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## Bits & Pieces

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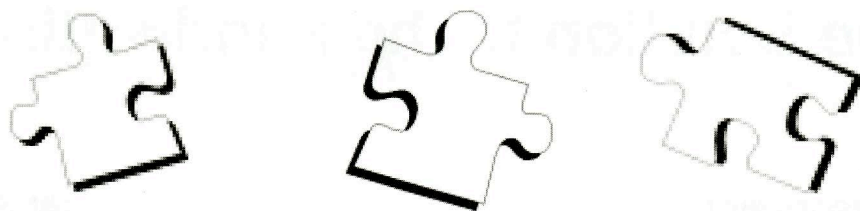
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# Bits & Pieces



## SVAR + Arkion = true

From 1 January 2005 the Swedish National Archives decided that their branches SVAR and Arkion should amalgamate, a fusion that took place on 1 April. *SVAR* is well known as producer of microfiche of various Swedish records: church records, legal records, fire insurance records, and much more. *SVAR* also has a free research room at Ramsele in Ångermanland and an e-bookshop.

*Arkion* mainly worked with producing databases at several places in Norrland, including the useful 1890 and 1900 censuses, and many other good things for genealogists.

It will now be easier to use those facilities as well as those of *SVAR*, as only one subscription is needed, and everything can be found on one web site. One enticing thing that has started to be available are the tax registers (*mantalslängder*).

[www.svar.ra.se](http://www.svar.ra.se)

## The Canadian Census is safe!

Canadian historians of all kinds, genealogists, and many others have struggled since 1998 to get their 1911 census preserved for research, as their Bureau of Statistics wanted it destroyed. Their reason for this wish was that the people who filled out this schedule in 1911, had been promised that the information would remain confidential. In those days the authorities did not understand the historical value of a census. The struggle was finally won by the preservationists, and the 1911 census has been handed over to Library and Archives Canada for release to the researchers, which will happen fairly soon. The 1921 Census will be available after 92 years, which means 2013.

(*APG-list* 2005 July 1)

## Lars-Göran got the Charlotta medal

*Lars-Göran Johansson*, the former longtime archivist at the Swedish Emigrant Institute of Växjö, was awarded the institute's Charlotta medal on the Minnesota Day 2004. This was in recognition of *Lars-Göran's* many efforts on behalf of the institute during almost 30 years.

*Lars-Göran* resigned from the institute in 2002 to take up a position as archivist with the police in western Sweden, and moved to Göteborg.

## The Last Cousin

When writer *Vilhelm Moberg* was a little boy, he thought the word "cousin" was the proper word for a child in America. This was because in his home there were many pictures of nicely dressed children. When he asked who they were, the answer was "That is your cousin in America." Both his mother and his father were the only ones of their siblings to stay in Sweden, so all cousins were born in America.

Now the last one has passed away, when *Walter C. Lindquist*, age 98, died in Iron River, Iron County, Michigan on 11 October 2004. He was a son of *Moberg's* maternal uncle (*morbbror*) *Aldo Gottfrid Aronsson Lindquist*, who emigrated in 1881. (*Emigranten* 2004/2)

## The Olsson Scholarship

The Nils William and Dagmar Olsson Scholarship for 2005 was awarded to Ms. *Agnieszka Stasiewicz* from the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland, who is studying "how much of the Swedish culture has survived until today" and the "Swedishness" in the cultural life of the contemporary America."

## Swedish-American of the Year – Jeanne Eriksson Widman

The two lodges in Sweden of the Vasa Order of America has chosen *Jeanne Eriksson Widman* as the Swedish-American of the year for 2005. Mrs. *Widman* is widely known for her energy when it comes to furthering Swedish dancing, music, and culture. She has been the dance leader for the Vasa Folkdancers of New York for more than 25 years, she founded The Scandinavian Accordion Club of New York. Her father was the legendary musician *Walter Eriksson*.

Mrs. *Widman* is expected to come to Sweden and take part of some of the Swedish American days during the summer, as for instance John Ericsson Day in Filipstad and Minnesota Day in Växjö.

([www.vasaorden.com](http://www.vasaorden.com))



## A New CD

In late May the Stockholm City Archives (*Stockholms Stadsarkiv*) released a new CD, which contains information on all people living on *Kungsholmen* 1878 to 1926.

The CD is actually also a DVD; you get two discs in the same package. The DVD has lots of pictures, articles, film clips, and much more. All this costs about \$50 (395 SEK + p&h and bank charges). *Kungsholmen* can be bought at the City Archives or from the Federation of Swedish Genealogical Societies. Their e-mail is [<info@genealogi.se>](mailto:info@genealogi.se)

## Have You Tried eBay?

At my last visit there I found several very inexpensive Swedish dictionaries, and an 1878 Swedish Bible. There are probably more interesting things, if you look for them.