## New Genealogical Society in Sweden

The genealogists of Norberg in Västmanland, Sweden, have started a new genealogical society, *Släkt- och Bygdeforskarföreningen Engelbrekt, Norberg*.

You can reach the society by e-mail: <gagnati@spray.se> or write the president Gustav Gustavsson at Industriegatan 6 H, 738 31 Norberg, Sweden.

## Summer festivities in America

The Swedish American Museum Center in **Chicago** arranges *Midsommarfest* on both June 11 and June 12, in connection with the Andersonville street festival.

The American-Swedish Museum in **Philadelphia** are arranging its *Midsommarfest* on June 25th.

In **Minneapolis** the American-Swedish Institute arranges its *Midsommarfest* on June 18th.

The Nordic Heritage Museum in Ballard, just outside **Seattle**, will celebrate *Viking Days* on July 9 and 10.

Swedish American Heritage Society of West Michigan will also have a *Midsommarfest* on June 25th in **Grand Rapids**.

## Ulla Eriksson gets the prize

The *Swedish Bishop Hill Association* had their Annual General Meeting on April 16th, 2005, in Enköping. At the end of the meeting it was announced that the *2005 Olov Isaksson Prize for outstanding emigration research* had been awarded to *Ulla Eriksson* of Söderala, Sweden.

The motivation reads "She is a person who for many years has worked to preserve the memory of the emigration and its significance for the home area (*hembygd*). She has with untiring zeal for general education, through her own research, exhibitions, articles, and writings, carried her knowledge forward."

The prize will be handed over to the awardee at the Bishop Hill Day in the early summer.

## The John Ericsson Day

The customary *John Ericsson Day* will be celebrated in Filipstad on *July 30th*, which is a Saturday. The program is not yet finished, but the customary re-enactment of the *Battle of Hampton Roads* will be performed with several bangs on the waters of Kyrkviken in Filipstad in the afternoon.

## Other Sweden-America Days

In **Kalmar** there will be celebrations at the castle on *August 7, 2005*.

In **Skåne**, at Önnestad, there will be celebrations of Hans Mattson Day on *August 21st*.

*The Minnesota Day* will be celebrated at the House of Emigrants at **Växjö** on August 14.