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Jan/Feb 2013

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Swiss Herald

The Swiss Herald is a non-profit newsletter published 5 times a year by the Swiss Society of Vancouver, under the direction of the Board. It is distributed free of charge to the membership of the SSV with no Internet, as well as through the website of the SSV. For all Swiss Herald information or for advertising inquiries, please contact:

Elke Porter 604 828 8788 or
kitsilanogerman@hotmail.com

2013 /Editorial/Advertising
Issue Deadline Mailing

- #1 Jan 15th - Jan 31st, 2013
- #2 Mar 15th - March 31st 2013
- #3 May 15th - May 31st, 2013
- #4 Sep 15th - Sep30th, 2013
- #5 Nov 15th - Nov 30th, 2013

The editors and publishers of the Swiss Herald do not accept responsibility for inaccuracies and/or omissions of materials submitted by its members via telephone, e-mail or in person.

Swiss Herald

The Official Magazine of the Swiss Society of Vancouver since 1953
<http://www.swiss-society.org>

Letter from the Vice/President



Gruezi mitenand,

I hope that the Holiday season was a good one for all of you! Even though it's almost the middle of January we, Mirjam Mai and myself, wish you a healthy and happy new Year!

The Executive Board of the Swiss Society has already had its very first meeting of this year. We have received positive feedback from the Seniors' Lunch. This was my very first Seniors' Lunch to attend. It gave me an

opportunity to introduce Mirjam Mai and myself. It was great! A big thank you for all who helped make this day a memorable one.

The Swiss Nation's Day at the German Christmas Market took a lot of time to prepare, it was worth it! We would like to give a big thank you to all of you who gave their time to this event! We are grateful that so many of you gave their precious time to perform on this day! I ate way too many Bratwursts, but they were just sooo good!

The Waldweihnacht up on Mt. Seymour was simply the most idyllic event to attend! The short walk to the cabin was like being in an enchanted forest, there is no other way to describe walking along a path lined with lights and snow covered trees. The singing in front of a Christmas tree while it was snowing, the hot chocolate and cookies that were ready for us when we got to the cabin added to the charm of the evening.

Please take a minute to read the note about the upcoming AGM on March 26th and remember to renew your membership on time.

Greetings,

Karin Kapp, President

Mirjam Mai, Vice President

Swiss Society of Vancouver

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, March 26th, 2013 at 7 pm

Vancouver Alpen Club at 33rd/Victoria

Vote for the new Board of Directors

Approve changes to Constitution & By-Laws

COMING EVENTS 2013

JANUARY

- 6th: Choir Christmas Dinner
- 7th: Board Meeting
- 19th: European Festival Potluck
- 19th-20th: Ski Weekend at Glacier Cabin
- 27th: Filmnachmittag
- 31st AGM of Outdoor's Club

FEBRUARY

- 4th: Board Meeting
- 4th to 6th: Tyrol Ski Lodge in Whistler (reserved 3 nights/20)
- 16th to 17th: Ski Weekend at Cabin in Glacier Springs
- 24th: Filmnachmittag

MARCH

- 5th: Board Meeting
- 16th to 17th: Ski Weekend at cabin in Glacier Springs
- 24th: Filmnachmittag
- 26th: AGM of the Swiss Society
- 29th: Choir sings at Lutheran Church with their Choir for the Good Friday Service

APRIL

- 2nd: Board Meeting
- 20th: Walk around Richmond/Delta
- 28th: Filmnachmittag

MAY

- 7th: Board Meeting
- 9th: Europe Day at Triumf (UBC)
- 18th: Lighthouse Park West Vancouver
- 19th: Filmnachmittag
- 19th.20th: Victoria Day Swiss Celebration Dinner Concert
- 25th/26th: European Festival

JUNE

- 4th: Board Meeting
- 8th/9th: Cabin at Glacier Springs Cleanup Weekend
- 9th: Executive Meeting at the cabin at Glacier Springs
- 15th: Choir Concert - TBA

JULY

- 13th: Hike
- 27th: Swiss National Day

AUGUST

- 5th to 7th: Tyrol Lodge: Discover of Whistler; reserved for 20

SEPTEMBER

- 3rd: Board Meeting
- 14th: North Shore Hike

OCTOBER

- Filmnachmittag Date: TBA
- 7th: Board Meeting
- 20th: Mikkekha and Metzgete
- 20th Filmnachmittag

NOVEMBER

- 2nd: Local Discovery Walk
- 4th: Board Meeting
- 17th: Filmnachmittag

DECEMBER

- 2nd: Board Meeting
- 7th: Seniors Luncheon
- 15th: Waldweihnacht
- 29th/Jan 1st: Year End Cabin party at Glacier Springs



PAST EVENT!

Please send in photos, stories and event info!

2012 Seniors Christmas Luncheon of the SSV



This year's traditional Seniors Luncheon of our Swiss Society of Vancouver was held on Saturday, December 1st, 2012 in the Holiday Inn in North-Vancouver.... without snow! The fully booked party packed the nicely decorated dining room to full capacity. The round dinner tables seated ten, which created the familiar clan-atmosphere of belonging, friendship and exclusiveness. All attending were happy to see familiar faces, old timers

and their spouses again. Exchanging memories, new stories and even some jokes was on the priority list. Andrea Stolte, gifted Master of Ceremonies, welcomed the Guests of Honour - Consul General of Switzerland Urs Strausak with Partner Martina, Deputy Consul General Hans-Peter Willi & Riccarda, SSV President Karin Kapp, Chair of Vancouver Swiss Choir Marie-Louise Hanna and ASO Delegate Rolf A. Brulhart. A special welcome went to the Chair of the Seniors Werner Rutishauser & Blanche as well as Edwige Weingand for sending the many invitations.

Consul General Strausak summarized highlights of the past year and informed the audience about the many special events, as well as a film, a memory book, a parade etc. all dealing with the 100-Year Celebration of the existence of the diplomatic relations between Switzerland and Vancouver. He encouraged all Swiss Organizations to create some special aspects dealing with the 100-Years existence of the Vancouver Swiss Consulate within their regular events. Last, but not least, he thanked Werner Rutishauser and his many volunteers for today's invitation; their hard work and never ending enthusiasm serving for the good of the Seniors.

President Karin Kapp thanked Consul General Urs Strausak. She mentioned the busy, but fulfilling schedule she and Vice-President Mirjam Maj have had since their elections only 9 months ago. Especially the very successful 11th Presidents Conference of Swiss Societies in West-Canada in April with Swiss Ambassador Ulrich Lehner and his wife from Ottawa, Chef of the Auslandschweizerdienstes of the EDA J.-F. Lichtenstern from Bern, Chief Marketing Officer of the OSA Ariane Rustichelli from Bern and the Marketing Manager for Kambly in the US. She thanked all the seniors and gave special thanks to the many who baked the home-made Swiss Christmas cookies.

Andrea Stolte thanked Karin and Mirjam and introduced the Choir conductor Dubravko Pajalic and the Vancouver Swiss Choir. The traditional performance of well-known Weihnachtslieder by the Choir was very much appreciated by the audience. However, for many of us the highlight was the very personal speech



of Rosa Zumbrunn when she thanked the Choir for singing her Lieblingslied "Der Christabend". The following sing-along was heart-warming. MC Stolte thanked the Choir.

Finally, Lunch was served: soup or salad, roast, mashed potatoes, vegetables, tea or coffee. However, Werner Schmidt's artistic patisserie surprised everybody again! Many thanks, Werner! Now came the next surprise of the day: MC Stolte called everybody who had her/his 90th to the front. Five came: Werner Rutishauser, Maria Logan, Rosa Zumbrunn, Eveline Walter & Nick Schwabe. All received a standing ovation. The rest of the delightful event was spent socializing, reminiscing and exchanging good wishes for Christmas and the New Year. Sent in by Rolf A. Brulhart.



SEASONAL EVENTS

Cabin rental fees are being collected by the cabin manager,
Deborah Zurbuchen Jonker at: 604-532-8195 or
New reservation email address: ssvoutdoorsclub@gmail.com
ssvoutdorsclub@gmail.com

Deborah Zurbuchen-Junker as New Cabin Assistant!

Matt and Deborah have been members of the Swiss Society of Vancouver and the Outdoors Club for over a year now and have enjoyed being a part of this Swiss community. Matt and Deborah both love hiking and skiing so joining this club was a good match for their lifestyle. The program that is organized every year for the Outdoors club is wonderful. Deborah was born in Thurgau, Switzerland and then immigrated in 1993 with her family to Ontario, Canada. She has always greatly valued her Swiss roots and makes an effort to keep the Swiss culture as part of her life. Matt was born into a Dutch family in Brampton, Ontario and has learned a bit of the Dutch culture from his parents. He decided to become a Dutch citizen in 2002. He finds certain words in the Swiss dialect similar to the Dutch language and enjoys learning a few words here and there.

Matt and Deborah reside in Langley, B.C. and have lived in B.C. since August 2007. Deborah works as an administrative assistant and Matt works as a chaplain and tutor.



Lilting Mount Junker, September 2009

Mark Your Calendar: The AGM is on March 26th, 2013

The Board of Directors invites every member of the Swiss Society to attend the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, March 26th at 7pm at the Vancouver Alpen Club. A separate invitation will be mailed/email out to the membership soon, but we felt that it is worth to mention this important date already in our official magazine.

Please take the time to attend this important meeting because it gives you the chance of actively making decisions for the future of the Swiss Society which you are a part of.

We are looking forward to present the many successfully organized events of the last year, ideas for the coming period and new nominees to the Board of Directors (please read the job descriptions here in the Herald and apply if you are interested). Besides the important process of voting a new Board of Directors, the changes to our Constitution and Bylaws will require lots of your attention. The motion submitted by the Committee for Constitutional Changes has been mailed out already. Most changes are due to typographical reasons, others were necessary because the bylaws had to be modernized. Please note that changes to the constitution and bylaws require a Special Resolution, which means a majority of 75% of the votes. No further amendments to the constitution can be allowed at the AGM. All additional suggestions have to be extensively analyzed and can only be brought up in a motion at the AGM 2014.

Upon reviewing our financial situation of the past few years, the Board found it necessary to present the members with an increase of the membership fee in order to keep up the work and organization of events that the Board has been doing up to now. Our income barely covers half of our expenses and we want to stay an active and vibrant organization which we show by our activities and events.

www.swiss-society.org



SWISS CONSULATE



100 Years in Western

Canada.

Switzerland.

LIKE +++
MINDED
since 1913

2013 marks the centennial anniversary of official relations between Switzerland and Western Canada. 100 years of good relations have created the project LIKE+++MINDED. The Consulate General of Switzerland in Vancouver is proud to bring you this year of celebration. It promises to showcase what we believe connects Switzerland and Canada. Swiss100Canada.com will be your connection to stories, partners and events. Facebook and Twitter will be a way for everyone to connect and share their ideas for continued LIKE+++MINDED projects.

Many partners will help to put on events across Western Canada and even in Switzerland. Swiss Societies and clubs will raise the banner of 100 years LIKE+++MINDED. Please take the time to visit and learn more about the sponsors, events and don't forget to follow **Swiss100Canada** on Facebook and Twitter. Stay tuned for more information!



BUILDING COMMUNITY

Pacific Arbour Retirement Communities has crafted a solid reputation for building exceptional retirement residences where we can serve long standing members of the community.

Our three Metro-Vancouver retirement residences, The Summerhill, The Mulberry and Cedar Springs are committed to making their residences great places to live by building stronger communities — from the inside out.

 **PACIFIC ARBOUR**
RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES

pacificarbours.ca



Burnaby
604.526.2248 | themulberry.ca



15th & Lonsdale | North Vancouver
604.980.6525 | thesummerhill.ca



CEDAR SPRINGS
RETIREMENT RESIDENCE

Seymour | North Vancouver
604.986.3633 | cedarspringsresidence.ca

Where good things come together.



THE SWISS CHOIR

President: Marie Louise Hanna: 604 536-6382 or mhanna18@shaw.ca

Music Director: Dubravko Pajalic: 604 251-6344 or dpajalic@telus.net

For Swiss members who like yodel, sing & play traditional Swiss instruments...

Spring Schedule 2013 Highlights

Thursdays Weekly choir rehearsals at the Provincial Assessment Center at 3405 Willingdon, Burnaby V56 3H4 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Visitors welcome, but please call 604 536-6382 to confirm.

February: Choir sings at the Mulberry Seniors Residence in Burnaby (date to be confirmed)

February: Saturday or Sunday Choir rehearsal at Mountain Range or Mt Baker cabin (date to be confirmed)

April: Saturday or Sunday Choir rehearsal at Mountain Range or Mt. Baker (date to be confirmed)

May: 19&20 Long weekend - Together with the Swiss Community of Victoria participating in Victoria day Celebrations with dinner concert - afternoon outdoor concert

May 20: participate in the Victoria Day Parade with a Float celebrating 100 Years Swiss Consulate of Vancouver

May 25th & 26th European Festival Swanguard Stadium - Choir will perform and host together with Outdoor Club a booth with Swiss specialties

Exhibition celebrating 100 years of Swiss Consulate Vancouver

June 15; Vancouver Swiss Choir Concert - Guest Choir from Alberta (Place to be announced)

August 1st - Swiss National Day Celebration in the Fraser Valley

More dates & times can be seen on the combined calendar on page 2 of the Swiss Herald.

The Swiss Choir Welcomes You!

We have started our rehearsal schedule again and we are looking forward to sing new material in preparation for the 28th Pacific Coast Singing and Yodeling Festival to be held in Tacoma, USA in 2014. We welcome new singers to check us out on a trial basis - come for one month with no obligations.

Our spring /summer program is outlined above, however we do not have all the dates at this point. Check the Swiss Society website for updates. I would like to thank all who support the choir in so many ways; recently we got word that another Chotteli will be donated to us and we thank Max a former choir member for this gift. We also heard from Sonja Naef who is willing to loan us three Taler Schwingen dishes to hone this ancient craft in performances. We are looking for three silver 5 Fr pieces to use to produce the magical sound in Taler Schwingen. Another series of Yodelclasses will soon be offered, please call if you are interested and we will organize dates.

To celebrate 100 years Swiss Consulate in Vancouver the choir would like to compile a sing along booklet in larger print. We are looking for someone willing to work on this project and come up with a draft of the booklet. We have many different booklets to choose the songs from. Please contact us if you can help. We have now two Schwyzeroergeli and a small class will begin soon. We would like to find one or two more Oergeli even on loan for the purpose of learning to play. We are looking for someone to play the bells; this person does not need to be a choir member but needs good coordination and a musical ear. Please contact us at 604 536-6382.

We are looking forward to a busy spring schedule with a variety of events and we hope to see many of you at some of our performances.

Herzlich Marie-Louise Hanna
Choir Coordinator/Manager

Want to join the Swiss Choir? Give us a call, check us out or join us for a trial period with no obligations. (604 536-6382)





SENIORS SECTION

Werner Rutishauser: 604 929-6923 or seniors@swiss-society.org

Membership: Susanne Wilson: 604 888-6949 or membership@swiss-society.ca

For Swiss members who are 55+

Filmnachmittage und Luncheon for 2013!

Filmnachmittage fuer Senioren im Deutschen Haus

4875 Victoria Drive (Ecke 33rd Ave),
Vancouver, BC

Kosten: Kaffee und Kuchen

27. Januar, 2013 von 2 bis 5 Uhr

24. Februar, 2013 von 2 bis 5 Uhr

24. Maerz, 2013 von 2 bis 5 Uhr

28. April, 2013 von 2 bis 5 Uhr

26. Mai, 2013 von 2 bis 5 Uhr

20. Oktober, 2013 von 2 bis 5 Uhr

17. November, 2013 von 2 bis 5 Uhr

7. Dezember, 2013 Seniors Luncheon!

Anmeldungen bei:

1. **Werner Rutishauser:** 604-929-6923

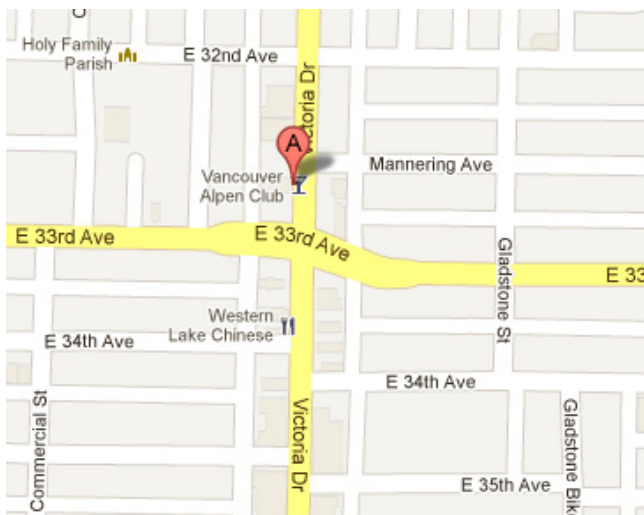
2. **Vreni Huser:** 604-731-4300

We Are Here To Help!

The Seniors Committee has created a new network for needy, lonely or sick seniors – including members or non-members of the SSV – who would like to get a friendly telephone call and/or a visit.

At the moment we are able to visit people in the areas of Greater Vancouver and the Fraser Valley. Please let us know when somebody has passed away, so we can inform the members of the SSV. We also would like to know about special birthdays (80 years or older), since the SSV does not register these dates.

The coordinator of this network for White Rock and South Surrey will be Irma Karsenbarg, Tel. 604-531-1215. For other areas: Trudi Schmidt, 604-988-9543



Turning 65?

Please let the SSV know when you reach that magical birthday – 65 years young! Contact Susanne Wilson at 604-888-6949 and we will then add your name to the seniors list and you will be entitled to a reduced membership fee in the Swiss Society. What better way to start your senior lifestyle than by saving oodles of money!!



OUTDOORS CLUB PROGRAM

President: Jacques Goldschmidt - 604 996-6253 or outdoor@swiss-society.org
Membership: Susanne Wilson: 604 888-6949 or membership@swiss-society.org
We believe in "friendship, fitness and fun!"

The Swiss Outdoors Club

As a member of the Swiss community of Vancouver, you are invited to:

Summer Cruise to Southeast Alaska - 2012

Urs and Judy Boxler on S/V Raven Song

Invitation to Digital Slide Presentation
Vancouver Maritime Museum
(Annual Ocean Cruising Adventure Series)

Date and Time: Friday, February 8, 2013,
8pm (door opens at 7pm)

Location: Vancouver Museum (in the basement of the planetarium)

Tickets: \$13; (\$11 for Seniors, VMM members and Pacific Yachting subscribers)

This presentation is about an extensive cruise of 3,500 nautical miles to Southeast Alaska by Urs and Judy Boxler aboard their sailboat "Raven Song." It covers over three months of exploring Southeast Alaska, from the Misty Fjords of the south to the far northwestern corner in Glacier Bay. Apart from staying in 60 wilderness anchorages Urs and Judy also visited many cities and villages to explore the local flavours and learn about the folklore and history in their museums. They visited several native villages, including one abandoned Haida village dating back to the 1700's, hidden in the forest, where they found remnants of houses and totems, including some still standing totem poles. The presentation also includes select historical photographs of the "old times" in Alaska. However, the bulk of the presentation is focused on the spectacular scenery and the many experiences with wildlife, including some up-close encounters with grizzly bears.

ursboxlerphotography.com

invites you to

the Tyrol Lodge in Whistler

for a 3 day and 2 night snow play stay!

We have reserved 6 rooms for a total of 20 people at the Tyrol Lodge

When: 04 to 06 February, 2013

Rates: \$ 20.00 per night for Swiss society members
\$ 30.00 per night for non-members

Please email to reserve: goldschmidt.jaques@gmail.com or give me a call in the evening at : 604-596-6253

We have :

Room # 1	for 4 guests in 2 double beds
Room # 2	for 2 guests in 2 single beds
Room # 3	for 4 guests in 2 double beds
Room # 4	for 4 guests in 2 double beds
Room # 5	for 2 guests in 2 single beds
Room # 6	for 4 guests in 2 double beds

Tyrol Lodge website : www.tyrollodgewhistler.com

Please take advantage of this opportunity to stay and play in this world class ski resort at a rate only available to Swiss Society and Outdoors Club members





TYROL WHISTLER INVESTMENT

*Tyrol Lodge
5302 Alta Lake Road
Whistler, BC V0N 1B5
<http://www.tyrolldgewhistler.com/>*

You Can Book the Lodge Now!

Contact the Managers **Sean Burke & Nina Moore:**

During business hours (9am-6pm) at: +1 (604) 932-5588

tyrolbookings@shaw.ca or

use the inquiry form on:

www.tyrolldgewhistler.com

The managers will get back to you within 48 hours.

Bookings are subject to room availability.

* Members of the Tyrol Ski & Mountain Club (and the Swiss Society) will always have first priority for bookings.

* Whole Lodge & Group bookings may be limited in the peak winter months & long weekends.

Please have the following information ready when you book:

* Your name, phone number and email.

* The dates and the number of nights you want to stay.

* The number of people in your group, their names (and ages, if under 18).

* The purpose of your stay.

* How did you hear about the Tyrol Lodge?

TYROL UPDATE

The Board of the SSV is pleased to inform you that Tyrol Investment GP Inc. has successfully purchased the part of the Whistler property from the Sons of Norway. This has finally eliminated the threat to the Tyrol Club of losing the whole property and thereby the well-used Tyrol Lodge. The investment of the Swiss Society and many individual investors has made that possible and the president of Tyrol Investment GP Inc, Andrew McFarlane, has expressed his thankfulness to all investors. We are now waiting to receive our unit certificates to commemorate our significant contribution and the final partnership documentation.

Tyrol Investment GP Inc. will now commence planning for the rezoning and subdivision process. This will happen in close cooperation with the Tyrol Club because they are in need of volunteers to help with some work.

We will keep you updated on the progress of this investment. In the meantime, please make use of this great facility in Whistler as well as checking out the SSV event calendar for dates which we have already reserved specifically for our members.

The first winter after building the lodge in 1967, the Tyrol Club moved their annual ski race from Seymour to Whistler. This race ran every winter until 1995 - called the Tyrol GS.



“The Tyrol Lodge is “built on the dreams of a handful of Swiss, German and Austrian immigrants who formed the Tyrol Ski and Mountain Club in Vancouver in 1952. They came together through a common love of the outdoors. In 1966, the first year that lifts were placed on Whistler Mountain, the Tyrol Lodge was built.”
<http://www.piquenewsmagazine.com/whistler/tyrol-lodge-turns-40/Content?oid=2154384> 9



EUROPEAN FESTIVAL

ALL NEW WEBSITE
<http://www.europeanfestival.ca>
info@eurofestbcsociety.ca



As a senior member of the Eurofest BC Society, the Swiss Society is excited to announce that this year's European Festival will be a **2-day event** on Saturday and Sunday, **May 25-26, 2013**. This idea came up because the Swangard Stadium has to be rented for several days anyways in order for setting up and breaking down the tents and stages. Having a 2-day event increases the overall cost only marginally and it gives more time for different performances. Customary visitors will have the chance to choose between the weekend days and also tourists in Vancouver or Burnaby will get the possibility to drop by.

Due to the 2-day event there is a weekend package available this year. A regular one day ticket costs \$10 at the door and \$8 online. The weekend package costs \$15 at the door and \$14 online. The Swiss Society has purchased 100 tickets at a reduced price (as a pre-requisite to perform at the Festival) which will be given to our volunteers at no costs and which will later be sold to any interested person at a price of \$5.

Doors will open both days at 11am and musical and dance performances will be equally split between both days. The Festival doors will close at 11pm on Saturday after the concert of a headliner band (which will be announced shortly) and on Sunday at 6pm.

The Swiss Society is the featured country at the 16th annual European Festival due to the 100 year anniversary of the Swiss Consulate General in Vancouver. We hope to offer special Swiss activities and are **looking for interested persons** to support our **planning committee** with great ideas.

In close cooperation with the Consulate General we will again equip a cultural booth and a food booth. Please register with Jacques Goldschmidt at outdoor@swiss-society.org to become a **volunteer with a 2-hour shift** on one or both days at the Festival in order to get a **FREE ticket**. We are especially looking for volunteers with a Food Safe certificate. The Eurofest BC Society is also in need for general Festival Volunteers for parking or admission. Those volunteers will get their free ticket from the Eurofest BC Society after registering either online or with Mirjam Mai as our representative in the Eurofest BC Society.

Please visit the all new website www.europeanfestival.ca for more information. The schedule and some Festival details are still under way so please check back once in a while. Meanwhile, other exciting events and posts can be found in the Facebook group Eurofest BC Society – European Festival.

Individuals are welcome and encouraged to join and support the Eurofest BC Society at an annual membership fee of \$25.

In order to organize a Festival like that, the Eurofest BC Society is in need of sponsorship in kind as well as financial support. Any business (big or small) is encouraged to contact the event coordinator Marika Kovalcikova at marika@marikaproductions.com, 7893 Cumberland St., Burnaby or give her a call at 604.618.6724. Information and a **sponsorship package** is also available on the website.



EUROFEST BC POTLUCK

The Potluck took place at the Azerbaijan Cultural Centre in North Vancouver on Saturday, January 19th, 2013 at 1 pm. There were representatives from around 10 European Countries, such as Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Azerbaijan, Slovakia, Russia, Slovenia etc. It was a very cozy event with opportunities for photography, food tasting opportunities and enthusiastic dancing of all kinds.

May 9th is Europe Day

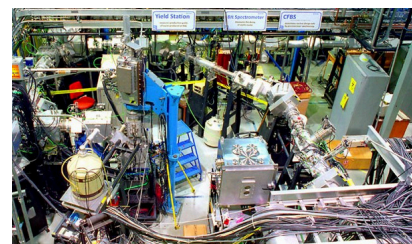
“The Eurofest BC Society together with Canada’s national center for particle and nuclear physics present on Thursday, May 9th, 2013: “International Scientific Cooperation between Europe & Canada - The Large Hadron Collider, the Higgs Discovery and the Big Bang”.

Where: TRIUMF at UBC 4004 Wesbrook Mall - lots of paid parking - rest of event is free

Start: for invited Diplomatic Corps BC, VIPs and Media: 7:45am at TRIUMF: Breakfast etc.

Start for Public: Registration 9am at Life Sciences Center Building UBC, behind UBC Hospital

Event: 9am Registration - 9:30am Welcome - History of Europe Day - Plenary Talk - Panel Discussion - Question & Answers - 12:30pm Lunch - 1:30pm-3pm: guided Tours of TRIUMF.





CLASSIFIEDS

If there are any other organizations that Swiss Society Members would like to know about, please forward them to me at kitsilanogerman@hotmail.com

Ads: \$25 for 1/4 page; \$35 for 1/3 page; \$45 for 1/2 page; \$75 for full page!

Internet Connections To/ Within Switzerland for All

· www.aso.ch - The Organization of the Swiss Abroad (OAS) represents over 750 Swiss expatriates' associations interests in Switzerland. It informs Swiss living abroad about what is happening in Switzerland and provides them with a wide selection of services.

· SwissCommunity.org - With the website SwissCommunity, you can easily find almost 330 of these organizations (referred is to the 750 Swiss expatriates' associations mentioned above) on our on-line platform and contact them directly. By carrying out a simple search by region, you can easily find the association that meets your requirements.

· www.revue.ch - The magazine for the Swiss Abroad published by the Organisation of Swiss Abroad; in German, French, Italian, English and Spanish

· www.Swissinfo.ch - swiss news and information platform about Switzerland, business, culture, sport, weather. swissinfo covers Switzerland from every angle



PRIME TRAVEL

**YEAR-ROUND SPECIAL FARES TO
SWITZERLAND/EUROPE**

EDELWEISS AIR – CHARTER 2012

CALGARY/VANCOUVER TO ZURICH

Direct & Nonstop three times a week

- May 30 – Sept. 26, 2012 -

Sundays & Wednesday NONSTOP from/to Vancouver

Fridays from Calgary and Vancouver

Daily flights with SWISS International Air Lines

Your travel professionals for:

- **Charters & tour groups to & from Switzerland**
- **Complete sports packages for individuals & teams**
- **Family holiday & adventure packages**
- **Cruising**
- **Corporate travel & conferences**
- **Travel Insurance**

FOR ALL YOUR TRAVEL PLANS CALL:

Yvonne Camenzind Kabata

Markus Bill (Swiss-Canadian Owner)

PRIME TRAVEL

1852 Marine Drive, West Vancouver BC, V7V 1J6

Ph: 604-925-1212 Fax: 604-925-1866 toll-free: 1-877-925-1212

e-mail: yvonne@prime-travel.com

www.prime-travel.com

BC Registration 3656

Letter from the Editor:

For various reasons, I have resigned from my position as Editor of the Swiss Herald. Thank you for giving me this opportunity and I wish you all well in the future! This year, activities for the European Festival, the Like +++minded 100-year Celebrations and the Choir and Outdoors Club are well under way. Each event needs sponsors and volunteers. It is a good time to ask yourself what you would like to contribute. In my own life, I am re-launching "Westcoast German News", which I will publish monthly 10-months of the year. I am also involved in the European Festival as a German Cultural Volunteer. On Tuesdays, I am now doing music/dance with the Westside German School. We will be giving the students an opportunity to dance at the Festival, if they choose. Each country will also need to write an article on how they plan to share their culture with "the next generation". It is something to think about! Elke Porter



JOB DESCRIPTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Secretary

You are a good listener, have excellent English and German language skills, extensive experience with computers (text processing software, emailing) and modern communication devices and want to be an active part of our productive Board of Directors. Then you should apply for the position of the Secretary of the Swiss Society of Vancouver. Your duties include writing the detailed minutes of meetings (monthly Board Meetings, AGM, and other extraordinary meetings), coordination with the meeting facilities, as well as sending out invitations and reminders for meetings to the Board of Directors and other involved individuals. A close cooperation with the other Board Members is required. Please send an application indicating your interest and experience to the Board of Directors.

Treasurer

You know your math, have experience with accounting, like dealing with other people and want to be an active member of the Swiss Society. Then you are the right person for the Treasurer's post on the Board of the Swiss Society of Vancouver. Your tasks would include the accounting, budgeting for the club, dealing with insurances and bank, receiving and writing invoices and cheques after consulting the Board of Directors. You would be part of a productive, intergenerational team of thinkers and doers that welcomes you in its midst. Please send an application indicating your experience to the Board of Directors.

Media Advisor

The media advisor is the coordinator between the Board of Directors and different media we are using (The Swiss Herald, Facebook, meet-up, the website). The tasks would include writing posts for the website and Facebook group, having an overview of topics that have to be published in the Herald, coordinating between volunteers that help writing articles, creating events on the meet-up platform. A close cooperation with the Board, the webmaster and the editor of the Herald is required as well as good English language skills (spoken and written) and basic computer skills.

European Festival Advisor

This position requires attendance at two monthly meetings (usually Mondays), namely of the Eurofest BC Society and the Swiss Society. The advisor would attend the Eurofest BC Society meetings and participate and vote in the name of the Swiss Society in order to organize the annual European Festival together with all other participating European societies. The advisor would report back to the Board of the Swiss Society. The European Festival Advisor would coordinate a group of volunteers that help with the execution of the Festival itself. A close cooperation with the Swiss Choir, a volunteer coordinator, food safety inspector, the Entertainment Chair, and the Consulate General are required. The ideal candidate has good negotiation and managing skills and can oversee a variety of different activities and work well under pressure. This position is mainly active between October and May.

National Day Advisor

Similar to the European Festival Advisor, this position would coordinate the preparations of the National Day celebration at the Mountain Range Chalet. A close cooperation with the Swiss Canadian Mountain Range Association, the Swiss Choir, the Dorfmusik and the Consulate General is required. The important topics that have to be addressed include food, entertainment, decoration/set-up, children's program and clean-up. The advisor would also have to contact sponsors for the festivities. A team of volunteers should be recruited to help the advisor.



JOB DESCRIPTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Swiss Herald Editor

You are familiar with publishing, graphic design, copywriting, picture editing, copy editing and journalism. You should have excellent English and German language skills in order to write your own articles and to edit submitted stories. You should be able to attend most Society's events, in person or by proxy to take pictures and report about the events. You are requested to actively acquire new companies who will advertise in the Herald which may happen through personal visits, phone calls, notifications and through social media. A commission of the ad revenue will be paid to you. Your duties also include supervision and coordination of volunteers that help you writing articles and taking pictures. You must be prepared to either distribute the Herald or find a volunteer to do so. You are requested to attend the monthly Board meetings and the AGM. Currently, the issues come out every 2 months, except for summer, and therefore appear 5 times a year. A negotiable remuneration is included in this position; hence you won't be a voting Board Member. If interested, please send in an application, indicating your interest and experience to the Board of Directors.

Youth Club Leader

You are ambitious, young or young-at-heart, sputtering with ideas, a hands-on person, good at dealing with young people as well as grown-ups, reliable and able to make responsible decisions. Then you should become one of the leaders of our Youth Club. Your tasks would include the organization and execution of events for our young members (sports or social events, meetings, outings) in cooperation with the other Youth Leaders and the support of the Board of Directors. Please send an application indicating your interest and experience to the Board of Directors.

NEW YOUTH CLUB LEADERS

Young Swiss-Vancouverites, we are looking for you to join the new Youth Club! Starting January 2013, we will feature exciting events like BBQs at Jericho Beach, soccer tournaments in Stanley Park, climbing in Squamish, sailing trips to Bowen Island, kayaking at Deep Cove, badminton in Queen Elizabeth Park, concerts at BC Place Stadium, night photography in Downtown Vancouver, snowboarding in Whistler, camping at Golden Ears Provincial Park.

With the Youth Club you will also get to explore a multitude of cultural events, like the Squamish Music Festival, the European Festival, the Vaisakhi Parade, the Chinese New Year, or the Vancouver Film Festival. We aim to support local NGOs and communities by volunteering and fundraising.

As a member of the Youth Club, you will:

- receive a monthly newsletter from the world of entertainment and cultural activities
- explore Vancouver with other young (Swiss-) Vancouverites
- build a network and support local communities

We look forward to having you on board! Your suggestions and ideas for events are most welcome. Stay tuned for the first Youth Club newsletter in January 2013...

Contact Aio Haeberli at youth-group@swiss-society.org or 604 803-5910



AUSLANDSCHWEIZER

Rolf A. Brülhart
Member of the Council of Swiss Abroad of the OSA
rbrulhart@hotmail.com; www.aso.ch

ASO-Praesidialbrief November, 2012

Der Vorstand der ASO hat am 9./10. November, 2012 am Sitz der Auslandschweizer-Organisation in Bern seine Wintersitzung abgehalten. Über die Vorstandssitzungen im Frühjahr und Sommer wird der ASR jeweils am nächstfolgenden Tag im Verlaufe der Ratssitzung orientiert. Erstmals in der neueren Geschichte der ASO orientierte der ASO-Präsident alle 140 Delegierten über die wichtigsten Beratungsgegenstände und Beschlüsse der Vorstandssitzung vom 9./10. November via einen Präsidialbrief, wovon unten Teile wiedergegeben werden, editiert von Rolf A. Brülhart. Es mag den einen oder den anderen Leser interessieren, dass die Protokolle der Sitzungen des Vorstandes der ASO von den Delegierten nicht eingesehen werden können.

Rolle der ASR-Mitglieder im Krisen-/Katastrophen- & Kriegsfall

Impulse von ASR-Mitgliedern aus Israel (Erich Bloch) und Kanada (Rolf A. Brülhart) waren für den Vorstand Anlass, sich mit der Rolle der ASO und der ASR-Mitglieder im Krisen-, Katastrophen- oder Kriegsfall zu befassen. Er beschloss, die Thematik auf die Tagesordnung der nächsten Ratssitzung im vom 16. März, 2013 Bern zu setzen. Er wünscht, dass den Ratsmitgliedern in den Krisendispositiven der Vertretungen ein Platz analog zu Honorarkonsuln und Vereinspräsidenten zugewiesen wird. Wahrscheinlich wird der auf Bundesebene Chef des Krisenmanagementzentrums im Staatssekretariat in Bern, Botschafter Ralf Heckner, eingeladen werden, damit er den 120 Delegierten aus der ganzen Welt über die schweizerischen Dispositive inklusive deren Verzahnung mit jenen wichtiger anderer Staaten orientieren und Fragen beantworten kann. Botschafter Heckner war vor seiner Wahl zur jetzigen Funktion im August 2012 stellvertretender Chef der Abteilung Vereinigte Nationen und internationale Organisationen der Politischen Direktion in Bern



Schweizer Banken und Auslandschweizer

Mit Besorgnis registrierte der Vorstand, dass die Schwierigkeiten für Schweizerbürger im Ausland, in der Schweiz eine Bankverbindung aufrechtzuerhalten, weiter zunehmen (Kontoschliessungen, überhöhte Gebühren, Einfordern von Ermächtigungen für Datentransfers an ausländische Behörden, Verweigerung von Kontoeröffnungen, etc.). In den Medien der ASO soll daher laufend über die Entwicklung der Angebote informiert und auf Klippen und Risiken aufmerksam gemacht werden. Die Kontakte zur Bankiervereinigung und zu einzelnen Instituten werden weitergeführt. Ferner werden parlamentarische Vorstösse erwogen mit dem Ziel, die Versorgung der Auslandschweizer mit den Grunddienstleistungen (Kontoführung, Zahlungsverkehr, E-Banking) zu vernünftigen Bedingungen sicherzustellen.

Auslandschweizergesetz auf Kurs

In das neue Gesetz sollen mehrere bestehende Erlasse integriert werden, etwa das Bundesgesetz über die politischen Rechte der Auslandschweizer/innen, die Rechtsgrundlage für die Unterstützung von Auslandschweizer Institutionen sowie das Konsularreglement. Nicht vorgesehen ist derzeit, die von der ASO angestrebte Direktwahl des Auslandschweizerrates im Gesetz festzuschreiben. Die zuständige Subkommission ist der Auffassung, es stehe dem Bund nicht zu, in die Organisationskompetenz der privatrechtlichen Stiftung ASO einzugreifen. Die Subkommission unter dem Vorsitz von Ständerat Lombardi wird ihren Entwurf voraussichtlich im Frühjahr 2013 der Gesamtkommission unterbreiten. Im Plenum des Ständerates wird der Gesetzesentwurf frühestens im Sommer 2013 zur Behandlung kommen. Dem Vorstand ist besonders wichtig, dass die Rolle des Auslandschweizerrates als Repräsentativorgan der Fünften Schweiz im Gesetz verankert wird.



MEMBERSHIP 2013

2013 SSV/Outdoors Club/Choir

Membership Renewal by March 31st

Thank you for supporting the Swiss Society of Vancouver in the past!

It is time for the 2013 renewal. Members who filled out a Membership / Liability form already can now send in the membership payment. (no form necessary)

You are able to pay for SSV; Outdoors Club and Choir with one cheque.

If you don't know if your membership form is current please call 604-888-6949 or e-mail me at membership@swiss-society.ca

You can send the cheque to:

Swiss Society of Vancouver
PO Box 4468
349 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, BC
V6B 3Z8

If you miss sending in the payment by the Mar. 31. 2013 deadline, I would need another form filled out, because it has lapsed and the liability has expired. There will be a new form available online after March 31st, 2013 at the SSV website under "membership" or call me, then I'll can send one.

Also if anything changes in your membership status or there is a change of address, a new form is required. (New senior?)

Memberships are as follows:

SSV Individual:	\$ 30.00
SSV Family:	\$ 40.00
SSV Single Senior	\$ 15.00
SSV Senior with Spouse	\$ 20.00

All members are required to pay the SSV membership:

Outdoors Club Single:	\$ 12.00
Outdoors Club Family	\$ 18.00
Choir	\$ 60.00

As the Board is about to present a membership increase at the AGM 2013, I can only accept the current membership fees until Mar. 31. 2013

Any payment after that date will require the new Membership fees and a new membership form. If there are any other questions please get in touch with me.

Susanne Wilson
SSV Outdoors Club & Choir Membership Chair.



There is a 24-hour **HELPLINE** to Switzerland: +41 800 247-3565 from anywhere in the world!

E-Mail is: Helpline@eda.admin.ch

24-hour Helpline of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.



DIRECTORY OF SWISS SOCIETY

Website: <http://www.swiss-society.org>
PO Box 4468 - 349 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, BC V6B 3Z8

BOARD of DIRECTORS *until March 2013*

President: Karin Kapp
604 816 2082 president@swiss-society.org

Vice-President: Mirjam Mai
604 440-3863 vice-president@swiss-society.org

Treasurer: seeking replacement;

Secretary: seeking replacement

Seniors: Werner Rutishauser
604-929-6923 seniors@swiss-society.org

Choir: Marie-Louise Hanna
604 536-6382 choir@swiss-society.org

Swiss Outdoors Club: Jacques Goldschmidt
604 996-6253 outdoor@swiss-society.com

Youth Club: seeking assistant/supporter

Swiss Herald: seeking replacement

Advisor (Herald): Nick Schwabe
604 732-4471 or nickschwabe@telus.net

Webmaster: Konrad Iten
604-461-5398 webmaster@swiss-society.org

Membership: Susanne Wilson
604-888-6949 membership@swiss-society.org

Entertainment & Past President: Peter Schaele
604 439-7338 globuscontract@gmail.com

Advisor: Alfred Eigenmann
604-931-3001 alfredeigenmann@yahoo.ca

Advisor: Heidi Legere
604-420-4464 hlegere@telus.net

Advisor: Maria Logan
604-736-6238

Advisor: Trudi Schmidt
604-988-9543

OTHER CONTACT INFO

Honorary President:
Urs V. Strausak, Consul General
604-684 2231 vancouver@eda.admin.ch

Deputy Consul General: Hans-Peter Willi
604 684-2231 Hans-Peter.Willi@eda.admin.ch

Legal Advisor: David Varty
604-684-5356 dvarty@smartt.com

Rolf A. Brulhart
Member of the Vancouver Council of Swiss Abroad
rbrulhart@hotmail.com; www.aso.ch

Vince Sciamanna
Swiss Canadian Chamber of Commerce
604 688-7947 or chamber@swissccc.com

Elke Porter
Swiss Herald
604 828 8788 or kitsilanogerman@hotmail.com

NEW CONTACT INFO

Glacier Springs Reservation Manager:

Deborah Zurbuchen Jonker at:
604-532-8195 or new reservation email address:
ssvoutdoorsclub@gmail.com

Tyrol Lodge Managers:

Sean Burke & Nina Moore at:
Business hours (9am-6pm) at: +1 (604) 932-5588
tyrolbookings@shaw.ca or use the inquiry form on:
www.tyrollodgewhistler.com

Now Online:

1. Swiss Society of Vancouver Facebook Group
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/214178588628806/>
2. Swiss Society of Vancouver Meetup
<http://www.meetup.com/SwissSocietyofVancouver/>