

# Hälsningar

från Rockford, Illinois, USA Global Partners Build Local Wealth

The RAEDC is a proud member of Swedish-American Chambers of Commerce/Chicago



SPRING 2010

You're Invited to IBED 2010 in Rockford, Illinois

More than 400 international attendees are expected to come to Rockford, Illinois for the fourth annual International Bioenergy Days, September 26-29, 2010. They will learn about the latest advances in bioenergy technologies, commercialization and policies as well as make valuable connections for their region, business and organization.



"This is where decision-makers, entrepreneurs and managers from Sweden, the rest of Europe and the U.S. will meet to pursue their common interest, to turn bioenergy technology into business opportunities and create new jobs," said Mark Podemski of the Rockford Area Economic Development Council.

One of the keynote speakers will be John A. "Skip" Laitner, director of economic and social analysis for the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE). Mr. Laitner is an energy economist who has given many technical seminars around the world.

To register, visit [www.ibed2010.com](http://www.ibed2010.com). For sponsorship opportunities, contact Mary Cacciopi at [mcacciopi@rokfordil.com](mailto:mcacciopi@rokfordil.com).

## Lidköping Students Build Swedish Home in Rockford

Lidköping and Rockford continue their Industrial Partnership Agreement with the ongoing exchange among De la Gardie Gymnasiet in Lidköping and East High School and SwedishAmerican Foundation in Rockford as they work on their second house project. Construction students from each school will build an energy-efficient "Swedish-Influenced House" in Rockford. The house was developed with input from both schools and will feature Swedish products.

A group of carpentry students and teachers from De la Gardie will be in Rockford this fall to help build the home. It will be included as part of International Bioenergy Days, September 26-29, 2010.



In May carpentry students and a teacher from East High School as well as the project manager from the foundation visited Sweden as part of the exchange program to learn about Swedish construction methods. For more information, contact [lbengtsson83@gmail.com](mailto:lbengtsson83@gmail.com).

*Photo Caption: Carpentry students from East High School in Rockford, Illinois in front of a typical Swedish farmer's home in Lidköping. Also shown are Linnea Bengtsson, Lidköping project coordinator, top row center; Melody Pobjecky, Rockford project coordinator, top row right and Matt Walling, East High teacher, next row right.*

## New Lidköping Trainee in Rockford

Lidköping trainee Filip Lasson will be working at the Rockford Area Economic Development Council in Rockford, Illinois from July through September as part of the Industrial Partnership Agreement between the two cities. He will help with IBED 2010 which will be held in Rockford, September 26-29.

Filip is from Ystad, Sweden and is studying culture tourism. He is fluent in Swedish and English and knows the basics of German. Welcome, Filip! Contact Filip at [flasson@rockfordil.com](mailto:flasson@rockfordil.com).



### Radius Rebounds in 2010; 'Smart Grids' Help Swedish Company

The high-tech Swedish company that moved their U.S. headquarters to Rockford, Illinois in 2007 says their 2010 business level is strong. Their wireless communication, industrial automation and remote control systems are used by utility companies around the world.

Radius attributes the business improvement to the increased use of "smart grids" that deliver electricity more efficiently through two-way digital technology. Smart grids include monitoring systems that track electricity and information, products that Radius designs and manufactures. For more information, visit [www.radius.net](http://www.radius.net).



### SwedishAmerican Chorus Group To Meet in Rockford

The American Union of Swedish Singers, [www.auss.org](http://www.auss.org), selected Rockford, Illinois as the site for its Central Division Convention, June 16-19. Events will be held at the historic Coronado Theatre, the Midway Village Museum and the Stockholm Inn, a popular restaurant.

The AUSS consists of 29 Swedish choruses in 12 states that promote Swedish chorus singing. It also has chorus exchanges in the U.S., Canada and Sweden. The choruses will perform for each other at the convention.

A highlight of the convention will be a special Grand Concert featuring Swedish tenor Mats Carlsson, the first recipient of the Jussi Bjorling Society Award. Mr. Carlsson is one of the most sought-after tenors in Sweden, [matscarlsson.net](http://matscarlsson.net). He has performed in operas and concerts through Scandinavia, Germany, United States and India.



*Photo Caption: American Union of Swedish Singers perform at past convention.*

### Rockford Celebrates Swedish Heritage This Summer

First Annual Kubb Tournament & Sweden National Day Celebration, June 5

The Rockford Swedish Historical Society will host the tournament at Ingersoll Centennial Park.

Midsommar Festival, June 19

The busy Rockford Swedish Historical Society hosts

its annual Midsommar Festival, a community-wide celebration of Swedish heritage, arts and activities. Included in the day-long event will be a Swedish bakery, Swedish marknad, art exhibits, children's activities, a traditional majstang and live entertainment. [www.swedishhistorical.org](http://www.swedishhistorical.org)

Anders Hultman Art Exhibit, June 4-Sept. 30

Intimate, dreamlike paintings of the artist's native Göteborg have been exhibited around the world and can be viewed this summer at Anderson Japanese Garden in Rockford. The garden has been ranked the top Japanese garden in North America by the Journal of Japanese Gardening. [www.andersongardens.org](http://www.andersongardens.org)



#### ABOUT THE RAEDC

The primary role of the Rockford Area Economic Development Council is to enhance wealth creation in the Rockford Region by marketing the area and helping employers retain and create quality jobs. The RAEDC works closely with many partners to serve as a one-stop resource for clients, to improve the competitiveness of the region and to engage the community in the work of economic development.

For information about the RAEDC, contact Mark Podemski at [mpodemski@rockfordil.com](mailto:mpodemski@rockfordil.com).

