



# THE AMERICAN CLUB OF SWEDEN NEWS BULLETIN

December 2001

## HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

For Americans, "Home for the Holidays" means turkey, rosy cheeks, and family and friends gathered around the Christmas tree, sipping eggnog while singing along with Bing Crosby about chestnuts roasting on an open fire.

This gastronomical accomplishment requires a high tolerance for turkey, since our Thanksgiving holiday is only one month earlier, and "What's for dinner?" is not a question any aspiring chef likes to answer until April.

The Swedish holiday tradition, by comparison, replaces eggnog with pepparkakor and glögg, and the tolerance test involves the Christmas ham, which also lasts until Easter. There is, however, lutefisk to the rescue, for which many turkeys are extremely thankful.

Fortunately, long before the critical culinary choice must be made, Lucia Day arrives, ushering in the tranquility of one of Sweden's most beautiful holiday traditions.

This year, The American Club is very pleased to welcome Ian Wachtmeister as our Lucia Luncheon guest speaker. Energetic, eloquent, entertaining, and impassioned – these are just a few of the words which have been used to describe this multi-faceted man.

We are also extremely grateful to Coca-Cola, who will again sponsor our traditional Lucia candlelight concert.

As for me, I'm still searching for the almond in the rice pudding. Someone told me that it was an ancient Swedish custom, related to the tooth fairy.

Happy Holidays to all!

Charlotte DeWitt  
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## LUCIA DAY LUNCHEON

with  
The LaudaEnsemble  
sponsored by Coca-Cola

Thursday, December 13, 2001

11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Grand Hotel, Hall of Mirrors

Guest Speaker  
Ian Wachtmeister

Candles, mirrors, and music— The American Club's sixth annual Lucia Day celebration ushers in the Christmas season on December 13. Enjoy the warmth and hospitality of this wonderful Swedish celebration in the elegant setting of the Grand Hotel's Hall of Mirrors. The distinguished Ian Wachtmeister will speak about his experiences as "An American Swede," followed by The LaudaEnsemble performing the traditional Lucia candlelight ceremony.

11:30 a.m.	Social time: Glögg and pepparkakor
12:15 p.m.	Lucia luncheon with: Ian Wachtmeister, Lottery Drawing, and The LaudaEnsemble
2:00 p.m.	Luncheon concludes

Last year's luncheon was attended by nearly 250 prominent guests, including club members and several ambassadors. Book early— space is limited, and last year was sold out! Luncheon cost is SEK295:- before December 1; SEK 325 thereafter. Tables of 10 are SEK2900. Payment details on reverse side.

For further information, contact Ulf Ryde, tel 0708 26 68 00 or email [fecum@telia.com](mailto:fecum@telia.com).

## MEET THE AMBASSADOR

January 30, 2002

Nya Sällskapet

While January 1 is the commonly accepted beginning of the new year for most people in the Western world, Americans benchmark their country's new year according to the President's annual State of the Union Message in mid-January.

January is the perfect time, then, for the American community here in Sweden to meet and greet America's new Ambassador, The Honorable Charles A. Heimbald.

The American Club will host a special evening reception and buffet dinner on Wednesday, January 30, at Nya Sällskapet, Västra Trädgårdsgatan 6, in honor of Ambassador Heimbald. Space is limited to 120 reservations. Each American Club member may bring one guest. Please mark your calendars and look for the official invitation in the mail in early January 2002.

The event is sponsored by Vasakronon AB, Infra City, and Volvo AB.

## New Members - November 2001

Intentionally left blank. Please consult the mailed version of the newsletter for the list of new members.

### LUCIA LUNCHEON

**DATE:** December 13  
**RSVP:** By Friday, December 7  
**COST:** SEK 295:- per member before December 1 (one guest per member permitted at this price)  
SEK 325:- per non-member or additional guests  
SEK 2900:- per table of 10

**INQUIRIES:** Ulf Ryde, tel 0708 26 68 00 or email [fecum@telia.com](mailto:fecum@telia.com)

**PAYMENT:** Please make your reservations by remitting payment to **Postgiro 53795-1** (Account name/ "Kontohavare": American Club of Sweden). Mark the giro stub "**Lucia Luncheon**" and in very **legible block letters**, write your phone number and the names of the participants. ***Cancellations must be made no later than 5 p.m. December 7, 2001. Reservations are binding thereafter.***

### THANKSGIVING DINNER DANCE

**When:** Saturday, November 24, 2001  
**Time:** 6:30pm - 1:00am  
**Where:** Sheraton Stockholm, Tegelbacken 6  
**Cost:** SEK 475 per person, members and non-members  
**Payment:** Payment via postgiro 53795-1, but call for reservations first\*\*  
**Dress:** Dark Suit  
**Reservations:** Becky Persson - [janrebecca@hotmail.com](mailto:janrebecca@hotmail.com); tel 08 590 85 700

### THANKSGIVING DINNER DANCE SUBSIDIZED

*Costs for the Thanksgiving Dinner Dance are higher than they would be if we were still at the Embassy; however, we unexpectedly had a positive net result from our Solidarity Evening. We are using these monies towards defraying the higher cost of Thanksgiving and keeping the event affordable.*

## LOTS of THANKS to our LOTTERY DONORS!

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