



SEATTLE SWISS SOCIETY INC.

February 2018

seattleswiss.org

seattleswissclub@gmail.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| | | |
|---------------|-------------------|---------|
| Fondue | Monroe Swiss Hall | Mar 17 |
| Jass Tourney | Goetschel home | Mar 31 |
| Spaziergang | Kirkland CKC | May 6 |
| 1st of August | Edgebrook Club | Jul 29 |
| Hike & Wine | Stevens Pass | Sep 8-9 |
| Fall Dinner | Café de Paris | Oct 27 |
| Fondue Class | TBA | Nov 8 |
| Xmas Party | Monroe Swiss Hall | Dec 2 |

Online: <https://tinyurl.com/y85h8drp>

Frühlingsspaziergang

On Sunday, May 6th we'll once again be cruising the Cross Kirkland Corridor Trail. The route will feature a stop for some beverages and nourishment. We plan to hike as a group at a relaxed conversational pace that will be suitable for all ages. Leashed dogs are welcome, too.

Walk, talk, eat, drink. Always a good time!

We will have more information which we will share via email.

Contact Rick Butzberger: 747-444-1098

buetzli@gmail.com

FONDUE

"Fondue isch guet und git a guet i Luune"

Please join us for our traditional Swiss Cheese Fondue on Saturday, March 17th at 3 PM at the Monroe Swiss Hall.

The cost is \$25 for Seattle and Monroe members and \$30 for guests.

We ask that you bring an appetizer, salad or dessert to share. Also please bring your fondue pots, burners and forks (all marked with your name). Without them we are unable to serve our many guests.

As you know, good Swiss Kirsch is an important ingredient for a nice fondue and donations will be greatly appreciated.

To sign up, you can pay via PayPal at seattleswiss.org or complete the Reservation Form on page 4, and let us know what you will bring.

JASS TOURNAMENT!

March 31st - 1:00 pm

VENUE CHANGE! This year's Jass Tourney will return to the home of **Philippe Goetschel**. Please email Philippe at

philippe@pgoetschel.com

no later than **March 24th** if you would like to participate, and to find out what you can bring.

As you are aware, this party is to determine the Jass champion. However, if you are a player with limited experience, you are invited as well. We will have 1-2 tables for aspiring players and you may also observe the "masters". Please let Philippe know your ability level.

Masthead color courtesy of Brenda Sexton and associates at Sexton Communications LLC.
253.315.2338 Brenda.Sexton@comcast.net

Seattle Swiss Facebook Photos:

https://www.facebook.com/SeattleSwissSociety/photos_stream

AUSLÄNDER CORRESPONDENCE

We can't believe that it's already been a year since we said "adieu" to our friends at the Swiss Club.

As soon as we arrived in Switzerland, we moved into my grandparents' old farmhouse, the "tan." We started exploring all of the familiar places that weren't so familiar anymore. Do you know what it's like to hear the name of a place, town or street where you grew up – a place you've never been before, but for some reason you feel like you know it because it's where you grew up? That's what it was like for us after we moved here. We took day trips on Roland's days off and visited Schaffhausen, Bachtel, the Klausenpass, Amden, Stoos and much more. These places sounded familiar, so familiar that we felt like we'd been there before, but when we moved here it was almost as if we were discovering a new country for the first time.

Roland started working at "Speck," a restaurant at a small, private airfield in Feraltdorf outside of Zurich. He enjoyed the work and his co-workers, but he quickly realized he had a lot to learn: how to cook with electricity instead of gas, how to work a "hold-o-matic," how to use a steamer. It was a great place for him to get familiar with the ways of the Swiss restaurant business. Meanwhile, Doris was focusing on getting better and tending to the vegetable garden at the farmhouse.

We appreciate life here in Switzerland. Things like the quality of the health care system, the speed of the insurance company, the friendliness of people at Coop and Migros, and the efficiency of the DOT wowed us when we arrived. You should have seen the woman who helped us when we registered our car – her face when we pulled out our old paper "fahrzeug ausweis" (Vehicle passport) from 1976 was priceless!

At the end of the summer, we decided to move to canton Bern where Doris grew up. Roland found a new job in Nidau, a town just outside of Biel. And now, for the second time our life, we live in an apartment. It's been a steep learning curve because there are very strict rules we need to follow: set laundry days, quiet time from 12-2pm, no mowing the lawn on your lunch break, no hanging laundry out on Sundays, no vacuum cleaning or hammering on the weekends...

Roland went to the city hall recently to register his bicycle to get the rectangular license plate. The woman looked at him as if he were from another planet. (Editor's note: A common theme apparently!) "I'm sorry, what?" "You need what? For what?" "Häää?" Then she sent him to the police station and the officer there had a similar reaction: "You need what exactly?", and then finally, "Oh! You don't have an e-bike? Well then you don't need to register... we don't do that anymore."

We like how life here forces us to slow down. No shopping from 12-2pm because small shops – grocery stores, clothing stores, pharmacies – are closed. In the evening, most stores close around 6pm, unless it's Thursday or Friday and then they stay open late... until 8pm. This makes Saturday a crazy shopping day at Migros. Almost every store or restaurant is closed on Sundays, and since you can't go shopping or go out to eat, you go for walks or hikes. Or you watch sports on TV for 10 hours straight (the Swiss are nuts about sports!).

So far, we don't really miss the US. We do miss Simone and our friends though.

It's not easy to make new friends in Switzerland. People keep to themselves and it usually takes time before you can use "du" – the informal tense – with someone. It gets easier if you belong to a sports team or group like the "turnverein," "musikverein," "feuerwehr" or any of the other obscure clubs that exist. That's where you find like-minded people and the "kamaradschaft" that the Seattle Swiss Club has. We'll find something eventually, but for now we're just taking it easy.

We've welcomed many visitors over the past year and we're always excited to show people around Nidau. If you're passing through Europe or Switzerland, don't forget to let us know. We'd love to see you!

And that's it for now. We love it here and we plan on staying, maybe we'll start the Swiss Seattle Club. If we do, you're all invited.

With love from Switzerland,
Roland & Doris

LINKS & STUFF

Seattle German resources: www.seattleaufdeutsch.com

From Gerard Wirz: www.iloveseatle.org

Swiss teachers wanted for the Greater Seattle German-American School - 206-349-3609

barbara@curranonline.com www.sagaschool.org

Monroe Swiss Colony

monroeswisscolony@yahoo.com

Monthly Meeting & Potluck Luncheon - 1st Sundays
Doors open at noon, lunch at 1 pm, then our meeting.

July/August - no meetings

Monroe Swiss Hall - 18500 Tualco Road, Monroe

For hall rental and club information, contact:

thorpe84@msn.com or call 425-327-4363

Tacoma Swiss Clubs

www.tacomaswiss.com

Swiss Club Helvetia of NCW (Leavenworth)

For information contact **Martin & Heidi Stoller**
(509)782-5808

Please Renew Today!

Seattle Swiss Society

seattleswiss.org

Now accepting 

Philippe Goetschel

Honorary Consul

Consulate of Switzerland

6920 94th Avenue SE
Mercer Island, WA 98040
206 228 8110

seattle@honrep.ch



www.swissemb.org

YOUR 2017 BOARD

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| President | Dick Reutimann | 206-232-7022 |
| VP & Newsletter | <i>Rick Bützberger</i> | 747-444-1098 |
| Treasurer | <i>Patty Richert</i> | 425-444-7672 |
| Secretary | <i>Tyler Reutimann</i> | |
| Events Chair | <i>Simone Oberholzer</i> | 425-753-3055 |
| Trustees | <i>Pattie Reutimann</i> | <i>Tom Dudler</i> |

FROM THE HONORARY CONSUL

Philippe Goetschel

- Roger Federer won his 20th Grand Slam title in Australia as the first male player to win so many titles. Now 36 years old, this makes him the most successful tennis player of all time. He has contributed a lot to Switzerland's worldwide image not only with his tennis accomplishment but also with his humble demeanor and his dedication to family life. My wife Laura says his good looks do not hurt him either.
- As of January 1, 2018, an apostille is required on all American civil status documents, including affidavit. Civil status changes (marital status, birth of children, death, name change, etc.) must be communicated to the Consulate General of San Francisco.
- An apostille is an additional form of authentication. Once you have certified the original document by a notary public you must send it to Olympia for additional certification. It can be done by mail, costs \$15 and instructions are here: sos.wa.gov/corps/apostilles/howtoobtainanapostilleorcification.aspx

Raclette Recap

On November 14th, a dozen of our members enjoyed a tasty raclette dinner at the home of the Bützbergers. We broiled a pair of cheeses (one Swiss and one from the USA (!), meats, fruits and vegetables while carrying on a delightful conversation. Thanks, Lynn and Rick!

Christmas Party Recap

We had a great turnout at our annual celebration at the Monroe Swiss Hall. As usual we had a delicious selection of potluck items to go with our turkey and ham. Santa made an appearance, much to the delight of the children, who eagerly (for the most part ;-)) shared their desires with him. We love your jolly visits!

General Meeting Recap

26 members attended the 2018 Annual Meeting. We reelected all of the Board members, while Hanspeter Aebersold volunteered to replace the outgoing Pattie Reutimann as Trustee. Thanks, Hanspeter, Pattie and the Board for your service! And, many thanks to Patty Richert for the delicious wurstsalat, and the rest of the Board for providing additional treats.

Membership Dues - Please Remit by March 31st

If you have not already paid (except Honorary Members), **please use** our Online Payment at seattleswiss.org or complete this form and send it together with your check made payable to **Seattle Swiss Society** to:

Patty Richert
4122 135th Pl SE
Bellevue, WA 98006

I / we enclose the following dues: **Family or Couple: \$30.00**

Single: \$20.00

First & Last Name(s): _____

If you have a new address, phone number, e-mail address (please note any changes below):

MARCH 17TH FONDUE RESERVATION FORM (or pay at seattleswiss.org)

Please complete and send with your check made out to **Seattle Swiss Society** no later than March 10th.

I/we will attend the Fondue Party at the **Monroe Swiss Hall**. Enclosed is a check for

\$ _____ for _____ members _____ guests (\$25 Seattle & Monroe members, \$30 guests)

Name(s) as you would like them on the name tags:

We will bring our children: Name(s) and age: _____

No charge for members under age 12.

I/ we will bring: (please let us know how many of each you will bring)

_____ Fondue Pot _____ Burner _____ Fondue Forks _____ Bottle of Kirsch

Appetizer (ready to serve) _____ Salad _____ Dessert _____

Please mail with check to:

Patty Richert
4122 135th Place SE
Bellevue, WA 98006

We encourage carpooling!

I/we am/are unable to drive to Monroe,
_____ **Please arrange for a ride for me/us.**

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Image courtesy of Дмитрий-5-Аверин



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