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## Swedish-American Organizations: SAHS

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# **Swedish-American Organizations**

SAG plans to present various Swedish-American and Swedish organizations that can be of interest to the SAG readers.

### Here comes the first:

## The Swedish-American Historical Society

In 1948, following the Swedish-American Pioneer Centennial celebration, the organizers in Chicago followed it up by establishing the Swedish Pioneer Historical Society, "to record the achievements of the Swedish Pioneers." The Society soon found its main focus in publishing. In 1950 the Swedish Pioneer Historical Quarterly began publication. It became the Swedish-American Historical Quarterly in 1982 and is now in its fifty-fourth year. The Society was renamed the Swedish-American Historical Society in 1983. The change of name reveals a change of emphasis, from celebration and commemoration of the Swedish pioneers to objective study of the whole history of the Swedish emigration and of the Swedes in North America.

In 1967 the Society brought out the first volume of Nils William Olsson's *Swedish Passenger Arrivals* in *New York*, to be followed by more than twenty-five books in its field published or sponsored with leading university presses. It also has a periodic newsletter.

The Society's archive at North Park University in Chicago contains valuable Swedish-American organizational records and other materials primarily for the Greater Chicago area. It works closely with Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center in Rock Island and other depositories.

Among its activities, the Society holds conferences and symposia on Swedish-American topics, sometimes in collaboration with other organizations like the Swenson Center. It organizes excursions to places of Swedish-American historical interest, such as the Delaware Valley, Lindsborg, Kansas, Rock Island and Bishop Hill, Illinois, Minneapolis-St. Paul, or Worcester, Massachusetts. Its annual meetings in Chicago or elsewhere are both social and cultural occasions. The Society's Swedish branch organizes events of its own.

Membership categories with their annual dues include: Regular (\$25.00), Sustaining (\$50.00), Donor (\$100.00), Benefactor (\$250.00), and



Life (\$1,000.00). All include subscription to the *Quarterly* and newsletter. Members in the Sustaining and higher categories also receive bonus books. Regular members may order books at discount from the Society's extensive list.

Our address is: Swedish-American Historical Society, 3225 West Foster Ave., Box 48, Chicago, IL 60625; Tel. 773/583-5722; e-mail:

<info@swedishamericanhist.org>
To find out about membership in
Sweden, please contact the Chicago
office.

Welcome to our website at www.swedishamericanhist.org

H. Arnold Barton



Members of the 1997 SAHS tour to the old Swedish places in the Philadelphia area listen to the guide at the Lower Swedish Cabin at Drexel Hill. (Photo: B: Thorsell).