



*Next Meeting:
Korv Meal
2:30 p.m.
November 12
See Details on
Page Three*



**Peace
Lutheran Church
3740 Mayfield Rd.
Cleveland Hts.
just east of
Severance Center**

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Vasa Order of America
Nobel-Monitor Lodge No. 130
October/November 2023

Swedish Immigration to America

SWEDISH IMMIGRANTS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO AMERICA

Initially, immigrants from Sweden were not well respected, but their significant contributions to their adopted homeland eventually became apparent. After the American Civil War, large numbers of Swedish Americans helped build America's first railroads. They laid track from St. Paul and Chicago first. Later, as the frontier pushed westward, they worked on lines farther west. The linking of America's east and west coasts provided immigrants with a convenient form of transportation and allowed them to settle across the vast United States territories.

In October 1871, four square miles of the city of Chicago burned in the Great Chicago Fire for over two days. Two hundred fifty people lost their lives, and 90,000 lost their homes. The city was soon rebuilt; so much of it by the Swedish Americans that people said, "the Swedes built Chicago."

The fact that the Swedish immigrants arrived in America with skills in farming, mining, fishing, logging, and construction meant that they were immediately valuable in helping to tame America's primitive territories. Before the masses of Swedish immigrants poured into America in the mid 1800s, the territories of Kansas, Illinois, and Nebraska were empty prairies. Minnesota, Wisconsin, North and South Dakota, and Manitoba and Saskatchewan, Canada, were primarily forest with few inhabitants. Washington, Alaska, and British Columbia, Canada, were populated with only dense woodlands; no one lived there.

By the end of the nineteenth century, with help from German and Norwegian immigrants, entire towns and cities had been established. The Swedish Americans were essential for this development. They led the way in cutting trees, breaking up sod, farming, and forming communities. American and Canadian settlements were established all the way to the West Coast by the time they had finished. And, collectively, Swedish Americans broke more ground in America than was cultivated in all of Sweden.

Continued on Page Two

Swedish Immigration (Continued from P.1)

In helping to expand America's borders to include over three million square miles, the immigrants helped transform it into one of the strongest nations in the world.

Swedish immigrants from the forestlands in northern Sweden introduced log cabins to North America. These sturdy homes were a vast improvement from the crude "soddies" that were typically their first homes.

Olaf Krans, a Swedish immigrant who journeyed to the Bishop Hill, Illinois, settlement with his parents in 1850, introduced Americans to a unique Swedish immigrant type of folk art. When he reached his fifties, Krans began to paint scenes of what he remembered about growing up in that religious community. His pictures are of women and men sowing and reaping; they show settlers breaking up the prairie and working to create a unique enclave of their own. His work is currently displayed at Bishop Hill State Historic Site.



National Gallery of Art
Harvesting with Grain Cradles

Another significant contribution of the Swedish immigrants to America was the establishment of free churches across the country. The impact of the Swedish-American religious communities is far-reaching and enduring. They established institutions of higher learning, charitable organizations, and publishing companies. Important from the beginning, these institutions represented the need to separate church and state.

NOTABLE SWEDISH AMERICANS

John Ericsson (1803-1889) was born in Värmland. Inventor and engineer, Ericsson went to America in 1839 and was most famous for designing the Union Army's *Monitor*—the first ironclad battleship ever made.

Alfred Nobel (1833-1896) was born in Stockholm and studied mechanical engineering in Russia and the United States. As a chemist and inventor, he developed dynamite making him a wealthy man. His misgivings for creating a weapon of destruction led him to set up the philanthropic fund that awards the Nobel Prize for accomplishments in various disciplines each year.

Charles Walgreen (1873-1939) was born in Knox County, Illinois, to Swedish parents. He started his career working in a shoe factory where he ended up injuring his hand. After quitting that position, he took a job in a drug store. By 1901, he had opened up his own drug store in Chicago. Today, there are almost 4,000 Walgreen's stores throughout the United States and Puerto Rico.

Carl Sandburg (1878-1967) was born in Galesburg, Illinois, to Swedish immigrant parents. He is best known for his six-volume biography of Abraham Lincoln. He held jobs as a milk driver, soldier in the Spanish-American War, farmer, and salesman before he became a journalist and poet.

Annual Korv Meal

On Monday, October 9, after the Leif Erikson Day celebration, Julian Fossen and some of our members made potatiskorv to serve at our meal meeting this **Sunday, November 12. Arrive at 2:30, meal will be served at 3:00 p.m.**

Bring a Scandinavian side dish of potatoes, or vegetable such as rutmos, pickled beets, pickled cucumbers, or dessert such as rice pudding or bakery to share and a big appetite to enjoy this wonderful traditional Swedish meal. Hardtack, cheese, lingon, coffee, soft drinks, and tableware will be provided. All for \$10 per person. Come and bring the family to delight in the fellowship and one of our favorite Swedish dinners!



Cuisine Favored by Finns

Finns have always appreciated basic straightforward, natural flavors, textures and appearances in their food. Food is a gift, to be tampered with as little as possible, so that the God-given flavors remain true, and the nutritional qualities stay high. This does not mean that Finnish food is dull! Finnish food nourishes the soul as well as the body. Just ask a Finn about his favorite food remembered from childhood and you may listen to a tale of simmered soups, baking breads, hearty rice puddings, fresh fish and stewed meats.

Whole grains, exemplified in their breads and porridges, fresh vegetables, potatoes, wild berries, mushrooms, game, and fish all figure highly in the Finnish diet. Soups are hearty, though simple and sometimes delicate. *Kesakeitto* is made ideally in the fleeting moment when the garden produces tender young vegetables that can be simmered in cream and savored for all their natural flavors.

Norwegian Cuisine

New eating places have sprung up in Norway over the last 15 years—5,000 of them in Oslo alone. There is something to offer for even the most discerning of palates including exotic international cuisines. Norwegian specialties such as lamb and cabbage stew, dumplings (*kumle*), reindeer medallions, or marinated salmon (*gravlaks*) are not to be missed. There are daily deliveries of fresh fish from both the Barents Sea and the North Sea. From February to April, spawning cod from the Lofoten Islands is a delicacy. Before Christmas, *lutefisk* is a specialty. Ethnic cafes and restaurants offer dishes from around the world and the food in less pretentious places is often good and not expensive. Alcohol, even beer, is high.

In Memoriam



May Calgren Bana

May was born August 20, 1921. She passed away on August 11, 2023, just nine days before her 102nd birthday.

She was the beloved wife of the late Joseph and mother of Lynne Fountain and Eric (Cindy). Loving grandmother of Amanda Donges (Jorge Orlandini), and great-grandmother of Olivia and Lydia Orlandini.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, October 7, at East Shore United Methodist Church.

Memorial contributions in her name can be made to the East Shore Church Memorial Fund, 23002 Lakeshore Blvd., Euclid, Ohio.



Marie-Louise Nyborg

Marie-Louise was born in Norrköping on May 20, 1936. She was the beloved wife of the late Åke Nyborg. She was a loving mother to Caroline Creutzer (Lars) of Berlin, Germany, Charlotte Durand (Pierre-Etienne) of Long Grove, IL, and Fredrik Nyborg (Rie) of Moreland Hills.

She was the dear grandmother of Anita, Oskar, Edgar, Lukas, George and Alexis with a great-grandchild on the way.

The family prefers that those who wish may make contributions in her name to the Church of the Western Reserve, 30500 Fairmount Blvd., Pepper Pike, OH 44124.

Services were private. Interment at Knollwood Cemetery, Mayfield Hts., Ohio.



Shooting Deaths in Sweden

September became the worst month for shooting deaths in Sweden since records began in 2016, after two people died in separate shootings bringing the monthly total to 11. Another person died the following day after a bomb blast.

The country has been rocked by a deadly wave of shootings and explosions—many suspected to be linked to a split within the Foxtrot criminal gang.

In the first of the shootings, an 18-year-old man was killed at a busy sports ground in the southwest Stockholm suburb of Mälärhöjden, where children and young people were training. Later a second man was shot dead in Jordbro, just south of Stockholm.

A 25-year-old woman died in the hospital from injuries sustained when a bomb went off in Storvreta, outside Uppsala, the university city north of Stockholm. The blast, which damaged five houses is being treated by police as a murder. Swedish media said the woman who died was probably not the target.

Three people have been detained on suspicion of complicity in the Jordbro shooting, and two have been arrested over the Uppsala explosion, which was so violent that the facades of two houses were blown away.

In response to the latest incidents, Sweden's national police commissioner, Anders Thornberg, said: "Innocent people are being murdered and injured."

The police are doing everything in their power to stop the violence, he added. "Criminal conflicts in Sweden are a serious threat to the safety and security of the country."

In a national address, the prime minister, Ulf Kristersson, said it was "a difficult time for Sweden", blaming "political naivety" and "unsuccessful integration".

Kristersson, whose minority-run government came into power a year ago after an election dominated by debates on gang crime, added: "Sweden has never seen anything like it. No country in Europe has seen anything like it." Pledging to "chase" and "defeat" the gangs, he said those involved would be sent to court and if they were from outside Sweden, they would be deported. Swedish law, he said, was not built for "gang crime and child soldiers" and that they would put in place all the resources needed. "Everything is on the table," he said.

Kristersson has met with the national chief of police and commander in chief of the military "to see how the armed forces can help the police fight the gangs."

For several years Sweden has been in the grip of a conflict between gangs fighting over arms and drug trafficking, involving firearms and bombs. Magdalena Andersson, a former prime minister and the leader of the main opposition Social Democrats party, called for the military to be drafted to help with policing duties such as protecting government buildings so police could focus on stopping and investigating violent crime.

In a press conference in Stockholm, Johan Rydwik, the head of the capital's regional investigation unit, said multiple preliminary investigations were under way. While the crisis mainly concerns Stockholm, he said, the rest of the country is affected also.

In 2022, there were 391 shootings in Sweden, of which 62 were fatal, while 45 people were killed by gunfire the previous year. As of September 15, 45 have been killed during 2023.

Vasa Order of America
Nobel-Monitor Lodge #130
3236 Berkeley Avenue
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118-2055

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Grattis På Födelsedagen!



November

- 5 Fred Monago
- 15 Sandy Johnson
- 19 Bob Henry
- 23 Rita Hart

December

- 2 Lynn Binnie
- 11 Gail Smith
- 17 Malou Monago
- 19 David Benson
- 22 Carol Pearson
- 28 Linda Jaenson
- 29 Birgitta Herron

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Little Ole's teacher, Miss Heggebust, had announced her engagement to a local man. Her students apparently shared her joy because they brought her gifts. Little Thorlev, whose dad owned a fruit store, brought a box of oranges. Mary Tofteskov, whose parents ran a ladies shop, brought her a purse. Little Johnny Jensen, whose dad had a bakery, brought her some delicious Danish rolls. Little Ole, whose dad, Ole, ran a liquor store brought a box and set it on the teacher's desk. The teacher noticed something dripping from the box, and as she excitedly worked on the strings binding the box, she touched the fluid coming from the box and tasted it. "Mmmmmmm," said the teacher. "I'll bet your dad sent some fine French champagne or wine from his store?"

"No ma'am," said Little Ole. "Puppies."