



SWEDISH ROOTS IN OREGON

AN IMMIGRATION RESEARCH PROJECT



NEWSLETTER # 16 DEC 2007

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I sit down to write this Newsletter during the Thanksgiving holidays, I once again marvel at how quickly another year has hurried by. Wasn't it just yesterday that I wrote the last Newsletter?

Swedish Roots in Oregon received some discouraging news early in the summer when we learned that the Oregon Historical Society Press had gone out of business. Over the years SRIO has had continuous contact with OHS as part of our booklet series (all of which have been donated to their research library), and we have received many kind words of support along the way. Last year, in our preliminary inquiries about the possibility of publishing our efforts as a book, the OHS Press had expressed an interest and SRIO had considered the mission of the press a perfect match to the content of our manuscript.

But as a result of the demise of the OHS Press, SRIO has now started a discussion about the possibility of finding another publisher – or attempting to publish the book ourselves. Both options have their advantages and disadvantages. At this point no decision has been made, but we are actively looking into major fundraising to make self-publishing possible if that is what we decide to do.

After serving as president of Swedish Roots in Oregon for four years, the time has now come for me to step down from this position. I hope to remain on the Board of Swedish Roots as the Publications Director and do my best to ensure that all our efforts in this endeavor are brought to a successful conclusion. SRIO has many exciting ideas for future projects and we hope to be able to realize many of them as time goes on.

Keep in touch and have a wonderful
God Jul & Gott Nytt År!

SRIO WELCOMES NEW TRANSLATOR

SRIO welcomes Leif Rosqvist, a native of Stockholm, Sweden, and a long-time US resident, as a new member of our translation team. Leif has already started translating the remaining historical biographies of Swedish immigrants to Oregon listed in Ernst Skarstedt's volume *Oregon och dess svenska befolkning* from 1911. Those of you who are familiar with our website, already know that about half the biographies have been translated and posted there. Reading these biographies provide very interesting glimpses from the Swedish immigrant experience in the United States a century ago. If you have not visited that part of our website, you won't be disappointed if you take some time to learn a little bit about the fascinating lives of that first wave of Swedes into Oregon!

UPCOMING SRIO OUTREACH

Current SRIO President Lars Nordström will visit Sweden in April 2008 and give a series of talks on the work done on the Swedish history of Oregon. Riksföreningen Sverige-kontakt in Göteborg as well as in Malmö/Lund, Emigrantregistret in Karlstad and Utvandrarernas Hus in Växjö have all expressed an interest in learning more about our research. A report from the trip will follow in the next Newsletter.

PUBLICATIONS

SRIO has now published a total of twelve booklets on the Swedish experience in the state of Oregon, and they all belong on the "Required Reading List" of anyone interested in the Swedish history of the state. All are available from Swedish Roots at the nominal cost of \$2 per copy. Please check our website for details.

PLEASE SUPPORT SRIO!

SWEDISH LOGGERS IN OREGON

SRIO is currently researching Swedes in the logging industry in Oregon, and if you have any information on this subject, we would love to hear from you. We are interested in old photographs, newspaper articles, letters, postcards, diaries, drawings ... in short, anything that pertains to the early days of logging.

TALKS

If you belong to a group or organization that would like to schedule a Swedish Roots in Oregon presentation, please contact Lars Nordström for further details. You can reach him through the SRIO website, his personal website www.larsnordstrom.com, or at the mailing address below. SRIO offers these talks for free.

There are many ways you can support the study and the dissemination of the Swedish history in the state of Oregon. Buying our booklets is one obvious way to support our work – for yourself or as a gift. Perhaps your local library would be interested in receiving a complete set of our booklets? You can also make a donation. SRIO is a registered, non-profit organization, any donation is fully tax-deductible. As we approach the publication of our book, funds are especially necessary to complete the project. Any financial assistance is greatly appreciated.

Tack så mycket!

AN OPEN INVITATION

Are you interested in the Swedish history of the state of Oregon? Would you like to be part of a small, friendly and dedicated research group? Would you be able to attend meetings about once a month in the Portland metropolitan area? If so, we would love to hear from you.

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An Immigration Research Project

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