



THE SWEDISH CLUB NEWS

The Swedish Club of Houston

Preserving Swedish Heritage on the Texas Gulf Coast Since 1986

SMORGÄSBORD - NOV 6th

The smorgasbord this year will be Saturday, November 6th at a new location-the private party area of the beautiful new IKEA Restaurant on the Houston store's second floor. The store is more centrally located at the intersection of IH10 and Antoine than our previous locations.

The Swedish Smörgåsbord Menu will be:

Swedish bread and cheeses
Selection of herring, Smoked salmon
Gravad lax w/mustard sauce,
Ham w/mustard sauce
Swedish meatballs w/brown gravy

Deviled eggs, Pickled cucumber
Pickled beets, Garden salad w/dressing

Boiled new potatoes, Braised red cabbage
Jansson's temptation

Blueberry cobbler w/vanilla sauce and ice-cream

Iced tea, Wine, Aquavit, Coffee

The **cost** will be \$15 for Adults and \$7.50 for children 12 and under.

The food service will **start** at 7PM but come early to socialize and select a table.

Reservations will be required so please complete the form below or register on the SCH website <http://www.swedishclub.org/> by October 22nd

Any questions about the event , call the Event Line 713.774.2739 or Pelle Fisk -281.348.2584.

Decorators Wanted: Please contact Diana Rodionov at (281) 890-5783 if you would like to **help** decorate for this event.

RESERVATION FORM THE SWEDISH CLUB OF HOUSTON SMÖGÅSBORD

Please make your check payable to Swedish Club of Houston and mail to:

Pelle Fisk, 26951 Crown Haven Court, Kingwood, TX 77339

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ Phone No: _____

E-mail address: _____

# of Adults		x \$15.00 =	\$
# of Children's (12 & under)		x \$ 7.50 =	\$
		Total	\$

Mark your Calendar for Future Swedish Events

CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS AND LUCIA PAGEANT

Our annual Lucia Day celebration has been scheduled for December 11, 2004. We will be hosting this event at a new location this year. The address of the new location will be announced soon. There will be a short church service, during which we will present our 2004 Lucia. There will also be lighting of the advent candle, dancing around the Christmas tree, storytelling of the Jul Tomte (Maybe a real Jul Tomte). Along with all the activities there will be time to socialize while enjoying refreshments, a Swedish bazaar, folk dancing and fellowship.

Those of you with children who would like to participate in the procession as attendants, please call Diana Rodionov at (281) 890-5783. See Lucia 2003's trip report on page 6&7 and the Lucia application form on Page 11.

What: Christmas Traditions and Lucia Pageant

When: Saturday, December 11, 2004

Time: 3:00 – 6:00 PM

This program is free of charge and open to the public. See you there!

EMBASSY CULTURAL COUNSELOR TO SPEAK IN HOUSTON

Peter Wahlqvist, Cultural Counselor at the Swedish Embassy in Washington DC is coming to speak to the Swedish community in Houston, (Swedish Club, SWEA, SACC, and of course other interested).

He will speak about the Swedish Culture in the US, art, music, theatre etc. He will be here on Oct. 27th time, place, and price will be determined later and posted on the Swedish American Chamber of Commerce website:

<http://www.sacctx.com> .

While you are on their site, check out the Member Links, USA Links, and Sweden Links provided.

Swedish Language School Set To Begin Sept 27th

Ever want to learn Swedish? Now is your chance. For over Fifteen years, the Swedish Club of Houston has been sponsoring a language school with native Swedish teachers.

They now meet at IKEA once per week with classes on three skill levels from beginner and up. Registration is 6-7pm (Restaurant upstairs at IKEA) with first classes to follow on Monday evening Sept 27th. Classes may be held other nights as schedules allow.

Cost is \$150 / 15-week semester (\$140 for members) plus books as needed.

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION FROM 2003 LUCIA'S GRANDDAD

Dear Swedish Friends,

I wish to thank you for allowing Sjerrie Colburn to go to our homeland, she has enjoyed it much! What a kind gesture your club practices each year.

Three of our grandparents were born in Sweden, but our family is the first to visit our homeland. God bless each and all!

Rev. R. D. Sjolander

Dina Colburn's Father

Sjerrie Colburn's Grandfather

Fun at The Picnic 2004



2001 Lucia, Allana Clarke, Marries a Swedish American in a Swedish Setting. by Al & Carol Clarke



Our guests came from twenty states and Sweden, including cousins from Orebro, and Carol's brother and his wife from Stockholm.

Allana and Matthew met at Rhodes College, Memphis, Tennessee, and they both graduated with B.A. degrees in 2002.



Our daughter and your 2001 Lucia, Allana Christine Clarke, married Matthew Carl Helland on June 5, at the Lutsen Resort in Lutsen, Minnesota. Matthew's father, a Lutheran pastor, officiated. Following the ceremony, we hosted a dinner and reception at the Scandinavian style Main Lodge. Lutsen Resort has a long history of hospitality dating back to 1885, when a young Swedish immigrant homesteaded the property, and established an inn on the shore of Lake Superior.



Like Allana, Matthew has a Swedish heritage, and he visited Sweden with us when Allana was invited to Barkeryd in 2002, and again when our Elizabeth was married in Stockholm in 2003. Matthew is a third year student at the University of Minnesota School of Law. Allana is with Carlson Marketing Group as a Special Events Coordinator.

Following a honeymoon to Marbella, Spain, the newlyweds make their home in Minneapolis. They send their greetings to all their friends in the Swedish Club of Houston.

Attended by her sister, Elizabeth Walentin, three bridesmaids from Houston, and six flower girls, Allana wore a Christos gown of ivory silk dupioni, embellished with Alencon lace. Her cathedral length veil was held in place by a tiara of enameled wax orange blossoms, first worn by Allana's maternal grandmother, Barbara Segerstrom, at her 1941 wedding. To complete the ensemble, and honor the Texas connection, Allana wore a pair of cream colored Tony Lamas.

INTERNET LINKS

SWEDISH CONSULATE IN HOUSTON

<http://www.swedishconsulate.org/>

SWEDISH AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

<http://www.sacctx.com/>

SWEDISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON

http://www.swedenabroad.se/pages/start_6989.asp

Have You Seen This Young Man Enlivening Our Events with His Musical Talent??



< Folklife Support of Dancers >



< Enlivening our Kräftskiva >

Now, Meet the Eagle Scout

On July 31 Andrew Rodionov, son of Diana and Vassily Rodionov, received scouting's highest rank: Eagle Scout. He is member of Boy Scout Troup 573 that meets at Christ the Redeemer Catholic Church on Huffmeister Road. Andrew is a native of Cypress and a 2004 graduate of Cypress Creek High School.



For three years Andrew has played guitar along with his fiddling parents for our club and for the Scandinavian Folk Dancers of Houston. He is enrolled as a physics major at Texas A & M University and he is a member of the Corps of Cadets Air Force ROTC. "Gig 'em Aggies!"

SWEDISH AMERICAN of the YEAR

Since 1960 the Vasa Order of America has selected a Swedish-American of the Year in honor of the achievements of Swedish emigrés in America.

2004 honoree is Dr. Lars Lerup of Rice University.

Among the honorees are Dr. Glenn T Seaborg, Nobel prize winner in chemistry 1951; the astronaut Edwin Aldrin; Chief Justice of the Supreme Court William H Rehnquist; the businessman John H Nordstrom; the actress Ann Margret; and Ambassador Lyndon L Olson. Congratulations to Dr. Lerup. **We'll publish more on the honoree later,.** For now see

<http://stockholm.usembassy.gov/SwedAmerican2004.html>

"Välkommen till Sverige!"

By: Sjerrie Colburn

Having the recognition of being crowned Lucia 2003 and the 16th Santa Lucia from the Swedish Club of Houston, I Sjerrie Colburn am honored to announce that Barkeryd, Småland, Sweden wishes Texas the warmest greetings.

"Välkommen till Sverige!" From the moment we boarded the Scandinavian Airlines, more commonly known as SAS, we felt welcomed. My mother, Dina, her sister, Judy, and her daughter, Joy accompanied me to the homeland.



Our trip was planned with the finale being the Barkeryd presentation. Awaiting the heritage festival, we toured and cruised around Stockholm, visited Hudiksvall where my ancestors are from, went horseback riding in the fields of Karlstad, and walked the streets of Linköping.

At noon on Saturday, July 31, after driving through Småland's gorgeous countryside, we arrived at the church in the center of Barkeryd, an honorary Texas village. There my family and I were greeted by numerous villagers and other members of the surrounding communities. Then we received a grand tour of the church and its historic landmarks. Afterwards, we traveled to the grounds where the Hymbgydsfest would be held the following day. There we learned about the historical ties of Barkeryd and Texas and were given a private tour of the Lantbruks museum, library, general store, and other sites. Anita and Pelle Johansson, our host family and members of Barkeryd's village, provided much hospitality and showed genuine Swedish generosity.

On Sunday, August 1, 2004, the festivities began with the annual procession of Swedish and Texas flags, a marching band, my family members waving Texas flags, and women wearing folk dresses and men in suits, while others wore emigration-period attire. I was escorted on one of the traditional horse drawn carriages and followed by several classic automobiles.



As all the horse drawn carriages entered the grounds, I was formally introduced to the Swedes of Barkeryd as Lucia 2003 from the Swedish Club of Houston.

The festival included live music, folk dancing, refreshments and games, a speech, and the Lucia presentation. Throughout the day, our hostess, Anita, was gracious enough to translate the current activities. After much anticipation and with an introduction by Inga Lisa Calissendorff, I presented Barkeryd with a speech in the native language, delivering greetings from the Swedish Club of Houston, revealing my Swedish maternal heritage, and thanking them for continuing the Lucia traditions.

The entire event went exceptionally well and the audience expressed their deep appreciation and enthusiastic receptiveness. Following my speech, Alf presented the traditional candlestick, made from the wood of the Barkeryd church, to me.

"Välkommen till Sverige!"

By: Sjerrie Colburn



This lifetime experience would not have been possible without the help and support of special friends and I would like to thank the people who made this dream a reality for me.

The Swedish Club of Houston:

Thank you for the privilege of representing you both here and in our homeland.

Liz Cadwallader: Thank you for all of your years of service and dedication to the Swedish Club of Houston to preserve all of these important Swedish traditions. Your constant persistence inspired my brother and me to continue learning about our heritage.

SAS: Thanks for your generosity in providing air transportation.

Inga Lisa and Gusten Calissendorff:

Thank you for being one of the founders of this memorable occasion and for translating my speech and showing us the background of Barkeryd.

Alf and Irene Carlsson: We are grateful for your many years of dedication both in Texas and in Sweden.

Anita and Pelle Johansson: Thank you for your hospitality and bigheartedness to my family and for helping rehearse my speech.

Dina, Judy, and Joy: Thank you for traveling with me and making this lifetime event even more memorable to our family.

Family and Friends: Thank you for all of your encouragement and support and prayers through the years.

As a result of my trip to Sweden, I have developed a greater appreciation for my Swedish heritage and a deeper understanding of the Swedes who came to Texas in hopes of a better life.



< Möljen Hudiksvall – Hometown of Sjerrie's grandfather J.P. Skolander >



< No it is Not London but Stockholm >

EditorsNote: These two pictures look much better in color on the website:

<http://www.swedishclub.org/scnews.htm>



**UNA International Choir 2004-2005
by Flora Ijlstra-Schouten – Vice President.**

The United Nations Association (UNA) International Choir is beginning its sixth season in Houston. Although the original auditions will be over by the time you read this, additional audition dates may be available if demand warrants it.

Membership in the choir is open to residents of the greater Houston area age 16 and older. UNAIC welcomes people from any, every, and all walks of life, without exception, and encourages those who are interested in auditioning or in receiving additional information to call Geneva at 281-498-7562. The choir's website, <http://www.unahouston.org/unachoir>, also gives information about the ensemble and provides an opportunity to request an audition. Tenors and basses are particularly sought at this time.

Previous choral experience and the ability to read music are desirable but not required. Rehearsals are held every Monday evening from 7:30 to 9:30, except for customary public school vacation periods, at Faith Lutheran Church, 4600 Bellaire Blvd, Bellaire, Texas, 77401. All rehearsals are conducted in English. Choir dues are \$60.00 per person, \$100.00 per couple or \$135.00 per household of three or more; additionally there is a \$29.00 fee to

cover the cost of each singer's music for the season.

UNAIC performs all of the music it sings in its original languages. In the 2003-2004 season, the choir was comprised of approximately seventy singers from twenty-two countries and sang classical, folk, and ethnic music in ten languages.

Do you like to sing? Would you enjoy singing a Swedish song, among others, with an international group of people from 22 countries? Would you like to meet new people? Why not join UNA International Choir! TRhearsals start on Monday, August 23. Membership is \$60 a year. Musical director is dr. Phillip Kloeckner, who also teaches at the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University. Our first performance will be a Christmas concert, which will include a Swedish song. Our second will be a concert with orchestra, featuring a passion by the Peruvian composer Melchor Tapia. In May we will conclude the season with an African a-capella evening.

Take a chance and let your voice be heard. You don't have to be the next opera sensation or American Idol, you don't have to have a flawless voice. But you will have a lot of fun and sense of accomplishment this season - not to mention some new friends! Make an appointment with Geneva (call 281-498-7562) to have Phillip listen to your voice.

For more information, feel free to check our website:

<http://www.unahouston.org/unachoir>.

For additional information see the article:

<http://www.chron.com/cs/CDA/ssistory.mpl/thisweek/zone09/news/2771803>

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HELP WANTED with TAMU-CS Swedish Students from Jönköping

The following letter from a TAMU professor working with Swedish student offers us opportunities to be helpful to the students and the professor. Most of us may be surprised that there is a direct relationship with JIBS in Jönköping. Read on and if you are interested please contact our President Pelle Fisk. (PelleFisk@bigfoot.com)

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August 9, 2004

I was pleased to discover the Web site of the Swedish Club of Houston and am writing to see if you have an interest in what may be some mutually beneficial undertakings.

As you may or may not know, Mays Business School at Texas A&M University has an active exchange program with Jönköping International Business School (JIBS) in Jönköping, Sweden. At any point in time there is usually at least one Aggie studying in Jönköping and one or two Swedish students from JIBS studying here in College Station.

Typically students are about 21-24 years old and come for either one or two semesters. They are usually either advanced undergraduates or graduate students.

I am the primary Texas A&M contact for this exchange. We have quite a few other exchanges with business schools in countries such as Mexico, England, Spain, France, Austria, Denmark, The Netherlands, Norway, and Hong Kong.

In any case it would be nice to know if there are members of your organization who might be interested in getting involved with these young Swedes as they visit Texas. Possibilities might include weekend visits, participation in your Swedish culture activities, or even occasional assistance with airport welcomes. Your Swedish language courses might be helpful for American students preparing to study in Sweden.

Please let me know whether you think your organization would have an interest in becoming involved in extending Texas hospitality to our

visitors. This month we anticipate the arrival of three students from Jönköping, one of whom will be here for the entire academic year and the other two who will be here for the fall semester only. We also have a Houstonian leaving for Jönköping in a couple of weeks!

Additionally, one of our students from last spring was hired by a Houston company and is now living and working in Houston. It would be nice to put him in touch with you, too.

I am slowly learning a little Swedish on my own. Although it's a pretty long commute for your classes, I would be interested to see if your club could help me get my hands on some good basic Swedish lesson materials.

Please let me know if you think there would be an interest in our collaboration.

Very truly yours,
Peter Drysdale

Peter K. Drysdale
Director, Undergraduate Program
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drysdale@tamu.edu

Editor's Comment: If you have connections with or children at TAMU-CS, you might want to contact Professor Drysdale to offer help. Please let us know if you find some way to help.

My Hobby Genealogy

by
Tor Persson

Since settling in Houston after working all over the world during my career I have added genealogy to my hobbies. One of my relatives has extensively researched the branch of my paternal grandfather so it was natural to choose the one of my paternal grandmother especially since most of the children left Sweden for America. My great grandmother took over the farm, which is why I was born in Sweden. The original family came from Eskilstorp in Glimåkra socken, Skåne. Not many people would know of such a place but at least Leif Mauritzon does. Glimåkra is however known for glass jars (konserveringsburkar) manufactured by Glimma Glasbruk. Glass jars were a common means of preserving food before freezing was introduced. Another later claim of fame apart from Leif and I is one of the largest handloom factories in the world.

The findings so far of my research are shown at www.twindog.com/genealogy. It includes the seventh child Nils Nilsson (Nels Nelson) who settled in Bertrand, Nebraska. His oldest son Nels Emil moved to Houston with wife Laura Frances (Stewart) on June 27, 1918. They did not have any children but I managed to find details of their life in Houston where they owned an auto repair shop at 4608 Fulton. They also owned a farm northwest of Willis to where they retired in 1940. Emil passed away in 1946 and Laura in 1994. The farm is now part of the Sam Houston National Forrest on the shore of Lake Conroe.

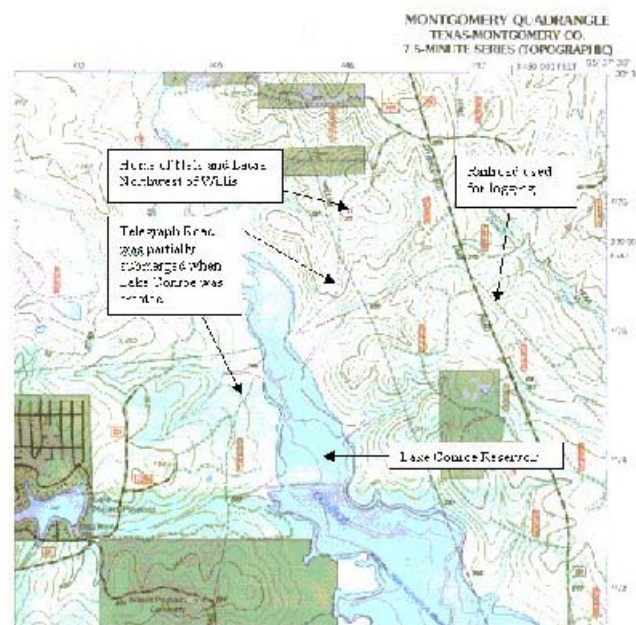


4608 Fulton as it looks today

I am publishing the newsletter Eskilstorp Herald, which is distributed with Christmas Greetings to relatives. The research subject during 2003 was that of Nels Emil and Laura Frances Nelson. This year I am researching the branch of Nels Nelson's sister Nellie who settled in Galesburg, Illinois where she married Peter Peterson (Per Persson) from Vesslarp, Glimåkra socken.

Should any of the readers have information about Nels and Laura I would be very interested in learning about it. If anybody need assistance with genealogy issues please contact me at tp@twindog.com.

Location of farm northwest of Willis at the highway Telegraph Road, part of which was later submerged when Lake Conroe was created.



2004 SWEDISH CLUB LUCIA INFORMATION & APPLICATION

By Diana Rodionov

Applications for the Swedish Club of Houston's 2004 Lucia are now being accepted. Our 2004 Lucia will be presented at the Swedish Christmas Traditions and Lucia Procession scheduled for Saturday, December 11, 2004 in Houston, TX.

Candidates must be young women between the ages of 16 and 24, who are *members of the club*. They must be able to attend the Swedish Traditions program on December 11, and must be able to represent the Club at a celebration and parade in Barkeryd, Sweden in August 2005. Round-trip airfare for our 2004 Lucia will be provided from Chicago to Sweden. The Lucia is responsible for her own ground or air transportation to and from Chicago. On her return to Houston, the Lucia must write an article for publication in The Swedish Club News about her experience in Sweden.

Participants are also needed for the Lucia procession. The procession is made up of female attendants, ages 5 – 20 and star boys, ages 5 – 15. Attendants and star boys wear all white clothing with silver trim and accessories. The club can provide some articles of clothing, but individuals are encouraged to provide their own.

For seventeen years the Lucia program has provided a wonderful way to travel and learn about our Swedish ancestry and our Texas connection with Barkeryd, Sweden. As an ambassador of the Club, our Lucia will be in a parade and send greetings to the people of Barkeryd from The Swedish Club of Houston.

Applications, along with a short essay about your Swedish roots, interests and why you would like to represent the club in Sweden, and a current photo must be postmarked by September 20, 2004. For questions or further information, please call Diana Rodionov at (281) 890-5783.

THE SWEDISH CLUB OF HOUSTON APPLICATION FOR 2004 LUCIA CANDIDATES AND ATTENDANTS

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____
Address: _____ Phone No: _____
E-mail address: _____
I would like to be: (check one) Lucia _____ Attendant _____ Star Boy _____

Lucia candidates only: Please write a short essay and enclose it with your application and a current photo.

Mail applications and enclosures to Diana Rodionov, 11307 Willow Field Drive, Houston, TX 77429.

Lucia Candidate Requirements: 16 -24 years of age * **member of The Swedish Club of Houston** * available for the club's Christmas Traditions program on Dec. 11, 2004 ; be able to represent the Swedish Club of Houston at Barkeryd, Sweden in August 2005, and write an article for The Swedish Club News on your return from Sweden.

Club membership may be either individual or as part of a family membership including granddaughters.



THE SWEDISH CLUB NEWS

The Swedish Club of Houston
Preserving Swedish Heritage on the Texas Gulf Coast Since 1986

SWEDISH CLUB NEWS

The Swedish Club News is published 6 times a year by the Swedish Club of Houston. Articles, photos, etc. are welcome. We would especially like personal news of our members, explanation of family traditions and Swedish culture, news of Swedes and of Sweden that is not in the general news, and your favorite Swedish shops, products, or resources. For this edition *thanks* go to Astrid Marklund, Al & Carol Clarke, Diana Rodionov, Pelle Fisk, Sjerrie Colburn, Flora Ijlstra-Schouten Tor Persson, John Stavinoha, and Eleanor Johanson

Please send **YOUR NEWS** by email to arvid@johanson.us or when necessary by post to the return address below

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

Business Card	\$ 20.00
1/4 Page	\$ 40.00
½ Page	\$ 80.00
Full Page	\$120.00

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