

AMERICAN SWEDISH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

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-- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE --

Get a taste of Swedish summer With the American Swedish Historical Museum's Summer Crayfish Party Friday, August 6, 2010 at 6:30pm

In keeping with the theme of our culinary exhibition, *Go Swedish! Smörgåsbord and Beyond*, come and experience a typical late Swedish summer meal at the American Swedish Historical Museum. **Join us for the museum's annual Crayfish Party on Friday, August 6 at 6:30**, when plates will be piled high with crayfish, cooked Swedish-style in salted water with lots of dill. The crayfish meal is accompanied by potato salad, green salad, bread, Swedish cheese and dessert. Swedish meatballs with ligo berry jam are available for those Americans whom have yet to catch the crayfish craze. Come eat, drink and make merry to mark the close of summer in Swedish style!

Admission to the Crayfish Party is \$40 for members of the museum and \$45 for non-members. Please call 215-389-1776 or email bdavis@americanswedish.org to reserve your space at the party. **Reservations are required by July 30, 2010. No refund after RSVP date.**



Carl Larsson, *Kräftfisket (The Crayfish Party)*, 1888

The Swedish tradition of feasting on crayfish at the end of summer dates back about 100 years. At one time the lakes of central Sweden were filled with crayfish, but overfishing decimated their population. Finally, the government prohibited the catching of crayfish except during a short time in late summer. After going the whole summer without the delicacy, the return of crayfish to the dinner table in August became great cause for celebration.

Crayfish parties in Sweden are often held out of doors in the moonlight with big paper lanterns and festive colored lights strung for decoration. Paper napkins, hats, bibs and paper plates all have a crayfish motif. And everyone raises their glass of aquavit to sing traditional Swedish drinking songs.

The American Swedish Historical Museum is located in scenic FDR Park at 1900 Pattison Avenue in South Philadelphia near the Sports Complex. Plenty of free parking is available. For those taking public transportation, the Broad Street Subway's Pattison Avenue stop is within walking distance, or SEPTA's Route 17 (Naval Base) can bring you right to the Museum.

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