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Meet Lou T. Fisk!



The *Lutfisk* (Swedish word) season is over for this time, but I was intrigued by finding the above picture, which at first glance seemed to be in Madison, WI. But a local authority (Hi! Ron!) told me that it was Madison, MN, that wanted to be known as the *Lutfisk capital*, a place I had never heard of (there are many such places in the U.S.).

A little digging told me that this Madison is found as the county seat of Lac qui Parle County, almost on the border of South Dakota, due west of St. Paul, and it has 1,768 inhabitants. The city website also tells that it is situated on the 45th Parallel – halfway between the North Pole and the Equator. According to my map that Parallel also goes through southern France, the Alps, Hungary, Rumania, and Ukraine as examples. Sweden is placed around the 60th.

Madison, MN, seems to be a very peaceful place. On the website www.epodunk.com the following crime statistics are found: The num-

ber of violent crimes recorded by the FBI in 2003 was **0**. The number of murders and homicides was **0**. The violent crime rate was **0** per 1,000 people.

The Ethnic makeup consists of the following groups:

- Norwegian - 39%
- German - 33%
- Swedish - 7%
- Irish - 4%
- English - 4%
- Danish - 2%
- French (except Basque) - 2%
- Dutch - 2%
- Polish - 1%
- Scotch-Irish - 1%
- Finnish - 1%

So the Norwegians seems to be the dominant group. They have a stronger tradition of eating dried fish than the Swedes, so this is probably why they chose to become the *Lutfisk Capital of the U.S.*

Here is the story of Lou T. Fisk: One of the most notable attractions of J.F.

Jacobson Park is a giant fiberglass cod fish that welcomes visitors coming to Madison.

Two Madison Chamber members, Dick Jackson and Scotty Kuehl, suggested to the Madison City Council on Dec. 8, 1982, that Madison should be named the Lutefisk Capital of the United States. As part of this project, a large fish symbol was ordered from F.A.S.T. Corporation in Sparta, Wisc. The 25-foot-long cod was constructed from fiberglass and sealed with a special finish using Dupont acrylics.

The fish, later named Lou T. Fisk, was officially dedicated at a ceremony held on June 23, 1983. Lou paraded through the streets of Madison to the Jacobson Park, where he still holds court.

The information was found on the city's website:

<http://www.ci.madison.mn.us/>

Elisabeth Thorsell

A Correction for the *Emibas* project

On *Emibas Smed* (blacksmith) *Johan Gustaf Karlsson*, born 29 Aug 1850 in Ramsberg (Väsm.), and his wife *Anna Magnolia "Wohnded,"* born 18 Jan 1856 in Uppsala län, left Flodhammar, Hed, (Väsm.) for North America on 1879, Sep.16.

In Worcester, Massachusetts, Anna's name is listed as Anna M. Werme, wife of Gustaf Carlson on her death record of 29 Oct. 1891. Her age at death was given as 34 years 9 months 9 days. This would calculate her birth as 20 Jan. 1857, but I have noticed that at times the age can be wrong. Her parents on her death record are listed as L. G. Werme and

Stina K. Parat.

Checking the *husförhörslängd* for Hed (AI:15 pg 15) I read the entry as Anna Manolia, possible Wärme, and that she was born in Fröskog (P), and that they had married 12 July 1879.

A check of the marriage record shows Johan Gustaf Karlsson and Anna Magnolia, maybe Wärme, getting married on 12 July 1879.

I then checked the birth records for Fröskog, and on 18 Jan. 1856 *Anna Magnolia* was born to Lars Werme and Stina Parat in the village of Bodane. Checking the *husförhörslängd* (AI:12 pg. 4) I found the family listed as Lars Gustaf Werme and

Stina Cajsa Parath. This proved that Anna Magnolia Wohnded was really Anna Magnolia Werme as her death certificate stated.

Kay Sheldon
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News from the Swedish Colonial Society

The *Swedish Colonial Society*, the oldest genealogical society with a Swedish background, has a newsletter, *Swedish Colonial News*, which is supposed to be a quarterly, but has lately been published 2 times a year.

In the latest issue, Summer 2010, there is found the last article of the Forefather's series by Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig, who unfortunately passed away in November 2009.

In this article Dr. Craig discusses the *Toy* and *King* families of Senamensing, New Jersey.

In another article Ellen T. Rye, chair of the Publications Committee of the society, tells the story of what happened to Dr. Craig's huge library and collection of research notes, gathered during many years. During all these years he had, for instance, done hundreds of genealogies, some just covering a period way back in time, and others covering the whole time frame from the 1600s to the present day. And then there were all the unfiled heaps of papers probably around 10,000 sheets of paper, with



notes. Each of them needs to be read and filed with the right family, a huge task.

Books and more books were also to be moved to a new home.

The Craig collection is now in the capable hands of the Lutheran Seminary in Mount Airy, just outside Philadelphia.

The Lutheran Archives Center in Mount Airy, PA

Lutheran Archives Center at Philadelphia is the Northeast Regional Archives (Region 7) for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). It is a part of a network of nine regional archives programs and a national level (churchwide) archives in the ELCA. Our service area is limited to Eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Upstate New York (excluding the Metropolitan New York City area) and New England. We carry on the work of our predecessors

in the first Lutheran Church organization in America, the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium of Pennsylvania and Adjacent States, founded on 15 August 1748, by Henry Melchior Mühlberg. The archives was recognized as a part of the church organization in 1792. The archives collections are now completely contained in a large vault area with compact shelving, now better organized. A reference library room provides books frequently used, as well as

space for researchers to work in comfortable surroundings.

Lutheran Archives Center is open Tuesdays through Fridays, 1 to 4 p.m., *by appointment*. The fee for on-site genealogical research is \$5.00 per day. Photocopies under staff supervision are available at prevailing rates.

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