



THE SWEDISH CLUB NEWS

The Swedish Club of Houston

Preserving Swedish Heritage on the Texas Gulf Coast Since 1986

Arvid's Article

There really is a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes of our club. We owe a lot to our Officers and Directors who put a lot of time into scoping, planning, and implementing our events and activities.

As far as Leif's paragraph 2, a lot of credit also goes to those who do the work AND provide the article(s) or information for the newsletter and website. Look for their bylines and thank them. This newsletter even has a correspondent from Sweden. Ingalisa Calissendorf filled us in on Lucias' Past <Page 4&7> from Linköping, SE.

It isn't Christmas in July, but it is time to think of our "Jultradition Fest" because it is time to get the applications and essays started for daughters* of club members who would like to serve as this years "Lucia" < See Page 5 >

Now your test is to identify this club member



and the uniform he is wearing.

< See October 12 on page 7 >

The new directories are to be mailed the week of July 15th. Our thanks go to John Stavinoha. When it arrives, check out who is not in it and invite them to the picnic and/or give them a membership application on Page 6.

Also please note and appreciate our advertisers on page 9. This is their second ad in our newsletter. The two ads paid for the postage for this newsletter. Others advertisers are welcome.

Enjoy this edition and join us at the picnic.

Arvid

*Granddaughters are not currently eligible, but we will have to work on that "rule" since personally we have no daughters and but do have 3 granddaughters.

The Summer Picnic is Around the Corner

By Jay Flusche - Event Coordinator

Yep, it is that time again. It is time for our 3rd annual Summer Picnic.

The mosquitoes just about drove us nuts last year at Bear Creek, so we decided on a change of venue this year.

We have reserved the swimming pool, playground area, and shaded green space at the Nanes pool in the Westador subdivision. It is absolutely beautiful. It is located at the corner of Nanes & 1960. Take IH45 to 1960. Go west on 1960 for almost a mile. Turn right on Nanes. The area is on the corner of Nanes & 1960. [See Map page 3]

We have exclusive use of the area and pool from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 25th.

Feel free to bring your lawn chairs and a picnic lunch. We will play some games again this year. I do not think that we will be able to do a scavenger hunt, but I'll figure out some party games... and I guarantee that they'll be fun.

We have a playground for the kids and a swimming pool (life guards are provided) and dressing rooms for all of us to use.

Games are nice & the pool is nice, but the main objective of the Summer Picnic is to relax & hang out with your friends from the Swedish Club. We will have some prospective members attending as well, so I hope that you can come out and enjoy some food, fun & fellowship with us.

< Continued on Page 3 >

Remember you can see the newsletter and most of the pictures in full color on the Club website
www.swedishclub.org

PRESIDENT's CORNER – July 2002



I can't believe it is time for a new article for the newsletter. You know what they say, "time flies...."

First of all I must comment on the most visible improvement in our club, our newsletter. I think you all agree that Arvid Johanson has done a tremendous job on the new layout and format. We are seeing some very interesting articles. There seems to be something of interest for everyone. Member information is being published in a timely fashion and that is vital for any organization. The newsletter is a very important part of our communication with our members. Thank You Arvid for a great job and initiative.

We have just finalized our plans for the picnic. Jay Flusche has spent an enormous amount of time to put this event together. Finding a place at a reasonable price was not easy. This year's event will be held August 25; in Westador subdivision of FM 1960 W. Jay has planned some great activities. We will also have a pool with lifeguards, for our exclusive use (the pool that is). Attached is also a playground for the younger participants. Don't miss this great event

This year's Smörgåsbord will also have a new venue. Chuck Nelson has arranged with Inwood Forest Country Club for this years event. Brae Burn has done a good job for us in previous years. Cost was a driving factor in changing. Our goal was to make this as affordable as possible to our members. At the same time keeping the quality of food we were accustomed to at Brae Burn.

At Inwood we will have more influence on how to prepare some of the Swedish delicacies. Some of our members will supervise the use of their personal original Swedish recipes. The herring and salmon will be flown in from Sweden. You will think you are dining in Sweden. The difference is, here you pay a lot less for an unbelievable Smörgåsbord. Your club is paying a part of the price for you, the member.

This is an event you do not want to miss.

As a special treat our Swedish Astronaut, **Christer Fuglesang**, will be our guest speaker.

This evening you will have the chance to meet Sweden's new folk hero. He is an excellent speaker and has an incredible speech planned for you. Don't wait to make your reservation, make sure you get in on this event.

A question I often get when I contact "former" members is "what do I as a member get for my dues?"

- The obvious things are The Newsletter and the magazine Sweden & America.
- The not so obvious are the events I have mentioned above. Your club is subsidizing the cost for, or part of the cost for various events. Non-members will pay a higher price, when we charge for the event

So yes, your dues are working for you.

In an earlier issue I mentioned the Swedish Dansbandsradion. You could get this program on the Internet. Not so anymore. They had some trouble and shut down for the time being. Sorry for the misleading information. It was a great program and if they are coming back I will let you know.

Ha en trevlig sommar. Jag hoppas att få träffa en del av er i Sverige i sommar.*

Leif

(Translation for SLC's*: Have a nice summer. I hope to meet some of you in Sweden this summer)

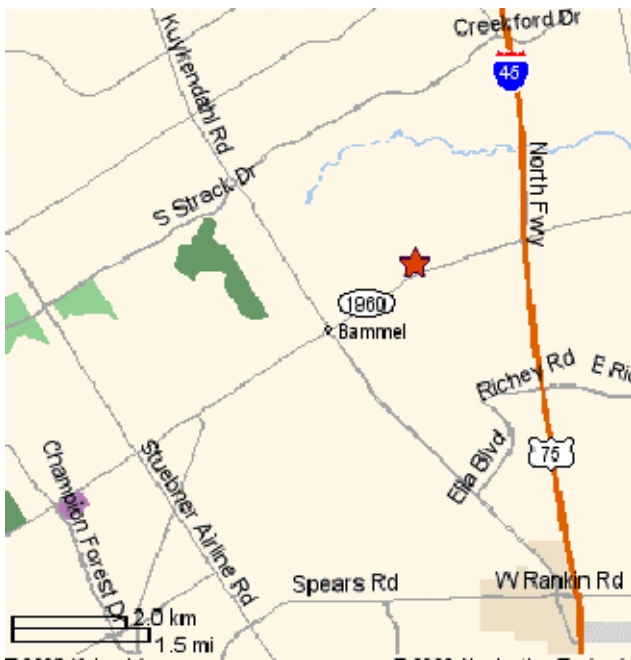
[* SCL's = Swedish Language Challenged see page 9]

Swedish Club Picnic Facts and Map

[Continued from Page 1]

- What: The Swedish Club Summer Picnic
- When: Sunday August 25, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.
- Where: Nanes Pool & Recreation Area
17101 Nanes (corner of Nanes & FM1960)
- Who: Swedish club members & friends as well as prospective club members
- What to bring: snacks/drinks and/or a picnic lunch
- Cost: No charge (however, if we could get each family to contribute a couple of bucks, it will help to pay for the life guards)
- Why or why not... it's summer

I hope to see you there. If you have any questions or suggestions, call Jay Flusche at 713.777.2824 or Email me at jay.flusche@puffer.com



MAP TO NANES POOL

Accepting Application for Lucia 2002

Now is the time to get the application for Lucia turned in for the Christmas Traditions Fest on Dec 14th. Application on page 5 must be turned in by October 5th.



Katie Armstrong – Lucia 2000



Swedish Host Ingalisa Callisdendorf and Lucia 2001 Allana Clarke planning their meeting in Sweden.

< See more on Lucia on pages 4,5, &7 >

A Short History Of Lucia's Past To Encourage Applications For The New Lucia < See Application on Page 6 >

The Swedish Club of Houston, Texas and the Hometown Association of Barkeryd, Smaland, started a youth program to maintain and teach Texas/Swedish history. The program is now in its thirteenth year. The big question is, "how did this program start?" It really started in 1984, when Inga Lisa Calissendorff was the Trustee in the Texas Swedish Cultural Foundation in Houston, Texas. She heard a lot about Barkeryd and that this was the historical birthplace for the Swedes in Texas. Inga Lisa tried to find out if anyone had been there and the answer was "no". In the summer of 1984, Inga Lisa and her husband, Gusten, decided to visit Smaland and try to find this interesting place called Barkeryd. They thought they were lost while driving through the darkest forest of Smaland on a small narrow road. Inga Lisa and Gusten suddenly came upon a small country church and soon after a beautiful homestead museum. They stopped at the museum and had the opportunity to meet Evert and Gunvor Jonsson, representatives for the museum. The contact was made and the Calissendorffs and the Jonssons became the best of friends. Both agreed on the importance to once again establish the relationship between the two countries as through the years contact has become less frequent.

In 1986 the Swedish Folkdance group of Texas went to the yearly festivities in Barkeryd to dance and bring greetings from the Swedish community in Texas. The Jonssons and the Calissendorffs created the youth program where the Texas Lucia from Houston would visit the yearly Texas Swedish Festival in Barkeryd on the first Sunday in August. She would bring greetings in Swedish and learn the history of the immigrants. Many times the Lucia has found her roots in the area and this has become a unique experience for our Lucia representative and her family. The people of Barkeryd have a vast knowledge of the immigrants.

In 1988, Inga Lisa contacted Scandinavian Airlines and asked for a donation of a yearly ticket for the Lucia of the Swedish Club of Houston to represent

this historical area in Sweden. SAS graciously agreed to this request.

During the Christmas Tradition event of 1988, Kathy Dewitt was crowned the first official Lucia and in 1989 visited Barkeryd representing the Swedish settlement in Texas.

2001's Lucia is Kathryn Armstrong. Her great grandparents were Anna Carolina and Carl David Sjoberg from Hovetorp, Torpa near Tranas. What might she find out next summer?

Below is a listing of all of the Swedish Club Lucias who have represented us so well in Barkeryd in the summer after they were elected in Houston:

- 1987 - Barbara Wueggarts
- 1988 - Kathy Dewitt
- 1989 - Emily Dryselius
- 1990 - Desiree Gay
- 1991 - Jenny Olsson
- 1992 - Amy Acord
- 1993 - Rebecca Cadwallader
- 1994 - Betsy Philen
- 1995 - Elizabeth Webb
- 1996 - Veronica Llanos
- 1997 - Kelley Mauritzson
- 1998- Kristin Klatt-Larsson
- 1999 - Karoline Melrose
- 2000 - Kathryn Armstrong

A very strong youth program came out of the necessity to build a stronger friendship between Barkeryd and Texas.

"The Lucia from Texas has become an important part of the yearly festivities in Barkeryd." *said Alf Carlsson, President of the Homestead Association, Barkeryd, Sweden*

[The above publication was submitted by Ingalisa Calissendorff and Evert Jonsson. and translated by Leif Mauritzson.]

2002 SWEDISH CLUB LUCIA INFORMATION & APPLICATION

By Ingrid Melrose

Applications for the Swedish Club of Houston's 2002 Lucia are now being accepted. Our 2002 Lucia will be presented at the Swedish Christmas Traditions and Lucia Procession scheduled for Saturday, December 14, 2002 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 306 E. 15th St.

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. They must be able to attend the Swedish Traditions program on December 14, and must be able to represent the Club at a celebration and parade in Barkeryd, Sweden on Sunday, August 3, 2003. Round-trip airfare for our 2002 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. Marita Vilson has offered to teach the attendants some traditional Swedish songs to perform at this year's pageant. There will be approximately 2-3 rehearsals prior to Dec. 14. Times and places will be announced later.

For fifteen 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 5, 2002. For questions or further information, please call Ingrid Melrose at (281) 579-8143.

THE SWEDISH CLUB OF HOUSTON
APPLICATION FOR 2002 LUCIA CANDIDATES AND ATTENDANTS

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____
Address: _____ Phone No: _____
E-mail address: _____
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. 14, 2002 ; be able to represent the Swedish Club of Houston at Barkeryd, Sweden on August 3, 2003, and write an article for The Swedish Club News on your return from Sweden.

Please pass this membership application
to anyone interested in Sweden.

The Swedish Club of Houston Membership Application Form

Annual dues are \$35 for family membership, \$25 for individual memberships, and \$10 for Student Memberships.

Please make check payable to Swedish Club and mail to:

The Swedish Club of Houston, c/o John Stavinoha
807 Mulberry Lane
Bellaire TX 77401

Name: _____ Date: _____

Street: _____ Home Phone: (_____) _____

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Single Married Spouse's Name: _____

Name(s) and year(s) of birth of children living at home:

Occupation: _____ Spouse's Occupation: _____

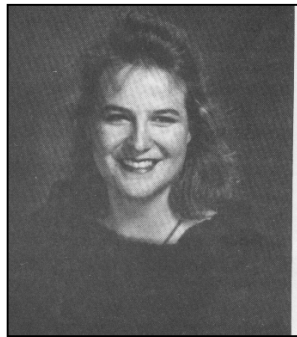
Hobbies: _____ Spouse's Hobbies: _____

Spouse's E-mail: _____

How would YOU like to be involved in preserving and sharing Swedish Heritage?

The Swedish Club's Previous Lucia's

From the files of Ingalisa Calissendorf- <See Article page 4 for names>



For The Folkdancers, Summer Means Fun

Article by Jay Flusche



Gulf Coast Scandinavian Dancers shown at the Texas Folklife Festival- San Antonio, TX June 2002

Back in the early 1960's, surf music artists Jan & Dean put out an album titled "Summer Means Fun". It was a collection of upbeat, "feel good" tunes about the fun that folks have during the summer time.

As I was sitting down to write this article, I realized that Jan & Dean had hit the nail right on the head! Summer has been a blast so far for the folkdancers. We have performed at the Danish Club's annual summer picnic, and we have performed at the Texas Folklife Festival in San Antonio.

Both of these performances were more than just opportunities to dance. They felt almost like a reunion of sorts. You see, in dancing at various events across the city & state, we run into a lot of folks from other dance and musical groups. Needless to say, we form friendships with folks that share the same interests. The Danish Club here in Houston has a lot of members from down in Danevang, Texas (towards El Campo). So after we performed at the picnic, we got to visit a bit, and we got to eat and go swimming also. It turned into a very pleasant day.

The Folklife Festival in San Antonio is a unique event. It is the prime event of the year as far as our group is concerned. You find that if you ever perform there, you are hooked. This year was no different. We got to dance three times during the weekend: once Saturday and twice on Sunday. Our musicians did a superb job of providing live music for dancing. It was great. We are one of very few groups that dance to live music. We are truly lucky to have a dedicated group of musicians: Joyce Calderon, Keith Rogers, Emma Rogers, Vassily Rodionov, Diana Rodionov, and Andy Rodionov.

The unique aspect of the Folklife festival is that everyone there is bound by the same ties. We are all subsets of the people who make up the state of Texas. It is humbling to realize the diversity of the population of Texas. The Scandinavian influence in Texas is not as dramatic as some other groups, but it is important nonetheless. It is important to take the opportunity to show our pride in being Scandinavian. For the Folkdancers, music and dance is the best way to show that pride. Besides, it is a lot of fun.

We are on our summer break now, but we will get back together in September.

If you have any questions or are interested in seeing what Scandinavian Folkdancing is all about, you can give me (Jay Flusche) a call at 713.777.2824, or you can call our director, Howard Phillips, at 713.661.5619.

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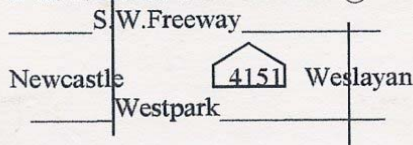
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OCTOBER 1st - First Day of Swedish School.

Time to learn Svenska especially the SLC's* like your editor. Classes range from the very basic to advanced depending upon student interest. Meetings are at IKEA on Monday or Tuesday evenings starting October 1st . Cost is \$125 per semester plus books. Contact School Director John Satvinoha at John_Satvinoha@mhhs.org

October 12th - Smörgåsbord at Inwood Forrest

The smögåsbord has always been a highlight of our meeting schedule. It should be even better this year as an extra effort is being made to import more directly the products to be used and to get direct input from experts at preparing Swedish food.

Inwood Country Club provided the fine food for the excellent Pea Soup and Pancake Dinner, is now willing to learn more Swedish cooking. Chuck Nelson and Lars Westerberg will be your hosts with help from some fine cooks from our club and from the country club.

Our guest speaker will be Christer Fuglesang, our own club astronaut, who is shown in his European Space Agency Uniform on **Page 1**. He is scheduled to be "Sweden's first man in space" Christer and Elizabeth have been members of our club while he has been training at NASA for several years. You've probably missed them at previous events like you editor did. Fortunately our President Leif was more observant and has secured Christer's agreement to share with us at the Smögåsbord

December 14th - Christmas Traditions Fest and Lucia Presentation.



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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.net or when necessary by post to Arvid Johanson, 2010 Dowling Drive, Richmond TX 77469-5114.

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Business Card	\$ 20.00
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1/2 Page	\$ 80.00
Full Page	\$120.00

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Katie on Page 3=The Armstrong's
Page 8=The Steffensen's

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IN THE SEPTEMBER EDITION OF SWEDISH CLUB NEWS

More on smögåsbord and our Astronaut speaker.

Allana Clarke's articles about her trip to Sweden as our Lucia 2001.

YOUR article or story about Sweden or your Swedish Kinfolks! **PLEASE !**
Followup on the Picnic

Swedish Club News www.swedishclub.org	Page 10	July 2002 EventsLine = 713.774.2739
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THE SWEDISH CLUB NEWS

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