

# One **Big** Thing

U.S. Embassy Stockholm

## May 2007 Newsletter

### Ambassador Michael Wood Visits Skåne

Ambassador Wood made his first trip to Skåne April 26-27. At IDEON Science Park in Lund he met with a number of entrepreneurs in the field of alternative energy who are interested in connecting to the American market and American venture capital. Several of the companies were on the list that the Ambassador presented to venture capital firms in California on April 19. At Lund University's Faculty of Engineering the Ambassador was introduced to new developments in solar power and emissions control. The Ambassador and Public Affairs Counselor Robert Hilton also attended the Crafoord Prize banquet honoring two Americans, Wallace Broecker and Robert Trivers, winners of the Prize in 2006 and 2007, respectively.

Governor Göran Tunhammar hosted much of the Ambassador's program in Malmö, including lunch with representatives of the sustainable business sector in the region and a tour of Turning Torso and the Western Harbor. The Ambassador also visited Dresser Wayne, an American firm that is a leading manufacturer of pumps that deliver ethanol, biodiesel, compressed natural gas, and other alternative fuels. At Malmö Hogskolan the Ambassador discussed the One Big Thing with a group of university students, and Kockums AB introduced the Ambassador to the energy-generating potential of solar installations using Stirling engines.



Lars Frithiof, CEO of E.On Sweden, Ambassador Wood and Governor Göran Tunhammar

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### U.S. – EU Summit



President Bush hosted the U.S. -EU Summit on April 30. The President, Chancellor Angela Merkel, and EU Commission President José Manuel Barroso discussed transatlantic economic integration, political and security issues and energy security. In the Summit Statement the leaders said that "ensuring secure, affordable supplies of energy and

ackling climate change are central, interlinked global challenges facing the international community. Addressing these issues requires urgent, sustained global action and an integrated policy approach, using a wide range of regionally, nationally or internationally defined policy tools and measures. We are determined to ensure access to affordable, clean, and secure sources of energy to underpin sustainable global economic growth and to protect our environment.” To read the full statement, please see: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2007/04/20070430-8.html>

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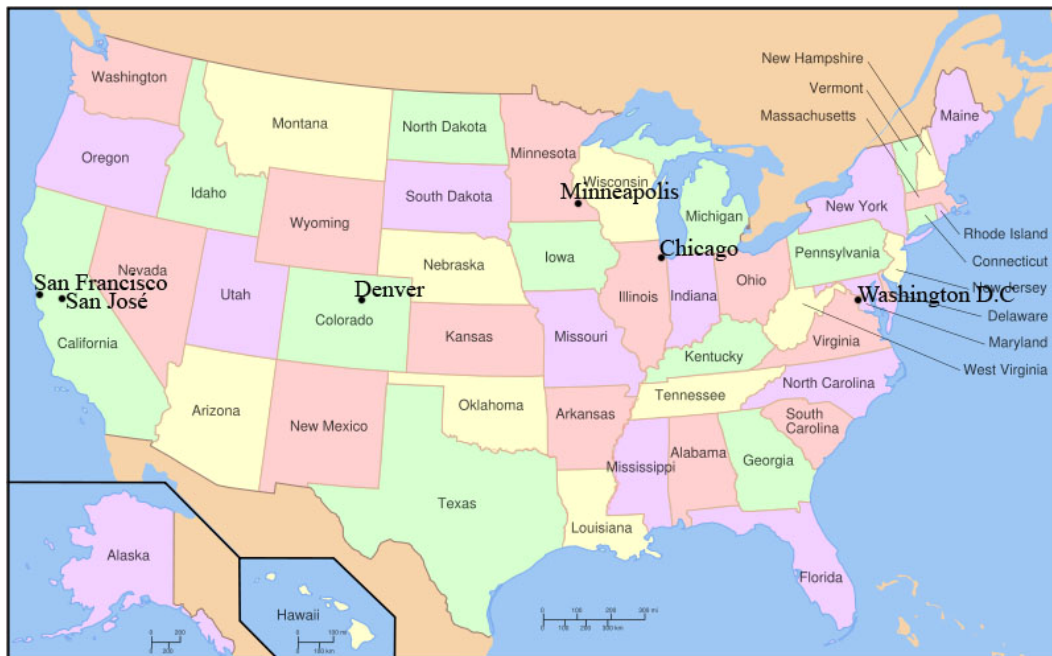
## Ambassadors Barnstorm Across the U.S.A.

Ambassadors Ware (Finland), Whitney (Norway), Cain (Denmark) and Wood (Sweden) undertook the first-ever “Nordic Ambassadors’ Tour” of the United States April 14-20. More than six months in the making, the tour stopped in Minneapolis, Chicago, San Francisco and Denver and included some 24 major events involving over 740 U.S. and Nordic Companies. The U.S. Department of Commerce organized the trip.



From left, Ambassador Benson Whitney, Ambassador Wood and Ambassador James Cain.

## Highlights of the Nordic Ambassadors’ Tour:



1. Minneapolis: Business breakfast with 150 corporate executives on the theme of “Doing Business with the Nordic Countries,” moderated by Vice President Walter Mondale;

Renewable Energy Forum at the University of Minnesota; reception hosted by Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty.

2. Chicago: Meeting with Jöran Hägglund, State Secretary of the Ministry for Enterprise and Energy and Sweden's Ambassador to the U.S. Gunnar Lund; Swedish American Chamber of Commerce Entrepreneurial Days, including plenary session attended by more than 200 from the business community; meetings at the Chicago Climate Exchange (<http://www.chicagoclimatex.com/>) and Argonne Labs (<http://www.anl.gov/>).
3. San Francisco: Ambassador Wood introduced 30 Swedish clean tech start-ups to 18 American venture capitalists in a meeting at Wallenberg Hall; roundtable meeting with Mayor's Clean Tech Advisory Council ([http://www.sfenvironment.org/our\\_policies/overview.html?ssi=12](http://www.sfenvironment.org/our_policies/overview.html?ssi=12)).
4. Denver: Ambassador Wood visited the National Renewable Energy Labs (<http://www.nrel.gov/>).
5. Washington D.C.: Ambassador Wood met with President Bush and staff from U.S. Congressional committees relevant to the One Big Thing.



Professor Stig Hagström, Wallenberg Learning Center and Ambassador Wood

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## Department of Energy Awards \$8.2 Million for Hydrogen Storage Research

The Department of Energy (DOE) announced on April 12th that it will provide up to \$8.2 million over four years for six hydrogen storage research projects. Hydrogen storage technologies are needed for use in both transportation and for stationary power generation and are integral to the President's Hydrogen Fuel Initiative. DOE's hydrogen storage activities focus on the ability to carry enough hydrogen onboard a vehicle to enable a drive range of over 300 miles, while still meeting customer expectations for performance. The selected projects will focus on these storage goals and on understanding material safety in order to select appropriate materials for future vehicles.



President George W. Bush and Rick Scott, Shell Hydrogen, L.L.C., at a Washington D.C. Shell Station, the first integrated gasoline/hydrogen station in North America. White House photo by Paul Morse

The organizations selected for research include DOE's Argonne National Laboratory in Argonne, Illinois; DOE's Sandia National Laboratories in Livermore, California; Miami University in Oxford, Ohio; United Technologies Research Center in East Hartford, Connecticut; and the University of

Hawaii in Honolulu. See the DOE press release <http://www.energy.gov/news/4944.htm> for more information.



Mr. Jeffrey Serfass, President of the U.S. National Hydrogen Association, will visit Stockholm May 21-22 in support of the One Big Thing. He will give a public lecture May 22 in cooperation with the think-tank Eudoxa, <http://www.eudoxa.se/content/>.

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### **Ambassador's Earth Day message**

On April 22<sup>nd</sup> the United States celebrated Earth Day. The following are excerpts from Ambassador Wood's message for Earth Day 2007. The full text can be read at: <http://www.usemb.se/newsflash/wood042007.html>

You often hear that the United States is the world's largest emitter of CO<sub>2</sub>. That is true, but it would be surprising if we weren't. With 5% of the world population we produce 25% of global wealth. We run by far the largest economy, so it only makes sense that we're the largest emitter of greenhouse gases. The important thing is what direction we're going; the important thing is the trend line....

So what's been happening with greenhouse gas intensity? Well, that of the U.S. dropped by 7.5% in 2000-2004. The EU's intensity fell, too - by 4.5%. How did we achieve these goals? Through a combination of efforts, both in the public and private sectors. In 2001, President Bush set a target of an 18% reduction in the greenhouse gas intensity for the U.S. economy by 2012 - and we are well on track to achieving that target.

It will take all of us working together-the governments, the market, and civil society - to break the link between economic activity and greenhouse gas emissions. The environment is, after all, for everyone. So is the earth. I believe that we must put national, political and ideological differences behind us and seek ways to truly cooperate to face the common challenges to our common future. If we do so, then every day will be Earth Day, for everyone.

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