



THE SWEDISH CLUB NEWS

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

ANNOUNCING THE BIGGEST AND BEST SMÖRGÅSBORD WITH THE FABULOUS SCANDAVIAN FOLKDANCERS OF HOUSTON

Are you yearning for an authentic and traditional Swedish Smörgåsbord?
Then join the Swedish Club of Houston for a special event, October 18,
2003 at The Westador Civic Association Clubhouse located at 17715 Cali,
Houston, 77090. An extra effort is being made by Lynn (&Leif) Mauritzson
to personally prepare the Swedish food (with the help of willing members).

When : Saturday, October 18, 2002, Dinner service starts at 7:00 P.M.
Come early to chose a table for your party

Where: The Westador Civic Association Clubhouse located at
17715 Cali, Houston, 77090.

Don't miss the premier Swedish Club event of the year!
Reservations must be received by October 6, 2003!
Send your ticket order in today!

**Make checks payable to the "Swedish Club of Houston" and mail this order form,
plus payment to Swedish Club c/o Jay Flusche, 8819 Concho , Houston, TX 77036**

Name(s) _____

Telephone # _____ Email _____

of Member & guest _____ x \$20 = \$ _____

of Non-Members _____ x \$25 = \$ _____

of Children's (12 & under) _____ x \$10 = \$ _____

Total = \$ _____

Information and Questions to Leif Mauritzson– 281.580.5923
or to the Events Line at 713.774.2739 .

Volume XVII-No. 5	Page 1	Sept. – Oct. 2003
www.swedishclub.org		EventsLine = 713.774.2739

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

We are quickly approaching the end of the summer. I hope you all had a chance to do all the things you planned. If you went to Sweden you experienced another incredible Swedish summer. Temperatures reached the mid eighties or more, for the second year in a row.

At the end of August Jay Flusche put together another outstanding picnic. We had a somewhat higher attendance than last year but we would like to see more members attending this free event. This is an excellent event, where to meet and learn to know your fellow members. Jay had as usual put together several games and other activities. The pool was close by for a quick cool off. This was a perfect setting for a successful picnic.
Thanks Jay for an excellent job.

Our next event is our annual Smorgasbord on October 18, 2003. This year it will take place at the Westador Clubhouse on Cali Drive, of FM 1960 W. This is an excellent facility and most important of all, it will keep the cost down. This way we can offer you quality authentic Swedish food to a very affordable price. Hopefully we will also have a very interesting guest speaker.

If anyone is interested in helping out with the food preparations or the setup of the dining room, please give me a call. We can always use some extra help.

It is also time to start looking for this years Lucia. If you know of someone that meets the requirements, please encourage them to send in an application. The trip to Sweden is something that will be remembered forever.

See you at the smorgasbord in October.

Leif

NOTE: Leif promises a surprise guest speaker at the smorgasbord.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

NOW, an excellent opportunity to study two Swedish courses within one year at UT-Austin and then apply for a scholarship to study in Sweden!

Fulfill your language requirement in one year!

Undergraduates can fulfill their language requirement in two semesters, instead of the usual two years, by enrolling in Swedish 604 in the fall and 612 in the spring. The 604-612 sequence also allows students already proficient in one foreign language to pick up another one quickly and efficiently.

Study Abroad in Sweden (open to all majors)!

The UT Swedish Studies Endowment offers generous financial support to students in any field of study interested in studying in Sweden!! This scholarship opportunity is unique at UT! It is available for study during a summer or a full semester or an academic year. You can even receive UT credit for studying at the highly prestigious **Universities of Uppsala and Lund**. Begin Swedish at UT and then immerse yourself in the language and culture of Sweden.

Major or minor in Scandinavian Studies!

Taking SWE 604 and 612 would also allow you to start a major or minor in Scandinavian Studies. Take courses on Swedish and Scandinavian film, literature, and culture!

Interested? Contact:
Prof. Lynn Wilkinson
lrw@mail.utexas.edu
471-4123

www.utexas.edu/depts/german/main.html

Getting Hungry for Smörgasbord

Many of us got to sample Lynn's (and Leif's) leadership on preparing Swedish food at the National Day Celebration in June.

- **DON'T miss this highly recommended opportunity .**
- **Fill out the reservation form on Page 1.**

Follow-Up: Swedish Club 4th Annual Picnic – 24 August – Nanes

As the saying goes” We don’t meet but what we eat”. Everyone had plenty of food and some to share. A couple of the young men had baked a cake and a loaf of limpa bread for the group. Thanks Stephen Sundquist and Matthew Johanson, both the bread and the cake were really tasty and appreciated.



The game that drew the most attention was the cold water filled “Balloon Toss”.



After a break for stormy weather, the beautiful pool was much enjoyed.



Unscheduled entertainment was a mother squirrel moving her 3 young babies closer to our group traveling within feet of our chairs and cameras. Note the baby in her mouth.



Photo by David Johanson

Visiting was the most universal activities with several Young Adults including our Consulate Intern Jonas, a HS student learning more about Swedes in US after touring part of SE at DOD expense, and a couple from Boston who were evaluating move to Houston.



Last Chance Application for Lucia 2003

Now is the time to get the application for Lucia turned in for the Christmas Traditions Fest on Dec 13th. The Application on page 9 must be turned in by **October 6th**. < See 2002 Lucia’s own story of her trip to Sweden on pages 4 & 5 >

MEMORIES OF BARKERYD

As I sit here, escaping the steamy Houston heat in my air-conditioned home, it feels as though the sunny, 80 degree weather of Sweden was only a dream. I pause as I reflect on my experiences in Barkeryd

After traveling with my parents by car for two weeks through beautiful Skåne and Östergötland, we began our memorable weekend in Barkeryd. It was a rainy Saturday morning as we drove to the village of Forserum to meet our hosts, Anita and Pelle Johansson. As we followed them to their home near Barkeryd, I couldn't help but notice the dense forests and the stone-cluttered fields that hugged the narrow two-lane road. As I stared out the window, my thoughts turned to the thousands of Swedes who had left this land for Texas so many years ago. What was life like for them here in Småland? How much hardship did they endure to earn a living from this land?

Shortly, we arrived at Anita and Pelle's home & were treated to a tasty lunch. Afterwards, we drove a short distance to the Barkeryd church where we strolled through the cemetery and I visited the grave of Sven Magnus Svenson's parents and heard about the role that Sven had played in Barkeryd-Texas history.



Next we drove to Barkeryd's homestead museum. There we met Alf Carlsson, president of

By Cathy St.Clair, 2002 Lucia

the homestead association, who led us on a grand tour of all the buildings on the site. One old home and barn were original to the site. Other old homes had been moved there from other areas and one large shed was fairly new. They were all used to showcase old farm implements, Swedish textiles, antique furniture, an old store and a traditional schoolroom. Most importantly, one house was devoted to an exhibit concerning the Barkeryd-Texas emigration and the history of the Lucia program. I was then able to understand the sacrifices made and the hardships endured. As the Texas Lucia, I was honored to be a small part of that.



Sunday morning dawned bright and sunny-- a perfect day for the festival. After breakfast, Anita and Pelle took us to visit Evert Jonsson. Evert and his wife, Gunvor, had hosted many of the previous Texas Lucias, but this year they could not. Nonetheless, Evert graciously welcomed us into their home and my parents and I had the traditional Lucia photograph taken on the front porch. He also gave me a gift, which Gunvor had made. It was a beautiful cloth with a lovely design of the Swedish linnea flower. I was very moved that she had found this special way to make me feel welcome.

About noon, my parents and I returned to the heritage museum where the festivities were about to get underway. A delicious lunch of foods typical of Småland had been prepared for us and the other guests. Then it was off to start the parade.

< Continued on Page 05 >

MEMORIES OF BARKERYD

By Cathy St.Clair, 2002 Lucia



It began with a marching band and people dressed in native folk costumes carrying the Swedish, American and Texas flags. Behind them came families in period costumes, both walking and riding horses, and a small group of Texans. I

followed in a horse-drawn carriage, proudly waving the Texas flag. I was awed as I rode down the narrow road, lined with people, and onto the festival grounds, where perhaps as many as two thousand people were gathered. Alf was the master of ceremonies as the parade entered the festival grounds. The band continued to play, speeches were given, an orchestra from Jönköping performed and then it was my turn to be on stage. Gunhild Jansson, a member of The Swedish Club of Houston, introduced me to the crowd. I gave my speech and it was over before I knew it.



Afterwards, I was honored with a hug from Alf as he presented me with a candlestick that was a

replica of the candlestick from the Barkeryd church.

After my speech, my family and I were surprised to be greeted backstage by Anna Holmqvist and Rune Eknäs of the Barkeryd choir and Rune's wife, Ulla. My parents had hosted them in our Houston home two years ago. It was a pleasure to meet them and, for my parents, it was a happy reunion and a chance to do some visiting over a cup of coffee.

As the festival was ending, we returned to the Barkeryd church and went inside to view its beautiful interior and learn its history. Ann-Britt Carlsson, Barkeryd's choir director, also played a traditional Swedish hymn on the beautiful church organ.

All too quickly, the weekend came to a close. As we drove away, I reflected on my time spent there. I had an amazing and unforgettable two days. I learned so much about the Barkeryd-Texas history. And the Barkeryd people were so gracious, generous and hospitable. Several times I had people come forward, introduce themselves and even give me gifts. I have memories of Barkeryd that will be with me always.

In closing, I want to thank all those who helped make this trip such a memorable one. I appreciate so much the hard work of the Barkeryd residents and the homestead association, especially Alf Carlsson, the Johanssons and the Jonssons. A special thank you goes to Inga Lisa and Gusten Calissendorf who helped prepare me for my trip. Inga Lisa coached me in my speech, she and Gusten hosted us in their Linköping home and, the weekend before Barkeryd, they organized a trip to explore my Swedish roots in Orlunda, Östergötland. I also want to thank The Swedish Club of Houston and SAS for providing my transportation to Sweden. A special note of thanks to Swedish Club members, Ingrid Melrose and Liz Cadwallader for their help early in my Lucia experience, and to Gunhild Jansson who did such a fine job introducing me onstage in Barkeryd.
< all photos courtesy of the St. Clairs & friends >

FAMILIES: Clarke/Walentin Wedding in Sweden *by Al and Carol Clarke*



Our daughter, Elizabeth Louisa, married Karl Jonas Walentin on August 15th at the lovely Ulriksdals Slottskapell in Sölna, Sweden.



Liz was attended by her younger sister, Allana, your 2001 Swedish Club Lucia. After the bilingual ceremony, officiated by Rev. Jan Kesker, pastor of the Swedish Church of New York, the wedding guests walked to the Ulriksdals Wårdshus for a dinner reception. There they were entertained by musicians from Skansen performing traditional music.



Our guests came from near and far, and we were delighted to welcome our own Swedish Club of Houston members, Mary Lynn Koenig and Pelle Fisk, to share the day.

Kalle* and Liz met during her junior year abroad from the University of Texas at Austin to Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden. At that time, Kalle, a

native Stockholmer, had recently graduated from the Stockholm School of Economics. The couple first met when they found themselves seated next to each other at a "gasque'l (formal banquet and ball). The romance survived long periods of separation, and flourished during Liz's year as a Fulbright Fellow at Stockholm University. In spite of the distractions, Liz's Fulbright contribution to the research topic of the life and times of Alva Myrdal, the renowned Swedish social scientist, won acceptance for publication.

Following a honeymoon in Nice, France, the newlyweds will make their homes (yes -plural) in Cambridge, Massachusetts where Liz is starting a graduate program at Harvard University, and New York City where Kalle is completing requirements for a Ph.D. in Economics at New York University. The path between N.Y.C. and Cambridge will be well worn!



< all photos courtesy of the Clarkes and Friends >

- Kalle is a common Swedish nickname for Karl.

SWEDISH CLUB LANGUAGE SCHOOL

The language school will start their new year Oct 6th at 7 PM at IKEA classrooms. The classes are two hours once per week with a native speaker teaching. Our Swedish Consulate Intern Jonas Elofs < see page 7 > will be teaching some of the courses. The school is not limited to adults, high schoolers may want to get a head start on the opportunities available for college scholarship to Sweden after one year at UT. < see page 2 >

HERITAGE & HISTORY TOUR IN THE MIDWEST

A learning tour, October 11 to 19, 2003 Fully-escorted, the personalized customized tour led by Charlene Jordan is by bus from Elgin, Texas, with pick ups enroute along IH-35 and in Dallas.

Participants from Houston, San Antonio and other Texas cities, park your car in Elgin free or add \$100 for a roundtrip flight to Dallas and pick up at the Dallas airport (depending on availability of flights/fares on booking).

Emphasis: Culture and Heritage in the American Midwest and a study of the Swedes who came to Oklahoma, the Ozarks, Illinois, Iowa and Kansas.

Highlights include a visit with a historic Oklahoma gun moll and later, the Heavener Runestone, the Passion Play with Holy Land Tour in Eureka Springs, Arkansas, and the opportunity to take in a show (s) in Branson, Missouri. A bonus is that mid-October should be a peak time for colorful Fall foliage in the Ozarks.

Continuing highlights in Missouri include Jefferson City and St. Louis. Then, explore Bishop Hill in Illinois, a small Williamsburg with its tree-shaded streets and Georgian homes. Founded as a communal colony by the religious extremist Jansson, its history is unexpected. Included are visits to see the Olof Krans paintings depicting life in the early days, the historic Colony Church, and a Swedish smorgasbord followed by coffee at the VASA national archive. Visit the historic Jenny Lind Chapel in Andover and the Swenson Center at Augustana College in Rock Island. West of the Mississippi, stop at the Amana Colonies enroute to Kansas City and dinner with a special group of Swedish-Americans.

In Lindsborg, Kansas, experience the biennial Swedish Hyllningsfest. Enjoy smorgasbord on Friday and music and comedy on Saturday with lots of arts & crafts and historic sites. Drive up the hill on the plain for the view that might have awed

Coronado. Breakfast with local Swedes in Wichita.

History, of both Swedes and the area to which they came, is emphasized with extraordinary sightseeing, extra-special hotels, features mentioned and most meals included for \$1,190 per person in a double.

Please call, right away,
for more information: Charlene Hanson Jordan
(512) 856-2562 or e-mail:
charlenehansonjordan@yahoo.com. Address: 1361
County Road 464, Elgin, TX 78621. It is
important to call immediately to assure space.

Jonas Elofs – New Intern at Consulate

Please welcome the new consular assistant, Jonas Elofs, to Houston. He will work with me at the Consulate of Sweden until the end of this year.



Jonas is a business student, majoring in finance at the University of Lund with one remaining semester. He has also studied in Madrid and in Stockholm.

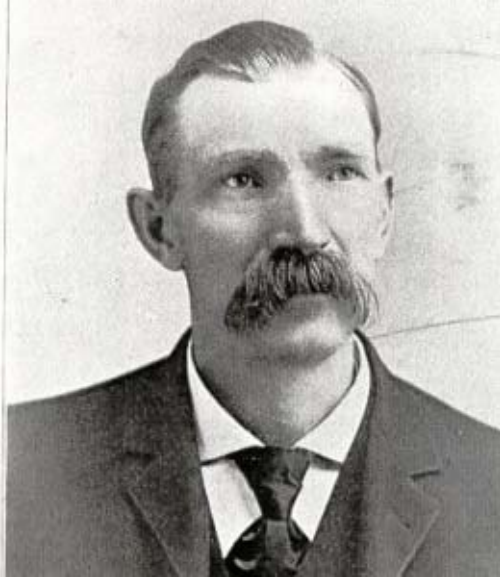
Jonas has a wide range of work experience; stockbroker assistant, substitute teacher, beach-lifeguard to name a few. His interests and hobbies are mainly water-sports and traveling. Jonas will also work as the Swedish language teacher to the Swedish club.

Please keep him in mind for any fun activities!

Jan B. Dryselius, Honorary Consul of Sweden
houston@consulateofsweden.org

Member Families

Andrew Shallberg



My great grandfather, Andrew Shallberg, emigrated to this country from Sweden in 1865, settling in Moline, Illinois. My grandfather, Charles E. Shallberg, was one of his eight children and my father, Leslie E. Shallberg, one of Charles' two sons. They, too, were born and raised in Moline, which is also my birthplace.

Andrew Shallberg was in the stone and ice business in Moline – which is also headquarters of John Deere & Company, founded in 1837 and famous for its familiar green tractors and other farming equipment. Still headquartered there, the company is now an international enterprise with operations in 160 countries and more than 43,000 employees worldwide. The company's founder and namesake, John Deere, served for a time as Mayor of Moline and in 1875 appointed Andrew Shallberg as "Superintendent of Streets" – apparently considered a somewhat prestigious role for that era! His obituary stated that he "...held that office under a number of subsequent administrations and we believe still holds the record as the best superintendent of streets Moline ever had."

My great grandfather died in 1897 and apparently had spent a brief time in Texas. An excerpt from his obituary in the *Moline Daily Dispatch* read as follows: "Failing health has almost wholly retired him from active business for a few years past. He spent some time in Texas, gaining temporary improvement. He had just entered his 60th year, having been born at Oskje in Kalabosoken, Ellsborg lan, Sweden on Jan. 6, 1838."

Unfortunately we do not know a great deal more about him and his siblings, or about my great grandmother, Johanna Sophia Falk whose family also came from Sweden in the 1860's and settled in Iowa. My brother and his wife continue to do genealogical research which hopefully will yield more information in the future.

William Leslie (Bill) Shallberg
shallberg@cl.uh.edu

BARNEVIKS

I was glad that several members of the Swedish Club still remembered Maths Westlund when he died last year. Maths did a tremendous job in organizing the first Golf Tournament at Tour-18 in Houston, when we were able to raise a considerable sum of money for the Swedish Club. Several years ago Maths had a heart attack that was severe enough to put him into a coma from which he never woke up. Talking about the Tour-18 Golf Tournaments the Swedish Club president Don Turbyfill and the Sandvik site manager Olof Lundblad also made considerable contributions.

Also, I would like to mention a nostalgic trip Ethel and I made in August last year when we visited Inga-Lisa and Gusten Calissendorff at Linköping. They live in a nice complex for elderly living that also includes a hotel that offers quite reasonable rates for visitors to the residents. Runa and Al Joslyn and Gunhild Jansson also showed up, so it became sort of a Swedish Club oldtimer reunion.

In November we went to Austin to visit our daughter Marianne, her husband Clas Olsson and our two grandchildren. After they moved from Houston to Austin we don't get to come to Houston as often. During the week-days I did a little hunting at a ranch outside Victoria. In addition to deer and hogs I shot a rattle-snake - in self-defense. We of course also squeezed in a few games of golf.

We spent Christmas and New Year in Sweden, where we so far have had the coldest winter for many years. I even went out and bought myself a new pair of cross-country skis - by this time (early February) I suppose the cherry trees in Houston are in full bloom. With this update, both Ethel and myself, would like to send our greetings to the Swedish Club of Houston and in particular all the people we have met throughout the years."

Willy & Ethel Barnevik, Grebbestad, Sweden
ewbarn@telia.com

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2003 SWEDISH CLUB LUCIA INFORMATION & APPLICATION

By Ingrid Melrose

Applications for the Swedish Club of Houston's 2003 Lucia are now being accepted. Our 2003 Lucia will be presented at the Swedish Christmas Traditions and Lucia Procession scheduled for Saturday, December 13, 2003 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 306 E. 15th St., Houston, TX.

Candidates must be young women between the ages of 16 and 24, who are members of the club. Club membership can be either individual or as part of a family membership **including granddaughters**. They must be able to attend the Swedish Traditions program on December 13, and must be able to represent the Club at a celebration and parade in Barkeryd, Sweden on Sunday, August 2, 2004. Round-trip airfare for our 2003 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 sixteen 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 October 6, 2003. For questions or further information, please call Ingrid Melrose at (281) 579-8143.

THE SWEDISH CLUB OF HOUSTON APPLICATION FOR 2003 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: Ingrid Melrose, 1902 Stemply Ct., Houston, TX 77094.

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. 13, 2003 ; be able to represent the Swedish Club of Houston at Barkeryd, Sweden on August 2, 2004, and write an article for The Swedish Club News on your return from Sweden.

Swedish Club News www.swedishclub.org	Page 09	Sept.Oct 2003 EventsLine = 713.774.2739
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THE SWEDISH CLUB NEWS

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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.

Please send the news by email to
arvid@johanson.us or
when necessary by post to
Arvid Johanson,
2010 Dowling Drive,
Richmond TX 77469-5114.

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IN THE NEXT (Nov.-Dec..) EDITION OF SWEDISH CLUB NEWS

- Smorgasbord WrapUp
- Christmas Traditions Promo
- Your Article ??
- Your Family Photos ??

Swedish Club News

www.swedishclub.org

Page 10

Sept.Oct. 2003

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THE SWEDISH CLUB NEWS

c/o Arvid Johanson
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