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Bits & Pieces

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Bits & Pieces



Dates for 2017 Tour

Madison, WI, 23 Sept

Rock Island, IL, 30 Sept

Lindsborg, KS, 7-8 Oct

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Nisswa-stämman 2017

The *Scandinavian Folk Music Festival* in Nisswa, (MN) takes place on 9 – 10 June. It features 150 folk musicians performing on 3 stages, day-long dancing opportunities on two dance floors, dance instruction, a cultural children's activity tent, and great Scandinavian food.

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New Exhibition: Innovation in Tradition: Exploring Swedish Folk Costumes

Opened 24 March, closes on 2 July.

New Exhibition: Arts North

The Arts North exhibition on display at the American Swedish Institute highlights nearly 50 works of art. This multimedia show seeks to exhibit the quality and diversity that artists bring to their artwork, inspire viewers to explore ideas, and learn more about ranges of options within each medium.

Opens on 9 April, closes on 21 May.

A Swedish Oscar

Swedish photographer *Linus Sandgren* won an Oscar for best cinematography in the movie *La La Land* at the 89th Academy Awards ceremony in Hollywood in February 2017.



Titanic II is being built

Titanic II is a planned ocean liner, to be built as a modern-day replica of the Olympic-class RMS Titanic. The new ship will have a gross tonnage (GT) of 56,000 while the original ship measured about 46,000 gross register tons (GRT). The project was announced by Australian millionaire Clive Palmer in April 2012, as the flagship of a proposed cruise company Blue Star Line Pty. Ltd. of Brisbane, Australia. The intended launch date was originally set for 2016, with the ship sailing from Southampton to New York within the same year. However, construction of the ship has been delayed to 2018. As of February 2017 construction has not begun on the vessel.

(Wikipedia)

Swedish Migration Center is closing

The Swedish Migration Center in Karlstad (*Svenska Migrationscentret*) is closing due to severe financial problems. They have expanded to many different areas in Sweden, providing jobs for many people who needed jobs, and relied on financing by state, cities, and towns, but when costs grew they could not cope.

Hopefully some other institution will take over and continue keeping the databases at EmiWeb safe and available.

(<http://www.migrationcenter.se/global.php>)



American Swedish Historical Museum Philadelphia

**Viking Day, Saturday, April 29,
12-4 pm**

Come and get to know the original bearded warriors as we travel through time to explore Norse culture! Visitors can view a 40-foot, half-size working model of the Gokstad ship, learn the runic alphabet, compete in a Hnefeltafle or Viking Chess competition, watch a Viking Age weapons demonstration, and attend expert lectures to learn more about this often misunderstood culture.

SVAR might become a free website

The Swedish government has decided to explore the possibility of changing SVAR into a free commodity for researchers, and has given the National Archives (*Riksarkivet*) the assignment to analyze the pros and cons of this step.

The reason is that they now feel that the archives and records should be free as they are regarded as public property. Also, the same type of records are free to use in Denmark and Norway.

Covenant Church anniversary books now online

Recently the F.M Johnson Archives and Special Collections at North Park University, in Chicago, keeper of the Swedish-American Historical Society's Swedish-American Archives of Greater Chicago, launched its latest digital collection. IOT features anniversary books, published by individual Evangelical Covenant Church congregations. These books were created to celebrate significant milestones in the life of a church. While varied in length and content, they typically include historical sketches, church activities, photographs and much more.

(SAHS Newsletter, spring 2017).

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