



SACC-TX Newsletter

Vol. 15 Number 1 • April/May 2007





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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Fellow Texans,

2007 will be an exciting year for SACC-TX. The Governors Office contacted us in November and asked if we were interested in organizing a trade mission to Sweden in 2007.

We off course immediately invited them to our E-days event in Chicago April 16-18 and to the Swedish E-Days event in southern Sweden, August 20-23. Together with the Governors Office, we will make sure that all relevant Texas companies and regions are invited to this trade mission as Texas and Sweden have so much in common, as you can read in a separate article in this Newsletter.

According to a recent on-line article by Charlotte Celsing, Sweden is currently one of Europe's top destinations for foreign investors. Last year, Swedish companies attracted USD 1.07 Billion in start up and growth capital according to the European Venture Capital Association. Much of this comes from the US and we are now trying to focus some Texas Venture Capital funds on this fact and at the same time highlight Texas as an excellent location for Swedish companies thinking of opening shop in the US.

Another exciting thing is that we now have two new trainees in SACC-TX, Anna Lundgren is our new central office manager in Austin and Per Nylin will be our local office manager in Dallas. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Fredrik Johansson, our previous trainee for an unprecedented 18 months as our office manager, first in Austin and then in Dallas. Thank you Fredrik, what would we have done without you?

Anna will also be on our Board of Directors as our Secretary and Per will be filling the vacant slot on our Board of Directors in Dallas that opened up when Per Ahlund moved out of state. Apart from Per moving we also have a change in Houston where Marlene McLane is taking over the leadership as Vice President of SACC in Houston. Our previous VP in Houston, Cecilia Strahle Engquist, will still stay on the Board of Directors in Houston. We thank both Per and Cecilia for their leadership and wish Marlene good luck in her new position!

This issue of the SACC-TX Newsletter has more content than any previous issue and will be printed and distributed in over 400 copies in the US and in Sweden thanks to our advertisers and content contributors. We are still looking for more advertisers to make it even better in the future. Please contact our office and we will send you our advertising specifications and price list if you would like to put an ad in this Newsletter.

The Swedish American Chamber of Commerce in Texas in 2007 is bigger and better than ever before thanks to y'all and we will be fixin' to make it even better in the future.

Bertil Fredstrom

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Central Texas (Austin)

April 26, 7.00 PM
The IKEA Round Rock Story
At IKEA Round Rock
1 IKEA Way, Round Rock
Phone (512)828-4532

May 17, 7.00 PM
The Governors Office in Texas
Westwood Country Club
3808 West 35th Street, Austin

June 21, 5.00 PM
Midsummer Celebrations
Together with the Swedish Club in Elgin
Czech Hall, Elgin

North Texas (Dallas)

April 19, 5.30 PM
Euro cocktail at Natuzzi
11700 Preston Road, Dallas

June 7, 5.30 PM
Euro cocktail
Location TBD

South Texas (Houston)

April 25, 1.00 PM
Houston International Chambers
Golf Tournament,
Longwood Golf Club
13300 Longwood Trace
Cypress, Texas

May 19, 8.00 PM
Houston Symphony,
"Gershwin, An American in Paris"
Ticket distribution and
Pre-Concert Social 6:30 PM
at the Lancaster's Bar
701 Texas Avenue
Houston, Texas

May date TBD
Dinner Meeting,
on the topic of
"Managing HR in the U.S."
Masraff's Restaurant
1025 S. Post Oak Ln.
Houston, Texas

Our New Trainee in Austin - ANNA LUNDGREN

Anna is thrilled to have been given the fantastic opportunity of spending one year in Austin, Texas. She loves America with its great warmth, its overall feeling of well-being and hospitality. Bertil, Fredrik, John and Ingrid have made her feel very welcome and given her lots of help and useful advice.



Anna was born and raised in the little picturesque village of Torekov in Skane. Her family still lives there and has been doing so for generations. After graduation from high school, she spent one year in the army and traveled around Europe, before she settled down in Stockholm to complete her Masters of Science in Engineering at The Royal Institute of Technology.

She finished her degree in 2006 after having spent one year in Scotland and three months in Ghana, where she conducted her final thesis. Her studies focused on geology, but also hydrology, oceanography and environmental impact assessment. She hopes that her theoretical and practical skills will assist her in her work with John Berry Associates.

Our New Trainee in Dallas - PER NYLIN

Per is a recent graduate from SMU in Dallas. He came to SMU on a Swimming Scholarship 4 years ago from Sweden. Currently, he is doing Sales and Marketing for a Real Estate Tax Consulting firm.

Per grew up in a town called Kinna located outside Gothenburg, but then lived south of Norrkoping. He is also very much looking forward to being part of SACC-TX and its membership.



Our New VP in Houston - MARLENE McLANE

Born and raised in Söderhamn, Sweden, Marlene has spent the past 12 years in Houston and is married to a native Houstonian.

In her career, Marlene has had a combination of positions all relating to finance and accounting. Her background includes VP of Finance at AITS, Financial Advisor, Private Wealth Management, AIG and Advisor, UBS, Global Wealth Management and Business Banking.

In 2006, she decided to take her experience and know-how of best practices in the finance industry and started her own company.

McLane-Grassmann & Co. Inc. is a financial service corporation that specializes in serving as a consultancy firm in an advocacy and fiduciary position; assisting in non-traditional funding and business-process improvement, ensuring fair pricing and best-practice services from their financial partners and vendors.



NEW MEMBERS:

Corporate:

Hughes & Luce L.L.P. (Austin)

Contact: Hull Yougblood Jr.

Hughes & Luce combines the talent and expertise of their lawyers into multi-disciplinary client and industry teams designed to meet specific client needs. While the offices are in Austin, Dallas, and Fort Worth, the clients are national and international. Hughes & Luce have a particular dedication to working closely with emerging and mature technology companies - ensuring that their ideas have global protection and that they have the resources available to grow into world-wide leaders in their industries.

John Berry Associates (Austin)

Contact: John Berry

John Berry Associates offers consulting services in Remote Sensing and raster GIS analysis. These range from mineral and oil exploration projects to giving advice to overseas governments or working on legal cases. We work either in Austin or in our clients' offices in places like Perth (Australia), Mumbai (India), or Tripoli (Libya). A major part of our work has been mapping oil slicks all over the world to determine their origin (natural leakage from oil reservoirs, pollution, or algal blooms, etc.) and their meaning as far as petroleum exploration is concerned. We work on laptop computers so that we can go anywhere in the world, and any excuse is welcome!

Business:

Aktuella.net (Austin)

Contact: Myleen Sagrado-Sjodin

Myleen and Jan Sjödin, an American and her Swedish husband, formed "Aktuella" in 2005 and now reside in Austin. As lovers of Scandinavian art, design and culture, they wanted to bring forth the unique style of things that they missed from Sweden. The company carries products such as jewelry, accessories, household products, music as well as books and movies in their original (Swedish) language."

Marisol International Inc. (Houston)

Contact: David J. Kone

MARISOL has been developing and providing products to service the marine industry since 1986. We offer over 40 different products for: Alkaline Cleaning and Maintenance, Acid Cleaning and Maintenance, Petroleum Cleaning and Maintenance, Water Treatment and Oil Treatment.

Individual:

Eugene Flynn (Dallas)
Knut Gezelius (Houston)
Marcus Klintmalm (Dallas)
Per Kvien (Houston)
Per Nylin (Dallas)
Henrik Thomsen (Houston)

MEMBER NEWS:

Our Dallas member Practical Advertising has, after seven years in business, decided to focus on their specialty; start-up companies and businesses in transition. Practical Advertising has helped numerous companies start their businesses or redefine themselves. They have a high success rate in meeting their client's business goals. Helene Honeybone provides the strategic marketing knowledge and Tray LaCaze the strategic creative design.

The new website for the company is www.practicaladvertising.com

CONSULATE NEWS FOR TEXAS

Passport application procedures changed in 2007 to increase the security of travel documents.

As of March 1, 2007 all passport applicants must be digitally photographed on site at the time of the application.

Consequently, applicants may no longer be submitted at the honorary consulates in Houston and Dallas. More information at www.swedennewyork.com/passport. You can also apply for a new passport while visiting Sweden. Further information about Swedish passport and identity cards is available on the website of the Swedish Police www.polisen.se The documents affected by the new procedure are regular passport, extra passport and national identity cards.

The handling and application for EMERGENCY/PROVISIONAL PASSPORTS WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED - you can still apply at an Honorary Consulate of Sweden in Texas, Houston or Dallas.

For more information contact Consulate of Sweden in Houston Britta Tenghamn 713.953.1417 houston@consulateofsweden.org or Consulate of Sweden in Dallas, Tina Klintmalm, 214.521.2312. passombud.dallas@gmail.com, dallas@consulateofsweden.org

TELECOM CITY TRADE MISSION TO DALLAS

By Bertil Fredstrom

On March 12, 2007, Mr. Richard Liden, Manager Telecom City, visited Dallas on his two week fact-finding journey around the US.

Our SACC-TX Vice President in Dallas, Mr. Thomas Lindqvist, had organized a full program that started already at 9.00 AM and that did not stop until 5.00 PM.

After breakfast at the hotel, our SACC Texas member Kennet Skold, President of E10 Systems, informed Mr. Liden about his current Wireless diode based lighting control system. Beyond even simple ease of installation and use, ZigBee is expected to provide a desirable customizable element to lighting schemes through the unconstrained placement of sensors and switches.

We then met with Mr. Bill Sproull, President, and Mr. John Jacobs, Senior Vice President, of the Telecom Corridor and Metroplex Technology Business Council, over lunch in order to better understand the Dallas Telecom Corridor and its past and future challenges.

No business visit to Dallas is complete without a stop at the Greater Dallas Chamber where we met with Sharon Venable, Vice President International Business Development and Meredith Dowling Senior Director International and Technology Business Development. We found out, among other things, that Dallas is actually a larger IT centre than Austin – who knew?

The last meeting for the day was at the US headquarters for Ericsson in Plano, north of Dallas, where our member Niklas Andersson, Vice President Sales & Marketing Security Solutions, greeted us and gave us an overview over Ericsson's plans to help support the SACC-TX E-days event in South Sweden, August 20-23, 2007.



Richard Liden and Tomas Lindqvist in front of the Ericsson headquarters in Plano, Texas.



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TEXAS-SWEDISH CONNECTIONS - AS OLD AS TEXAS ITSELF

By Jenni Gilmer, Office of the Governor,
Division of Economic Development & Tourism

SOURCES: The Swedish Club of Houston; The University of Texas Institute of Texan Cultures at San Antonio; The Texas State Historical Association's Handbook of Texas Online; The Volvo Owners Club Limited.

In 1955, a Swedish engineer named Nils Sefeldt boarded a ship bound for New York with his family, \$3,000 in cash, \$10 in spare parts and his dove-grey Volvo PV444.

He was determined to sell Volvos in the United States, and he chose Fort Worth, to launch his business. Sefeldt later relocated to Houston and his operations grew to encompass 16 states in the southern U.S. Sefeldt realized what thousands of Swedes who came to Texas before him knew: Texas is wide open for business.

To promote even greater business relationships between the Land of the Midnight Sun and the Lone Star State, representatives from the Office of the Governor, Division of Economic Development & Tourism (EDT), are participating in the Swedish-American Entrepreneurial Days in Sweden this August. "As a global leader in economic development and commerce, Texas is committed to working with employers worldwide to ensure job creation and economic prosperity," said Texas Gov. Rick Perry. "The possibilities for foreign investment are limitless in Texas."

Texas is the No. 1 exporting state in the United States, and the only state with its own power grid. Texas is logistics friendly with its state-of-the-art infrastructure. The state has the second largest civilian workforce in the nation with an abundance of highly skilled workers.

Companies considering a relocation or expansion in Texas will find competitive financial resources and incentives, recently enacted tort reform, and no state tax on goods in transit or personal income tax.

In 2004, Gov. Perry announced a strategic job creation plan that focuses economic development efforts in industry clusters including advanced technologies and manufacturing; aerospace and defense; biotechnology and life sciences; information and computer technology; and energy. Sweden also is pursuing these industries. He also has successfully persuaded the Texas Legislature to develop two of the nation's most successful job creation tools: The Texas Enterprise Fund, a program that to date has awarded \$ 332 million which will create more than 45,000 jobs and \$15.1 billion in investment to the state, and the Emerging Technology fund, which has awarded \$43 million to help young companies get their innovations to market faster.



From left, Texas Secretary of State Roger Williams and Bertil Fredstrom, President and Chairman of SACC-TX, met recently to discuss future trade missions between Texas and Sweden.

Photo credit: Office of the Governor, Division of Economic Development & Tourism

Many Swedish companies are already enjoying the good life in Texas. Plano is North American home for Ericsson; The Container Store, the storage and organization chain which owns Swedish storage system maker Elfa International, is headquartered in Coppell; and IKEA continued its American expansion by opening stores in Houston in 2003, Frisco in 2005, and Round Rock in 2006.

It makes sense that Swedes would be drawn to live and work in Texas, said Bertil Fredstrom, President and Chairman of the SACC-TX. "We are both independent and strong," Fredstrom said. "I think that historically, Swedes were attracted to Texas for those reasons, and have been a part of making Texas what it is today."

The Texas-Swedish connection is not a recent one – it was forged more than a century before Sefeldt arrived in Texas.

In the mid-1830s, Texas patriarch Sam Houston urged his friend, Swen Magnus Swenson, to recruit his countrymen to settle the sparsely occupied interior of Texas. Swenson, who ran a successful plantation near the Texas Gulf coast, brought the initial group of 25 Swedish settlers to Texas in 1848.

The first group was from Barkeryd parish in northern Småland, Sweden. In honor of the large number of Texans with Barkeryd ties, all residents of the parish were proclaimed honorary citizens of Texas in 1975 by Gov. Dolph Briscoe.

Word spread quickly about the opportunities in Texas, and Swedes in the homeland as well as in the north-central United States, made the trek to Texas. By the turn of the century, more than 4,000 Swedes called Texas home.

Swedish heritage can be seen in the names of Texas places including Govalle, Lund, Manda, New Sweden, Hutto, Swedonia, East Sweden, West Sweden, Palm Valley, Swensondale, and Austin-Bergstrom International Airport. The relationship between Texas and Sweden even was recognized and celebrated by Swedish King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia. In 1988, the royal couple visited Texas to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the first Swedish immigrants to the Lone Star State.

Today, more than 160,000 Texans claim Swedish descent. And the connection will continue. EDT officials are working with the Swedish-American Chamber of Commerce to explore the possibility of having an Entrepreneurial Days event in Texas in 2009.

"Relocating to or expanding in Texas means adding a competitive advantage," said Aaron Demerson, EDT Executive Director. "We look forward to opening new doors of opportunity together."

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TEN REASONS TO BECOME A US CITIZEN

By Paul Parsons, P.C. Attorney At Law

1. Patriotism and Voting - If you are making America your permanent home and want to fully participate in the American democracy, becoming a citizen is vital. With rare exceptions, only citizens in this country can vote. And voting is the most basic way to effect change in the way the country is run.

2. Retaining residency - The only way to guarantee that you will forever have the right to remain in the US is to naturalize. Permanent residents are always at risk of losing their green cards if they spend long periods of time outside the US. Since 9/11, this has become a more serious problem and more and more people are losing their residency status because they are deemed by port of entry officers as having abandoned their permanent residency in the US.

3. Deportation - If one is ever convicted of a crime - and not necessarily a very serious crime - there is a risk of being deported. Once you become a citizen, with rare exceptions, you retain your citizenship even if you run into criminal problems.

4. Government benefits - Generally speaking, permanent residents have access to the same public benefits as citizens. However, in recent years, there has been more and more talk of making certain kind of public benefits only available to citizens. The only way to ensure that this will not ever be a problem is to naturalize.

5. Immigration for family members - US citizens receive priority treatment when it comes to bringing in family members. Citizens over 21 years of age can sponsor family members without waiting on a queue for a visa to become available. The same is true for spouses of US citizens and minor children of US citizens. US citizens can also sponsor adult children and siblings, though the waits in these categories can be a few to several years. Green card holders, on the other hand, cannot sponsor parents or siblings. And the wait to bring in children and spouses are much longer than for citizens.

6. Federal jobs - Certain types of jobs with government agencies require US citizenship. This is particularly true for jobs in the energy and defense sectors.

7. Running for office - Many types of elected positions in this country require the officeholder to be a US citizen.

8. Tax consequences - US citizens and permanent residents are not always treated the same for tax purposes. This is particularly true for estate taxes.

9. Federal grants - While many federal grants are available to permanent residents, more and more are only available to US citizen applicants.

10. Political contributions - While green card holders can legally donate money to campaigns if they are residing in the US, it is not clear that green card holders residing abroad - even temporarily - can do so. This point was the subject of a political scandal involving donations by wealthy Indonesians to the Clinton administration.

LOCAL CHAPTER NEWS

Christmas Party with SACC in Houston — A Huge Success!

The party was held at Mr. Richard Condon's beautiful residence (which he designed himself, Mr. Condon is an accomplished Architect) and was catered by the magnificent chef Magnus Hansson. Magnus treated us to gravad lax, janssons frestelse, Swedish meatballs and home made Swedish bread.

Remarkably, the Glogg disappeared in just a few minutes. Cecilia Strahle Engquist made it from scratch and apparently it was very popular in consumption. We must recruit her to make it again next year!

It was a great time, together, experiencing a Swedish Tradition. While enjoying the aura of the holidays, we discussed the successes SACC Houston has had during 2006. Most of all, we enjoyed each others company, ending the year for SACC with a big Bang! THANK YOU TO OUR FABULOUS SPONSORS CHAMPION FIBERGLASS AND GINGER OIL!

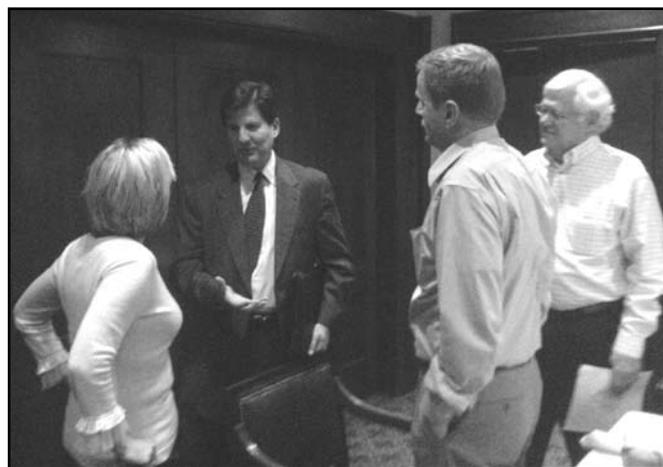


Mr. Richard Condon and Honorary Consul Jan Dryselius of Houston

Double Citizenship

Guest speaker Paul Parsons P.C., Attorney At Law, gave SACC-TX in Austin a great overview over the recent changes in regulations for a US citizenship as well as some information of what to do and not to do to receive it as fast and easy as possible.

Green card holders in the US receive most of the rights of US citizens and in the day-to-day life of permanent residents there are not too many differences than with their citizen counterparts. For example, green card holders can typically live in the US as long as they like and they can work for almost every kind of employer. So why bother with getting citizenship? Well, there are a number of good reasons to consider, see separate article on this subject on page 8 in this issue of the Newsletter.



Paul Parson answering questions from Bengt and Gun Skoldeberg and David Erickson regarding double citizenship.

Mid Winter Cocktails in Austin

Austin members of SACC Texas gathered at the home of SACC Texas President Bertil Fredstrom for a kick off of the New Year, January 21, 2007, with a cocktail party. Swedish finger food like meatballs, Marabou chocolates and Siljan knackebrod as well as other international cuisine was served.



Lara Valentine, Elisabeth Kihlberg, Anders Nilsson and Hakan Thyrtasting the hot and warm dishes at the mid winter cocktail party in Austin.

LOCAL CHAPTER NEWS

A Swedish Success Story in the middle of Texas

Mr. Don Nadon, board member of Comsol Inc. and previously the VP of Sales and Marketing for the same company gave members of SACC-TX in Austin a presentation of the history of the company and shared some marketing secrets on October 25. The COMSOL Group that provides software solutions for multiphysics modeling was founded in July 1986 in Stockholm, Sweden and has grown to include offices in Denmark, Finland, Norway, Germany, France, Switzerland, Italy, The Netherlands, the UK and the US. It started its business in the US in 1997 and now employs more than 35 people here. Its headquarters is located in central Texas.

Christer Fugelsang – Our Hero!!

In Houston on January 18, 2007, the Consulate of Sweden and the Swedish American Chamber of Commerce-Texas together with SWEA and the Swedish Club of Houston joined in an exclusive private forum and dinner at IKEA honoring Astronaut Christer Fugelsang.

The meeting began with Christer speaking and showing pictures taken in the space shuttle and pictures taken of earth. After the presentation we all had a traditional Swedish dinner, and interfaced with Christer and one another on a casual basis. It was amazing or rather astounding. This was an event I will not soon forget. Aside from hearing and seeing what he has done and where he has been, it is perplexing that Christer is so very humble and down to earth, so to speak. We are proud of Christer becoming such an accomplished, world renowned and inspirational individual representing Sweden.

Christer Fugelsang has logged over 308 hours in space, including 3 EVAs (spacewalks) totaling 18 hours and 14 minutes on an assembly and crew-rotation mission to the International Space Station with the crew of STS-116. The seven-member crew on the 12-day mission STS-116 Discovery (December 9-22, 2006), continued construction of the ISS outpost by adding the P5 spacer truss segment during the first of four spacewalks. To be exact, the mission lasted 12 days, 20 hours and 45 minutes.

As Christer so modestly gives his expression in words from his mission; he says, "Space is fun, but not 100 billion dollars of fun. Zero-gravity makes my hair roots tingle. Earth looks vulnerable from space. We have to make sure it will be all right even after we're dead and gone. Buy pollution rights!"

Left:
Mr. Don Nadon in front of SACC-TX
Austin members and guests



Right:
Harald Witt of IKEA Houston giving
a hand painted chair with a space
motive to Christer Fugelsang after his
speech.



Opening Ceremonies at IKEA Austin

On Wednesday, November 15, early in the morning, hundreds of eager shoppers started to line up for the opening of the 19th IKEA store in the US, and the third in Texas.

At 8.30 AM the official opening ceremony started with the store manager Jeff O'Shaughnessy welcoming the crowd and introducing the flag raising ceremony.

First Round Rock Mayor Pro-Term Alan McGraw raised the US flag during the national anthem. The second flag to be raised was the Swedish and it was done in true Swedish spirit as teamwork between Carrin Patman, Elisabeth Kihlberg and Bertil Fredstrom, while the Austin SWEA choir sang the Swedish national anthem. Finally the Texas flag was raised by Williamson County Commissioner Lisa Birkman during "Texas, our Texas" performed by the Stony Point High School Footnotes.

At 9.00 AM the Round Rock Mayor, the Honorable Nyle Maxwell, held a short speech and conducted the official "log-sawing opening ceremony" together with the store manager Jeff O'Shaughnessy.

When the doors opened up thousands of new customers entered the blue and yellow IKEA store and started a shopping spree that probably did not end until Christmas day!

Swedish Win at SAS Scandinavian Golf Tournament

Hard on the heels of Henrik Stensson's epic win at the Accenture World! Match play, SACC-TX advisory board member, Richard Condon, ensured another victory on the links for the Three Crowns. This win ensures that the Swedes will be the first holders of the specially commissioned "Vandrarpris," Trophy. Together with his sons, Eric and Carl, and partnered with Woody Galloway, Richard's team tamed the slick and undulating greens to shoot an impressive 59 on the Augusta Pines Course.

This was the fourth annual event, which saw some 100 golfers, all with Scandinavian ties, take to the course. As ever Augusta Pines was in immaculate condition and after a rain out in the first year, we have yet to witness even one cloud in the sky in subsequent years- this year even took place under clear blue skies and 25 deg C.

The event was made possible of course, by Astrid Marklund and Anne Brith Berge, the Norwegian, and was organized by the Swedish Chamber of Commerce, the Norwegian Chamber of Commerce and the Royal Danish Consulate. Of course it would not have been possible without the sponsorship of Scandinavian Airlines and SAS Cargo as well as other sponsors such as FMC Technologies, INTSOK, MCT Brattberg, CHASE and IKEA.



The three Swedish Musketeers after the flag raising ceremony: Carrin Patman, Bertil Fredstrom and Elisabeth Kihlberg



The winning team: Eric Condon, Carl Condon, Richard Condon & Woody Galloway

LOCAL CHAPTER NEWS

Oil Should Always Travel First Class

SACC TX in Houston held a business luncheon on October 24. The speaker was Klas Eskilsson who is Vice President and head of Stena Bulk in the USA. Mr. Eskilsson presented his company Stena Bulk, which operates tankers built for first class performance and high efficiency, for the care of the environment and the oil. A main part of the company is operated from Houston, TX.

Mr. Eskilsson spoke about the growth and development of the company that was started in 1939 by Mr. Sten A Olsson. Mr. Eskilsson talked about how their fleet and innovations contributes to providing our world with safe and economical solutions for shipping oil.

The event was well attended with about 40 members and guests from several other chambers of Commerce as well as the vice-consul for oil and gas from the British Consulate-General. It was held at the Italian restaurant Arcodoro and according to an attendee "the food was excellent and nothing like the dry chicken I'm used to getting at business luncheons".



Klas Eskilsson, Head of Stena Bulk
Cecilia Strähle Engqvist, VP SACC-TX,
Richard Condon, Advisory
board member SACC-TX

The Outlook for Energy – A View to 2030

SACC-TX in Dallas together with the French American Chamber of Commerce organized a business luncheon at the Plaza Westin City Center on October 24. The speaker, Todd Onderdonk, Senior Energy Advisor at ExxonMobile Corporate Planning Department, gave us an outlook that he had given to the ExxonMobile board of directors just a few days earlier.

In summary; the need for energy in the world will basically double until 2030 because of the overall growth in developing countries and despite energy conservation measures in the developed world. The most important energy in 2030 will still be oil, but it will be complemented by many other energy sources, mainly gas and coal. Alternative energy sources (wind, solar, nuclear) will grow faster than conventional energy sources (oil, gas, coal), but will still only supply a small part of the energy needed in 2030.

The reserves of oil, gas and coal will be sufficient if new sources like "oil-sand" and "deep-sea" drilling are developed according to plan. No energy shortage was predicted – at least no at this meeting...



SACC Texas Membership Application for 2007

SACC Texas Membership Benefits:

- Develop contacts and participate in business opportunities between Texas and Sweden.
- Automatic membership in the Swedish-American Chamber of Commerce, USA Inc, (SACC-USA).
- Subscriptions to the SACC-Texas Newsletter; to Currents, the quarterly newsletter of SACC-USA; and to Nordic Reach, a glossy cultural magazine with commentary about the Nordic countries from a US perspective.
- Listing in the SACC-USA Directory and on a password-protected web page for SACC-Texas, available only to SACC-Texas members (optional).

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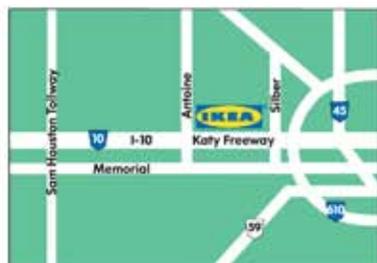
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