

SEATTLE SWISS SOCIETY INC.



www.seattleswiss.or

July 2010

Important Dates:

August 1	1st of August Celebration
August 21-22	Hike Stevens Pass
Oct. 22	Fall Dinner SSCC
Dec. 5	Christmas Party Monroe Hall

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PRESIDENTS' CORNER

Dear Friends,

We just returned from a trip to Switzerland. It is as beautiful as ever with lots of flowers in the gardens and windows boxes. The historic cities and towns with their well maintained houses on narrow streets and alleys are always a pleasure to visit. We did not rent a car this time and were impressed how smooth the train, bus and ship schedules are coordinated, all using common ticketing.

But then it is always nice to come back home to the Pacific Northwest.

The day Switzerland won the soccer game against Spain, the European champion, there was flag-waving and exuberant car honking all around. Of course things have returned to normal now that Switzerland has been eliminated. The Tour de Swiss bicycle race was held at the same time, but it was overshadowed by soccer.

Also much in the news was the Swiss – US banking

relationship and the approval of an agreement between the two countries by the Swiss parliament. Hopefully things will go back to normal in this aspect as well.

This year the 1st of August falls on a Sunday. We will have our picnic celebrating the Swiss National Holiday on the correct day. I am hoping that most of you will be able to join us.

Now that summer has finally arrived, go out and enjoy it.

Hans Saxer



1ST OF AUGUST CELEBRATION

To celebrate the Swiss National Day, please join us on Sunday, August 1, at the **Edgebrook Swim & Tennis Club** for our traditional, annual Swiss Picnic. The fun starts at **2:00 p.m.**

As a special treat, the **Reichlin Sisters** from *Tacoma* will join us and sing "Schweizer Lieder".

This is a great place to bring your children. Fun games are planned and they can also enjoy the pool. Please help us prepared by letting us know

the ages of the children by calling Patty Richert at 425 -444-7672.

Please bring your own wine and beer as we are not allowed to sell it at the Club. The Swiss Club will provide lemonade, ice water and coffee.



Bratwurst and/or Cervelat, each with a Mütschli (bun), Nussgipfel and Napoleons will be available at nominal cost. Please bring your favorite summer salad or side dish to share.

The number of tables and chairs is limited, so to enjoy a comfortable place you might want to bring your own picnic table and chairs.

We will have access to the Club pool for a fee of \$3.00 per person. If you plan to take a dip, be sure to bring your bathing suit and towel.

Edgebrook Swim & Tennis Club
13454 SE Newport Way
Bellevue

Directions on page 4

FONDUE DINNER RECAP

Our fondue party was held at the Monroe Swiss Hall on March 27. About 50 people enjoyed the wonders of cheese and bread, prepared by Roland Oberholzer and Rene Vogt, along with appetizers and desserts prepared by our guests.



and Margo and Mary Frances Reichlin.

The Seattle Swiss Society would also like to thank the Monroe Swiss Hall, our chairperson Margret Aebersold who did a wonderful job preparing for this event, and all those who helped make this event special. It was a wonderful afternoon/evening that was enjoyed by all.

We also had a special and wonderful singing performance provided by Annelis Caprez

Ein Mann kommt in eine Bank an der Zürcher Bahnhofstrasse und flüstert: "Ich möchte eine Million einzahlen." "Selbstverständlich", meint der Banker, "aber Sie müssen nicht flüstern, Armut ist keine Schande."

SWISS CONSUL RECEPTION RECAP

The Seattle Swiss Society hosted a cocktail reception to honor the appointment of **Julius Anderegg** as the new Swiss Consul General in San Francisco.

The reception was held in Seattle at *Kaspar's Restaurant* on April 29, 2010. Close to 40 people attended this outstanding evening to meet Mr. Anderegg. They enjoyed a variety of delicious hor d'oeuvres and desserts. Kaspar's did a fantastic job preparing the food and decorating the restaurant for the event.

The Seattle Swiss Society would like to extend a special thanks to Philippe Goetschel for his effort in coordinating the reception and to Kaspar's for making this a special evening.

FALL HIKE

Are you ready to enjoy the Cascade Mountains? This year we are trying an earlier date; so reserve the weekend of August 21/ 22.

What can you expect?

- Two days of moderate hiking in our great backcountry
- Camaraderie and socializing
- Enjoying great meals together
- Playing games in the evening or just relaxing and visiting with friends
- Overnight stay at the cabin at Stevens Pass

Even if you are not into hiking, you can still join the fun at the cabin. You will likely find somebody to join you for a short stroll in the mountains or a Sunday visit to Leavenworth.

A sign up sheet will be available at the 1st of August picnic.

Theres Fillmore will send out the final details and the reservation forms in

early August to all who indicated an interest.

If you think that you might come or you have any questions, please call Theres at 206-491-6337



JASS PARTY RECAP

This year our traditional Jass party was hosted by Martha & Tony Ruegg. 16 players competed to become our new champion. After a drink to strengthen our resolve, the games got under way. Drawing cards determined the teams for "Schieber" and "Handjass" for the four rounds.

Claire Wehrle won bronze and silver went to Bob Reutimann. But the really remarkable 2010 champion was **Werner Baer**, who won by a landslide. He deserves the crown - well at least his name will be engraved on our trophy and he gets to keep it one year. Werner was not only the overall winner, but he had the best

result in three games and second best in the fourth. Congratulations Werner, you showed all of us how to do it!

Everyone received a prize – a piece of Gruyere, and if you were in the top half a bottle of wine as well.

Of course almost as important as the Jass game is the camaraderie and meal that we enjoy together. There is no better place to enjoy that than at the home of a chef and his equally gifted wife - thank you Martha and Tony. Thanks also to all the players who contributed some food and drink.



JASS LESSONS

In January we started our Jass lessons to give beginners a chance to learn the Swiss game and, for those whose game is a bit "rusty", to brush up and polish their game. Thank you Pattie and Jason Richert for hosting these Sunday afternoon sessions for the 12-17 participants.

We hope that the interest keeps building and that we will grow some serious competition for our champion. If you are interested please call Pattie Richert or Hans Saxer. It is never too late to get started on the "Swiss national sport". And let's not forget the social interaction is just as important as winning the game.

YOUR 2010 BOARD

President: Hans Saxer 360-863-2094
Vice President: Roland Oberholzer 425-637-8750
Treasurer: Patty Richert 425-444-7672
Secretary: Dick Reutimann 206-232-7022
Events Chair: Margret Aebersold 425-353-0788
Newsletter: Hanna LeMaster 360-455-8376
Auditors: Cindy Hutter
 (Open)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2010



<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
August 1	1st August Celebration	Edgebrook Club
August 21/22	Hike	Stevens Pass
October 22	Fall Dinner	South Seattle Community College
December 5	Christmas Party	Monroe Swiss Hall



Rigi vom Lauerzersee

DIRECTIONS TO EDGEBROOK SWIM & TENNIS CLUB

13454 SE Newport Way
Bellevue, WA 98006
(425) 746-2786

From I-90 or 520, take I-405 South to Coal Creek Parkway Exit.

Take the **COAL CREEK PKY SE** exit
Bear Left on **COAL CREEK PKY SE**

Continue on **COAL CREEK PKY SE/SE COAL CREEK PKY**

Turn Left on **FACTORIA BLVD SE**

Turn Right on **SE 43RD ST/SE NEWPORT WAY**

Continue on **SE NEWPORT WAY**

At the light at **ALLEN ROAD**, turn left

Monroe Swiss Colony

September 11 Swiss Dance &
Bratwurst Dinner

For information contact: Eileen Crutcher
(360) 939-2334.

Swiss Club Helvetia of NCW (Leavenworth)

October Fall Meeting
December Samichlaus

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

Tacoma Swiss Society 2010 Calendar

July 29-31 Kids Kamp

August 1 First of August Bundesfeier
14 Fall Schwingfest & Dance
15 Buebe Schwingfest & Dance

September
25 Oktoberfest

November
13 Rippli Dinner/ Enzian Concert

For information call the Tacoma Swiss Society -
Joe & Louise Hospenthal at (253)896-2593

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Fall Dinner

By now our Fall Dinner at the South Seattle Community Center has become a tradition. This year it will be on Friday, October 22, so mark your calendar. The details and reservation form will follow in our next newsletter.



*For more information on our Club and to see pictures of past events, please check out our website at:
www.seattleswiss.org*

William Tell — The legend of freedom and independence of Switzerland

At a time soon after the opening of the Gotthard Pass, when the Habsburg emperors of Vienna sought to control Uri and thus control trans-Alpine trade, a new bailiff, Hermann Gessler, was despatched to Altdorf. The proud mountain folk of Uri had already joined with their Schwyzer and Nidwaldner neighbours at Rütli in pledging to resist the Austrians' cruel oppression, and when Gessler raised a pole in the central square of Altdorf and perched his hat on the top, commanding all who passed before it to bow in respect, it was the last straw.

William Tell, a countryman from nearby Bürglen, either hadn't heard about Gessler's command or chose to ignore it; whichever, he walked past the hat without bowing. Gessler seized Tell, who was well known as a marksman, and set him a challenge. He ordered him to shoot an apple off his son's head with his crossbow; if Tell was successful, he would be released, but if he failed or refused, both he and his son would die.

The boy's hands were tied. Tell put one arrow in his quiver and another in his crossbow, took aim, and shot the apple clean off his son's head. Gessler was impressed and infuriated – and then asked what the second arrow was for. Tell looked the tyrant in the eye and replied that if the first arrow had struck the child, the second would have been for Gessler. For such impertinence, Tell was arrested and sentenced to lifelong imprisonment in the dungeons of Gessler's castle at Küssnacht, northeast of Luzern. During the long boat journey a violent storm arose on the lake and the oarsmen, unfamiliar with the lake, begged with Gessler to release Tell so that he could steer them to safety. Gessler acceded and Tell cannily maneuvered the boat close to the shore, then leapt to freedom, landing on a flat rock (the Tell-splatte) and simultaneously pushing the boat back into the stormy waters.

Determined to see his task through and use the second arrow, Tell hurried to Küssnacht. As Gessler and his party walked along on a dark lane called Hohlegasse on their way to the castle, Tell leapt out, shot a bolt into the tyrant's heart and melted back into the woods to return to Uri. His comrades were inspired by Tell's act of bravery to throw off the yoke of Habsburg oppression in their homeland, and to remain forever free.



History of Switzerland

Year	Fact
1291	The 3 states Uri, Schwyz and Unterwalden - the so called "Ur-Kantone" unite against the surrounding aggressors. A citizen of each state swears on August 1st, 1291 on a small mountain named "Rütli": "we will be a one and only nation of brothers ..." This leads to the term confederation ("Eidgenossenschaft")
1332	Luzern joins the Swiss Federation
1351	Zürich joins the Swiss Federation
1352	Glarus and Zug join the Swiss Federation
1353	Bern joins the Swiss Federation - 8 states form the <i>acht alten Orte</i> ("eight old states")
1460	Foundation of the university of Basel which later became the first university of Switzerland
1481	Fribourg and Solothurn join the Swiss Federation
1500	Beginning of a new area called "Renaissance", people become interested in science
1501	Basel and Schaffhausen join the Swiss Federation
1513	Appenzell joins the Swiss Federation
1522	Beginning of the "Reformation"
1648	Declaration of Independence - Switzerland becomes an independent Nation
1803	Sankt Gallen, Graubünden, Thurgau, Ticino, Aargau and Vaud join the Swiss Federation
1812	The Swiss Federation declares its neutrality
1815	Valais, Neuchâtel and Genève join the Swiss Federation - Switzerland gets its final boundaries

From the Publisher's Desk

Do you have any news, information, thoughts or ideas that you would like to share with other members of the Club? Please contact your publisher/editor, Hanna LeMaster, at lemaster22@gmail.com or (360) 455-8376

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