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<http://www.swiss-society.org>

Table of Contents

2. Seniors
3. Outdoors Club
4. Event (Bike/Walk)
5. Event (Galiano Isl.)
6. Past Event
7. European Festival
8. Choir Article
9. Choir Page
10. Choir - Quadra
11. Pres. Conference
12. Paul Rudolf
13. Classifieds
14. Oscar Hidber
15. Sun Peaks Event
16. Directory

Letter from the Editor

It is almost May and the flowers and blossoms are out! On May 9th, 2012 my children will be in the fashion show at the Italian Cultural Centre at 7 pm, as well as some ladies from the Swiss Society. They have been practicing a few weeks now. The European Festival will also need quite a few volunteers, something like 40 for each country! I have recently joined "The platform for Swiss Abroad", just so I could meet Swiss who might be interested in advertising in the Herald or joining the Society. I would encourage you all to do the same. Have a wonderful Spring! Elke

Letter from the (Vice) Presidents



As the newly elected President and Vice-President of the Swiss Society of Vancouver we want to welcome a new season. It is Spring, nature is renewing itself, and everything is blooming and growing. We want to use this image as an allegory for the Swiss Society in the coming future: our Society shall grow together, & friendship & joy shall bloom.

At the AGM Karin presented our draft of a yearly calendar for the Swiss Society with activities and events that are meant to build a strong group with input from all generations. We believe that we need more intergenerational interaction in the future to have a healthy & growing Society to keep our Swiss Culture alive.



Although we are two individuals with different interests and opinions, we are a team and work closely together. Not only at fun occasions; we put our heads together to come up with inspiring ideas and solutions to upcoming challenges. We believe in a strong, active 'working board' and encourage all Board Members, including the advisory members, to organize at least one event per year... We had our debut at the 11th Conference of Presidents of Swiss Societies in Western Canada on April 21st in the Vancouver Alpenclub. With much personal effort we succeeded in the organization of this event and led a group of 34 people, including the Ambassador Ulrich Lehner, Consul General Urs Strausak and other officials from Seattle & Bern, through a conference dealing with intergenerational knowledge transfer.

We hope that you all support us in our work for the society and we hope to see you at one of the upcoming events such as the European Festival on May 26th. If you haven't signed up as a volunteer for Switzerland yet, please call Marie-Louise at 604 536-6382.

Peter, our former President, and his wife Helen are presented with a beautifully decorated chest from the Swiss Society at the AGM



The 11th Conference of Presidents of Swiss Organizations in Western Canada



Every 3 years, the Presidents of the Swiss Organizations in Western Canada and the States get together to learn from each other. See story on page 11.



SENIORS

President: Werner Rutishauser: 604 929-6923 or wrutish@shaw.ca

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

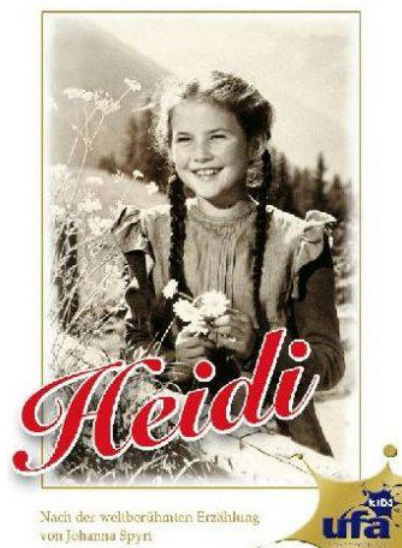
For Swiss members who are 55 to 100+

Filmnachmittage fuer 2012

27th of May 2012	Heidi
21st of October 2012	Sternenberg
18th of November 2012	Taxichauffeur Baenz

Heidi (Schweizer Film 1952)

Heidi lebt bei ihrem Großvater, dem Alp-Oehi. Zusammen mit ihrem Freund, dem Geißenpeter, verbringt sie eine schöne Zeit in den Schweizer Bergen.



Filmnachmittage fuer Senioren immer von 2 Uhr bis 5 Uhr nachmittags

Sunday, February 26th, 2012 at the Vancouver Alpenclub

Anmeldungen bei : Werner Rutishauser Tel. 604-929-6923 or Vreni Huser Tel. 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 has not registered 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!!

WESTJET TICKETS AVAILABLE

There are some Westjet Tickets available to buy from the Board. Fly to Edmonton or anywhere else Westjet goes. Contact Marie-Louise, if interested...



OUTDOORS CLUB PROGRAM

President: Jacques Goldschmidt - 604 996-6253 or goldschmidt.jaques@gmail.com
Membership: Susanne Wilson: 604 888-6949 or membership@swiss-society.org
For the active Swiss members who like to get out and about!

May 20th, 2012: Fort-to-Fort Trail at Fort Langley
Contact: Susanne & Steve Wilson

May 26th, 2012: European Festival at Swangard
Contact: Peter Schaele or Mirjam Mai

June 2nd or 3rd: Cabin Clean-up
Contact: Jeannette Kuenzli

June 2nd, 2012: Executive Meeting at the cabin
Contact: Jacques Goldschmidt

June 24th, 2012: Galiano Island
Contact: Joe Mueller

July 16th Week: Denman Island
Contact: Lotti Frohwein

Jul 25th, 2012: Bowen Island Hike: Snug Cove
Contact: Peter Schaefer

August 1st, 2012: Fraser Valley Hike
Contact: Sepp Rinderli/Hans-Peter Hauser

August 2nd, 2012: Eagle Bluff
Contact: Joe Mueller

September 15th/16th, 2012: Cabin Clean-up & BBQ
Contact: Jeannette Kuenzli



HIKE ON BURNABY MOUNTAIN

Peter Schaefer
led our first

hike in 2012: around Burnaby Mountain and across
Simon Fraser University. 13 members enjoyed a beautiful day.

Picture was taken by Andy

September 16th, 2012: Hermann's Pass (another try)

Contact: Andy Huser

October 7th, 2012: Mount Seymour Hike
Contact: Peter Schaefer

October 21st, 2012: Metzgete/Minnehada Park
Contact: Fritz Graf

November 4th, 2012: Local Discovery Walk (TBA)

December 6th, 2012: Executive Meeting
Contact: Jacques Goldschmidt

December 16th, 2012:
Waldweihnacht at Mt. Seymour

December 29th, 2012:
Ski weekend/New Year's Executive Party at the Cabin

December 29th, 2012 - New Year's Eve Party
Contact: Jacques Goldschmidt

January 19th to 20th, 2013 - Ski Weekend at the Cabin
Contact: Jeanette Kuenzli

January 31, 2013 Annual General Meeting
Contact: Jacques Goldschmidt

All dates are proposals & will need to be confirmed.





OUTDOORS CLUB EVENTS

The Swiss Outdoors Club operates, on behalf of the Swiss Society of Vancouver, a ski cabin (25 person capacity) at Glacier Springs, Washington (near Mt. Baker) and organizes monthly outings (hikes, bike trips, ski tours, picnics etc. etc.).

GROUP WALK AND BIKE RIDE!

Fort to Fort trail in Fort Langley

When: Sunday, May 20th, 2012

Where: Meet at 10:30 am at the Derby Reach parking lot.

Who: Leaders: Susanne Wilson: walking; Steve Wilson: cycling

RSVP: Please call Susanne at 604-888-6949 to register for walking or cycling.

Cell: 778-908-5906 for directions or to answer additional questions



Take or buy lunch to eat together at the Marine Park. Option to visit to the Fort after.

We will be meeting at the "P" at the very left on the map. It does not say that it is the Derby Reach parking lot but there are good signs.

See the attached link for the trail.

<http://www.itsmysite.com/cgi-bin/itsmy/go.exe?page=2&domain=1&webdir=fortlangley2>

Distance: 10 to 12 km

Steve will take the bikers out into the valley along the river and will meet us for lunch at Marine Park.



CABIN SPRING CLEANING - ALL HANDS ON DECK!



We need all hands on deck for our annual cabin Spring cleaning! It needs to be safe for all cabin users and visitors and annual maintenance to the building and property will keep it in excellent shape for the future. Please Contact: Jeanette Kuenzly: 604-576-9617 to reserve or Vreni Huser: 604-731-4300

And as in previous years, the President is providing the meat for the Saturday evening barbeque. Yes, some of the successful traditions need to be carried on and maintained.

Executive meeting will be at 5 pm on Saturday at the chalet.

I hope to see you all there
Jacques Goldschmidt
Swiss outdoors Club



NEW OUTDOORS CLUB EVENT!

The purpose of these events are to promote Swiss traditions & culture, exchange and understanding among Swiss people in BC, assist people of Swiss origin who are immigrants to BC, to participate in the economic, professional & intellectual sectors of their new country...

JUNE TRIP TO GALIANO ISLAND!



This is a joint venture between the Pathfinders Outdoors Club and the Swiss Outdoors Club; a chance to make new friends! We plan to meet on Wednesday, June 20th, 2012, at 9.45 am in the Departure lounge of the Tsawwassen Ferry Terminal and purchase passenger tickets to Sturdies Bay, Galiano Island.
Fees (to Galiano Island):
Seniors: free (show BC Gold Card)
Adults: \$17.15

Departure of ferry: 10.10 am Arrive in Sturdies Bay: 11.05 am

The trip takes us along the scenic, but rocky coast line of Sturdies Bay to Burrill Point, then into the Bellhouse Provincial Park and westwards to the Georgeson Bay. We'll follow a narrow trail up to the Bluffs for scenic view of Active Pass, a rest, a light picnic and photo opportunities. Then onwards to Georgeson Bay beach with view of seals on a nearby island and picnic proper. The return trip leads us to the rustic "Humming Bird Pub" for refreshment before we head back to the ferry.

Trip distance: 13.5 km (we can adjust the walking distance by taking shortcuts if required)
Difficulty: medium
Max Altitude: 140 m

Wear good walking/hiking shoes; bring cash, camera, lunch and rain gear.

Departure from Sturdies Bay: 5.35 pm (don't miss this ferry ! there is none later in the evening) .
Arrive in Tsawwassen: 6.35 pm

Fees for return trip:
Seniors: free
Adults: \$ 8.80 (blame BC Ferry Management!)

Please reserve with your trip leaders:
Alan Toon (Pathfinders) :
Tel (604) 263-6268 e-mail: alantoon@telus.net

Joe Mueller (Swiss Outdoors Club) :
Tel (604) 732- 6213 ; e-mail: josefmueller@shaw.ca





PAST OUTDOORS CLUB EVENT!

The purpose of these events is to promote Swiss traditions & culture, exchange and understanding among Swiss people in BC, assist people of Swiss origin who are immigrants to BC, to participate in the economic, professional & intellectual sectors of their new country...

THE GREAT GETAWAY PLACE by David Varty

Are you hoping to win a lottery? Do you dream about having that beautiful country recreation home? Well you don't need to win a lottery to experience a great getaway place a couple of hours from Vancouver at a modest cost. We went to the Swiss cabin at Glacier Springs for the Easter weekend. What a treat!

Leaving on Thursday evening there was a negligible line up at the border. We ate dinner at the little Mexican restaurant, El Nopal on the left just after the border. The food was delicious, inexpensive and served promptly. Across the street is an IGA where everyone's favourite foods for the weekend were selected.

Waking up on Good Friday morning we headed up to the lower lodge of Mount Baker ski resort in sunshine. What a surprise to find so few people. There were no line ups at all and lots of empty chairs. The ski runs were perfect for cruising with my two daughters and one of their friends. We explored the whole ski area.

The west side was particularly beautiful, with a great view of Mount Baker and almost no skiers going over on that side. We stopped, took off our skis and played in the snow. There is so much of it. It seems Mount Baker gets more snow than any other ski resort. Their web site says it holds the world record for most snow in one year; 29 meters in the 1998-99 season.

At the cabin we had everything we needed for a great dinner and a game of monopoly.

The next day we slept in and, after a game of foosball, headed up to the upper lodge parking to go for a hike in the snow and tobogganing. We put down a blanket in an alpine meadow, with snow crystal sparkling all around, and ate lunch in the warm spring sunshine.

Easter morning the kids hunted for Easter eggs in the cabin and then we went up for another day of skiing. Again it was a clear sunny day. Monday we played horseshoes, badminton and capture the flag before having lunch, cleaning up and heading home.

What a great mini vacation! Be sure you take the opportunity to enjoy this special treat for Swiss Society and Outdoors Club members.



Muttertag

Dir, liebe Mutter, will ich danken,
mit Herzensliebe dich umranken,
mein Leben ist aus dir geflossen,
Du hast mit Liebe es gegossen.

Kurt J. Heinz, © 2008



In Switzerland and Canada, May 13th, 2012 is Mother's Day!

Mother's day is always on the second Sunday in May. The children give their mothers presents such as cards, flowers, a box of chocolates, or similar, to say thank you.

Switzerland was one of the first European Countries to introduce "Muttertag" (German) La Festa della Mamma (Italian) or Fête des Mères (French) in 1917, because Swiss chocolates were so good.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Switzerland needs at least 40 volunteers. Help with the parking, admissions, security, at the Swiss Sausage Table, at the Swiss Cultural table, carry the flag, sing in the choir, hang up the signs... it just doesn't end!

The Outdoors Club is responsible for the the sausages at the Swiss concession stand at Eurofest 26 May from 8:00 am to 11:00 pm
2 hour shifts are required

Contact: Marie-Louise Hanna, at email address below
People with "food safe " certificate are in front of the line!

Every country needs at least two volunteers for admission and two volunteers for parking - if more, the 2h-shifts can be reduced.

Contact people are:
Silvi Rotaru (silvi_rotaru@hotmail.com) for admission,
David Buchmann (davebuchmann@hotmail.com) for parking
or Adnan Kapidzic (volunteer@azra.me) for volunteers in general.
Those volunteers will get free tickets!!

We might also need volunteers for our food booth and the cultural tent, organized by Marie-Louise Hanna (mhanna18@shaw.ca). The choir people have already signed up, but help is always appreciated especially during our performance at 12.40pm. These volunteers can get cheaper tickets for \$4 (normal price \$8 now or \$10 at the door) from the Swiss Society while quantities last.



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CHOIR ARTICLE

Vancouver Swiss Choir Activities

The Vancouver Swiss Choir was founded in 1966 and has been active providing a glimpse of Swiss Folks Culture ever since. In recent years we have grown in numbers and have presently 33 active members of different provenance and a number of supportive former members and associates. Under the expert "baton" of Conductor Dubravko Pajalic we gather weekly for rehearsals at the Provincial Assessment Center (Willingdon and Canada Way) on Thursday from 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm. We welcome visitors; please call our choir coordinator Marie-Louise Hanna (604 5236-6382) if you wish to check us out, to find out more about the choir and possibly join us. You can also find information about the choir on our website www.swiss-society.org/swiss-choir.

Our calendar of activities includes an annual Choir Concert on June 9th, 2012, Guest appearances (with Concordia Choir March 31st, 2012), Concerts at Senior Citizens homes, Christmas Markets, the VanDusen Festival of Lights, the European Festival on May 26th 2012, and participation at the Pacific Coast Swiss Singing and Yodeling Festivals. The Vancouver Swiss Choir hosted the Festival in 2011 and the next Festival will be in Tacoma in 2014.

This spring, May 5 to 7th, we will perform at two events on Quadra Island. There, we will also have a Meditation Service with Swiss Yodeling and Singing. This year we have started to offer Swiss Yodeling classes. Our very talented choir member Hong Chul Kim (youtube: Kimi's Modi Kapelle) is teaching his know-how to choir members in small classes and the reception has been very positive and successful. Check out our yearly calendar of events regarding dates on our website www.swiss-society.org/swiss-choir. These classes are open to the general public if there is space at a cost of \$50 for 2 sessions of 3 hours each. (For dates and availability call 536-6382).

As a choir we have regular retreats at the Swiss Outdoor Cabin at Mt. Baker. With a Friday evening Fondue social with sing-along we start the weekend with lots of fun. Saturday is serious rehearsing, excellent food and camaraderie. We have these events once every season.

If there is sufficient demand we would like to offer Schwyzeroergeli classes in the near future. If you have a Schwyzeroergeli inactive please contact us and we will see to it that it gets used.

We are very proud that we have our own two Alphorn players Beat and Kimi (youtube: Alphorn Kimi + Beat) who have been invited to play at the Swiss Pavilion of 2012 World Expo in Korea in June. If you have an Alphorn and wish to use it, please contact us.



Contact:

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

*The Vancouver Swiss Choir
Performance at the Christmas
Market Hong Chul Kim and
Beat Heeb*





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...

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2012 - VANCOUVER SWISS CHOIR

We are preparing to have our first Sensational Swiss event Tuesday, May 15 at a church close to the German House from 6:00 pm to 10:00 PM. Bring a plate of appies or finger foods and a drink (non alcoholic). In order to cover the cost of the hall rental, we ask that everybody make a donation; we suggest \$5 per person. The "Gruppe Kaktus" - a musical ensemble is available to offer us a "Bunter Abend" on May 15 with song and Gemuetlichkeit. The group from Berneck Switzerland has five members and we hope that the Swiss Choir members will join in the fun of sing-along and music.

May 3-7th	Quadra Island Concerts - May 5th at Heriot Inn Dinner and Concert 7:30 pm May 6 Yodelmass 10 am - Lunch & Concert at Tsa-Kwa-Luten Resort 12:00 noon Quadra Island Yodel class : Saturday May 5, 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm at Heriot Inn
May 26th	European Festival 11:30 am Performance of Swiss Choir
June 9th	Vancouver Swiss Choir Concert (time and place to be announced)
July 28th	Swiss National Holiday celebration at Rifle Range
August 1st	Swiss National Holiday Celebration in the Valley (<i>pending Invitation</i>)
August 26th	Choir Picnic (Time TBA)



Please note, the Yodel classes have very limited spaces and cost \$20 for Vancouver Swiss Choir members and \$50 for other people (depending on spaces) The classes consist of two sessions one week apart / 2 hours each.

The Swiss Choir now practices at the Provincial Assessment Center opposite BCIT on Willingdon & Canada Way every Thursday 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm - visitors are welcome they have however to call us ahead of the visit in order to have some of the song sheets available for them and also to explain the history of the choir somewhat.

Contact: President Marie-Louise Hanna 604 536-6382 (mhanna18@shaw.ca), Vice President Karin Kapp at 604 816-2082 or Advisor Alfred Eigenmann at 604 931-3001!

Next year The Choir is invited to attend the North American Swiss Singing Alliance (NASSA) event in Kitchener, Ontario... Thank You!

Vancouver Swiss Choir



Spring Concert
June 9, 2012
2.30pm



St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church
1573 E18 Avenue, Vancouver

Coffee, tea and pastries will be available

Admission: \$15
Children under 12 FREE

To order tickets call: 604 536 6382 or
604 931 3001



Organisation of the Swiss Abroad (OSA)
Alpenstrasse 26
CH-3006 Bern
Switzerland

OSA INFORMATION

Swiss Abroad Representatives

Rolf Brulhart, Delegate:
rbrulhart@hotmail.com
John Bartlett, Substitute Delegate:
johncbartlett@hotmail.com

11th Presidents Conference



The 11th Presidents Conference of Swiss Organizations in Western Canada, organized at the Vancouver Alpenclub by newly elected SSV President Karin Kapp and Vice-President Mirjam Mai, began with all 34 participants enjoying a Continental Breakfast sponsored by Go West and the SSV. After having introduced themselves and thanking the many Volunteers and Sponsors of the Conference, they connected with Peter Schaele in Switzerland via Skype who wished everybody much success. Each person introduced herself/himself including some high-ranking VIPs: Ulrich Lehner, Ambassador of Switzerland in Ottawa, Urs Strausak, Consul General of Switzerland in Vancouver, Ariane Rustichelli, Head Communications & Marketing; SwissCommunity of the Council of Swiss Abroad/OSA from Bern & Jean-Francois Lichstenstern, Delegate for "Auslandschweizerbeziehungen" from Bern.

Presentations included the role of the Swiss Embassy in Ottawa; Swiss Consular activities & services in western Canada; the 100-year anniversary of the Swiss Consulate in Vancouver in 2013; ideas for relations between Switzerland & western Canada; and activities and services provided by the "Service for the Swiss Abroad-OSA" by the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs in Bern.

The first short Break welcomed Johnny Ormstrup and Jeff Sharpe of Kambly SA, Trubschachen Switzerland. The Chair thanked the two representative for the most generous donations of over 120 boxes of Biscuits for the Conference as well as for the concert of the Vancouver Dorfmusik.

Ariane Rustichelli of the Organisation of Swiss Abroad-OSA gave an inspiring presentation on the "Auslandschweizer-Plattform" www.SwissCommunity.org; Die Internet-Plattform SwissCommunity vernetzt Schweizer weltweit, followed by a delicious lunch of soup and sandwiches sponsored by the Consulate General of Switzerland in Vancouver.

The keynote address "New Communication Networks and Intergenerational Transfer of Swiss Culture" was given by Botschafter Ulrich Lehner und Council of Swiss Delegate Rolf Brulhart. Rolf emphasized the necessity of focusing on how to integrate the 2nd/3rd/4th Generation Swiss-Abroad when planning & executing all Swiss events, such as projects, festivals, celebrations, activities, and allowing them to invite their Canadian friends. The two Workshops of the afternoon focussed on this. Botschafter Ulrich Lehner described the Organisation of Swiss Abroad in France where the majority of Swiss organizations in France are members and meet annually. Rolf mentioned that this is one of his goals to create something similar in Canada.

Participants could then choose between 2 workshops: Swiss Meetup Groups or Tacoma Intergenerational Model. Four young people showed up, just for these workshops. Hausi Mueller then moderated the workshop reports, and lead the discussion about the pros and cons of the two models presented in the workshops. Some of the participants decided to start the "Tacoma Intergenerational Model" in a small version. Everybody agreed that "we" have to change.

The official conference closed with a discussion of where the next 2015 conference would be held, the election of a delegate for western Canada on the Council of Swiss Abroad for 2013-2017 and remarks by Ambassador Lehner and Consul General Strausak. It was decided that the 12th Presidents Conference will be organized by the Jodelklub Wil-drose, Alberta with the support of the Edmonton Swiss Men's Choir and they thanked their two representatives, Fred Salvisberg and Hans Voegeli very much.

The participants of the 11th Presidents Conference voted unanimously to accept Rolf Brulhart as their 2013-2017 Delegate to the Council of Swiss Abroad of the OSA.

At 5pm, Ariane Rustichelli presented the SwissCommunities platform to a different audience and hosted a Reception sponsored by her employer, the OAS afterwards. The complementary dinner for all participants of the conference and their spouses was served in the Weinstube, where ad-hoc yodelers showed off their newfound skills. Hausi Mueller played the guitar and sang, while Rolf distributed his songbooks. Typical Swiss songs in all four Swiss languages -the diplomatic contingency from the French part of Switzerland showed clearly their musical hobby- were followed by a selection from the Beatles. Dinner ended with delicious cheesecakes sponsored by Gizella Pastry Limited.

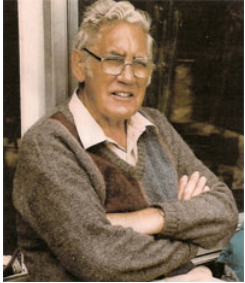
Finally, everyone descended to the Main Hall, where the Vancouver Dorfmusik concert was just setting up. All participants and their spouses got complementary tickets; the SSV is thankful to the Vancouver Dorfmusik for semi sponsoring these tickets. It was a very successful, well-run conference that I am sure everyone was glad to attend.





LIFE OF PAUL RUDOLF

Written by his son Martin



Paul Rudolf was born in the small town of Selzach in Switzerland on January 31st, 1920. The journey of life wasn't always easy for Paul, but he was a determined man and overcame many hurdles life threw at him. At age 4, he had a terrible accident, when a tractor crushed his knee. He had to wear a big primitive leg brace for the next 4 years.

This was not easy, but he persevered!

After finishing school, he worked in a cheese factory in the French part of Switzerland for 2 years where he learned to speak French fluently. Then he was accepted as an apprentice in a watch factory in Grenchen. Under the wing of his mentor Joseph Wyss, Paul learned the trade of watch making and repairing. Wyss then became his life-long friend until his death at age 93. Despite his damaged knee, Paul developed a passion for hiking and climbing in the Swiss Alps. 1945 he climbed the famous Matterhorn. An accomplishment to be proud of. A giant photo of the "Horn" adorned his office throughout his life!

Since his knee injury prohibited Paul from joining the Swiss Army when WWII broke out, he kept on improving his craft. He moved on to various factories including two years with the prestigious Breitling. Capitalizing on his experience with Breitling, he landed himself a managerial position at a watch factory in Lengnau in 1946. The same year Paul went to England to scout out the possibility of immigrating to Canada. After 2 years of saving, he hopped on a ship in Plymouth Harbour, and six days later arrived in Montreal with \$400 in his pocket to start his new life in Canada!

Within a month, Paul finds work overhauling aircraft instruments, thanks to being fluent in French. Seven months later, the lure of the coastal mountains finds him in Vancouver in 1949. There he faces a bit of a language problem, but soon finds a room for \$7 a week; then he approaches the Swiss Consulate to help him find a job. Switch watch repairman George Rapp hires him and a year later Paul opens his own shop on Pender Street! During that time, Paul became very active in the Swiss Society; he met his first wife Norma and married her a year later in 1950. Paul served as President of the SSV in 1955. Unfortunately Norma suffered from asthma and her health deteriorated until she passed away in 1956. One year later, Paul met a young lady named Ellanor, with 2 sons, she had recently gotten divorced. Paul invited her to a dinner/dance and that became the start of their life-long relationship. Paul and Ellanor got married

within 8 months in March 1957. They bought a house in Kerrisdale, where they lived with Ellanor's boys, Ross and Brian, and a year later they were joined by their own son Martin.

In 1965, Paul was given notice to move out of his shop on Pender Street, which gave him the opportunity to buy a jewelry store in Tsawwassen which became Paul Rudolf Jewelers in 1967. When the older boys moved out, Paul and Ellanor bought a cottage on the beach in Boundary Bay. Martin attended Boarding School and Paul and Ellanor built their dream home right on the beach!

Mid 80's, Paul sold his business and attempted to retire, but an old friend talked him into selling jewelry. He spent the first years of his retirement travelling around BC, selling products to jewelry stores.

As their boys were getting married and having children, Paul and Ellanor became known in the community as Gramps and Toots! When she retired from teaching; he quit selling and together, they decided to travel the world.

An incredible thirst for adventure caused them to see places completely out of their element. From Antarctica to Iran, South Africa, Ecuador, they saw it all. If the country didn't speak English, they wanted to go there! They created a tradition; whatever country they went to, to learn how to say, "I love you" in their native tongue. They always returned with a token from every country for each grandchild.

In 1997, Ellanor was diagnosed with cancer, and Paul's world fell apart when the love of his life died in 1999. Paul became lonely at 80, but made an effort to join clubs and to get active. A highlight would be Saturday breakfast with Martin. In 13 years, Martin never missed Saturday breakfast with dad.

At age 85, Paul traveled to Switzerland to see his family and his 17-year old granddaughter Mallory for the last time.

Back in Tsawwassen at the Town Centre Mall, Paul met the kind and caring Maria during a Saturday Sing-Along and once again he found happiness. Maria became a blessing to Paul and the family.

Paul was a stubborn and determined man. These qualities allowed him to learn 3 languages, start his life over multiple times, survive 2 wives, climb the Matterhorn with a crushed knee and travel the world. His life is an incredible story. He was an absolute charmer. He would trap me for hours in one of his many stories! Paul will be fiercely missed and remembered by his family and the community. He died February 15th, 2012.



CLASSIFIEDS

If there are any other organizations that Swiss Society Members would like to know about, please forward them to me at germanvoices@yahoo.ca

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

Gesucht: Buero/KF Angestellte

Suchen Sie eine neue Herausforderung in einem dynamischen Umfeld und setzen dabei gerne Ihre sehr guten Sprachkenntnisse ein? Wenn Sie zudem Freude am Kundenkontakt haben, moechten wir Sie kennenlernen!

Aufgaben:

Fuer unsere Kunden, ein fuehrendes Kaffeemaschinen Business in Burnaby, suchen wir eine/n dienstleistungsorientierte/n Sachbearbeiter/in.

In dieser vielseitigen Taetigkeit sind Sie fuer die umfassende Abwicklung des Tagesgeschaeftes verantwortlich. Zu ihren Aufgaben gehoert auch die Erledigung des Postein- und ausgangs sowie die Bearbeitung von E-Mails. Die Bearbeitung von Zahlungsein- und Ausgaengen gehoeren u.a. auch zu ihrem Aufgabenbereich.

Voraussetzungen:

Fuer diese Herausforderung bringen Sie folgendes Profil mit:

kaufmaennische Ausbildung inkl. Buchhaltung
gute Englischkenntnisse

Eintrittsdatum: nach Vereinbarung

Wir wenden uns an eine kontaktfreudige, offene Person, die sich in einem kleinen Team wohlfuehlt und auch selbstaendig arbeiten kann.

Bitte senden Sie uns Ihr Bewerbungsunterlagen an: qcs@telus.net

General Consulate of Switzerland

Urs Strausak, Consul General

email: vertretung@van.rep.admin.ch

Swiss Canadian Chamber of Commerce

Vince Sciamanna, President

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Check out The Platform for Swiss Abroad & join: [http://http://www.swisscommunity.org/!](http://http://www.swisscommunity.org/)

Vancouver Dorfmusik

Urs Fricker, President

julieturs@hotmail.com

Swiss Mountain Range Association Council of Swiss Abroad

Rene Zollinger, President

president@scmra.ca

Rolf A Brulhart, Western Canada Delegate

rbrulhart@hotmail.com



SWISS COMMUNITY NEWS

Goodbye Oscar Josef Hidber!

March 25th, 1927-January 11th, 2012



Arrived in British Columbia, Canada with family in March 1938 at the age of 11 years. After a logging accident at age of 24 years and losing his lower right forearm, he purchased a store, which he ran for 35 years - Oscar's Sporting Goods. In 1988 he retired and moved to Ladner, BC. He joined the Swiss Society and Swiss Choir of which he was a member for 6 years. He was always a great supporter of the Swiss Choir and Dorfmusic Band. He is survived by his wife Florence, son Stephen, daughter Linda and 4 grandchildren, Jared & Bronson Hidber and Kyle and Meghan Pastulo. There was a "Celebration of Life" on March 17th, 3 to 6 pm at the Beach Grove Health Club in Tsawwassen.

Giant Garage Sale at the St. Mark's Church!

Saturday, May 5th, 2012, from Books /magazines • Clothing (children/adults) • Tools • Dishes • Small Appliances • Toys • Stuffed Animals • Furniture • Kitchen Items • Pictures/Paintings • Sporting Goods • CDs/Tapes/Records • Electronic Items • Antiques & Collectibles • Knick-knacks • Computers • Plants • Etc.

Summer Camps for Kids in Switzerland Ages 8 to 14

Every year, the Foundation for Young Swiss Abroad organizes up to 10 2-week camps for Swiss children from 8 to fourteen years old who live abroad. While at the camps, the children will make friends that cross cultural boundaries and often last for many years. In July and August 2012, the young Swiss abroad will have the chance to have fun with 30 to 50 other children from all over the world, while getting to know Switzerland and their own culture at the same time. For more info: <http://www.aso.ch/en/the-foundation-for-young-swiss-abroad-sysa>

Swiss-Community.org die Plattform der Auslandschweizer

SwissCommunity.org is a networking site enabling Swiss people living all over the world to establish links with each other. The site also allows them to participate actively in debates on politics and society in our country. The platform's 10,000 members can contact each other interactively on the Internet, which develops solidarity between expats, regardless of where they live in the world. It is a way of keeping in contact with Swiss people living in the national territory. Swiss Associations can present themselves, as well.

Register your Civil Status Changes! Get in Touch with the Swiss Consulate in Vancouver!

Remember to inform the consulate of any civil status changes: marriage, birth, divorce, name changes, death, preparation of marriage in Switzerland etc.

By Swiss Law, status changes must be registered with the Swiss authorities. Not registering could also result in delays with the processing of consular tasks (new passport, legalization etc.) It is therefore in the citizen's interest to keep their data updated. Finally, failure to register can result in the loss of Swiss Citizenship for the person's descendants.

Since a lot of correspondence is sent via e-mail these days, it is important that your files contain a valid e-mail address. E-voting is possible in 12 cantons already.



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

We would like to express our sincere appreciation of Susanne Wilson, who so faithfully looks after the members for the SSV, Outdoors Club, the Seniors and the Choir. She also prints out the Herald and distributes it to those with no e-mail address.

Swiss Society Membership Rates

Individual:	\$30
Family:	\$40
Senior Individual:	\$15
Senior w/spouse:	\$20



At the AGM, it was decided that a limited percentage of non-Swiss were to be permitted in the Swiss Society as active members. Also, a Vice-President could be non-Swiss, as long as the President was Swiss or vice versa. Here are some pictures of the 2012 AGM in the Jaegerstube at the Alpenclub.



Outdoor Club Membership Rates

Single/Family:	\$12/\$18
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Choir Membership Rates

Individual:	\$60
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It would be great to see more families & children in the Swiss Society, as well as suitable events & activities!

Past Event - Sunpeaks 2012



Right: Nancy Greene, former famous Canadian Skier with husband, Al Raine



These pictures were sent in by Joe Mueller!
Thank you so much, Joe!
Outdoors Club spent March 25th to 29th at Nancy Greene's Cahilty Lodge, Kamloops





DIRECTORY OF SWISS SOCIETY

Karin Kapp & Mirjam Mai are the new team running the Swiss Society

President: Karin Kapp 604 816 2082) karinkapp@yahoo.com

Vice-President: Mirjam Mai 604 369-7162 mirjam.mai@shaw.ca

NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2012-2013

Honourary President: Consul General Urs Strausak
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Choir Coordinator: Marie-Louise Hanna
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Entertainment: Peter Schalle
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Secretary: Mirjam Mai
604 369-7162 mirjam.mai@shaw.ca

Treasurer: seeking replacement;
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Webmaster: Konrad Iten
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AhornTV ist eine wöchentliche, deutschsprachige Show, produziert in Vancouver, Kanada. Wir erzählen Erfolgsgeschichten von Menschen, Events und Unternehmen, insbesondere aus Kunst & Kultur, Wirtschaft, Tourismus und grünen Technologien. Die Sendung ist frei empfangbar auf OMNI TELEVISION sowie im Internet auf ahorn.tv.com. Wir richten uns an die deutschsprachige Community Kanadas, die Interesse an der deutschen Kultur und Sprache haben, sowie an alle Kanada-Interessierte in Deutschland, Österreich und der Schweiz!

The Swiss Herald is a non-profit publication produced 5 times a year by the Swiss Society of Vancouver under the direction of its President and Board of Directors. It is distributed free of charge to the membership of the SSV who have no computers, as well as via e-mail, advertiser's facilities, the Swiss-Canadian Chamber of Commerce and through its new website: <http://www.swiss-society.org>. For all Herald editorial and advertising information, please contact: Elke Porter at germanvoices@yahoo.ca or 604 828 8788. Information and materials should be in by the week before the end of every second month. Please send any change of address or e-mail to the Swiss Society of Vancouver:

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