



Volume 60, Issue 3
May/June 2012

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Letter from the Editor

There are so many new things going on in the Swiss Society. May 26th was the launch of the new and exciting European Festival at the Swangard Stadium, June 9th had a Swiss Concert at the St. Mark's Church, June 22nd had the extraordinary GM to discuss the cabin at Whistler take place at the Alpenclub etc. In summer, the biggest event is the Swiss National Day at the Swiss Canadian Mountain Range Association. As I am going camping for a couple of weeks this summer (hopefully with no floods or rain), I will miss Swiss Day. But I will think of all of you! Enjoy, Elke

Swiss Herald

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

Letter from the Vice/President



Dear Members of the Swiss Society,

We hope that you have been blessed with good health and are enjoying the long daylight hours! The sun has come out once or twice, we are positive that we will have a great summer! Mirjam and I were kept busy with numerous engagements in the last few weeks. We had a lot of fun at the European Festival on May 26. The weather was great and we sold a lot of Bratwurst. The Swiss Choir had their Annual Concert on June 9. We enjoyed an afternoon with the choir singing and yodeling and a yodel performance from 8-year old Daniel Kim and Johnny Watkins with his hang drum. Some of the Executive Board members went to Whistler on June 10 to investigate the Tyrol Lodge in

Whistler. On June 22, active members of the SSV came together to an Extraordinary General Meeting to discuss and decide on the Tyrol Investment opportunity. More information to be found in a separate article in this Swiss Herald issue.

Thank you for all the positive thinking and help that we receive every day! We would like to especially thank Veronika, who is resigning as advisory member in the Swiss Society this year, for all her commitment and the long-time work and help. We are grateful for that and we wish you all a wonderful and sunny summer! Please mark in your calendar our upcoming Swiss National Day Celebration, which is Saturday, July 28 2012 !!!! See you there...

Karin Kapp
President Swiss Society of Vancouver
Mirjam Mai
Vice-President Swiss Society of Vancouver





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+

Dear friends!



A while ago Werner Rutishauser asked me, if I would be so kind and come to take some pictures and make a report of a Sunday Seniors Filmnachmittag (Seniors Movie) at the German Alpenclub. So my wife Christel and I went yesterday afternoon to attend the Swiss Seniors movie at the Alpenclub. There were 39 in attendance.

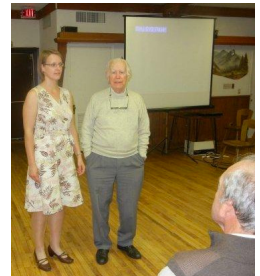
Werner Rutishauser with his dear wife and many volunteers have organised a Swiss or German movie for the last 10 years. During winter month the Swiss seniors meet at the Alpenclub once a month. The movies are always very nice and exciting to watch. Anyone is always very kindly invited to attend, even the younger generation. Yesterday, for instance, and as a nice surprise for Werner

and many others, our young Swiss vice president Mirjam Mai came by to watch the Heidi movie. Not only was she taking part in watching the movie, but as you can see on the attached pictures, she helped to get the movie started, in the absence of Joe Mueller. Werner introduced her to everyone, then I stood up and said, we are still looking to find her a young Swiss husband. I know Mirjam doesn't mind, because she knows me, and also has a good sense of humour.

Werner mentioned to me, that this was the last film and the new season will start in October. So if you haven't been there yet, then I highly would recommend to go once and have some fun.

For more information call. Werner Rutishauser Tel: 604-929-6923 or
Vreni Huser Tel: 604 731-4300.

Kind regards,
Alfred Eigenmann
Advisory Member
Vancouver Swiss Choir



Filmnachmittage fuer Senioren von 2 Uhr bis 5 Uhr nachmittags ab Oktober, 2012

Sonntags im Vancouver Alpenclub (33. und Victoria Strasse)

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!!



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 all active Swiss members who like to get out and about!

June 20th, 2012: Galiano Island

Contact: Joe Mueller

July 16th Week: Denman Island

Contact: Lotti Frohwein

Jul 25th, 2012: Bowen Island Hike: Snug Cove

Contact: Peter Schaerer

July 28th, 2012: Swiss National Day: SCMRA

Contact: SSV & SCMRA

August 11th, 2012: Fraser Valley Hike

Contact: Sepp Rinderli/Hans-Peter Hauser

August 20th-24th: Slocan Valley

Contact: Henry Hutter

August 26th, 2012: Eagle Bluff

Contact: Joe Mueller

September 29th-30th, 2012: Cabin Clean-up & BBQ

Contact: Jeannette Kuenzli

September 30th, 2012: Hermann's Pass (another try)

Contact: Andy Huser

October 6th, 2012: Mount Seymour Hike

Contact: Peter Schaerer

October 21st, 2012: Metzgete/Minnekhada 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-Jan 1st, 2012:

Ski weekend/New Year's Eve Party at the Cabin

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.

New Event: Hiking on Bowen Island

On Bowen Island in Snug Cove, we'll take the Bus C10 and travel comfortably to the far west side of the island. (Station Bluewater). We'll eat lunch at the beach, and then by about 1:30 pm, we'll be underway and walk through forest trails to Grafton Lake and onward over hilly country sides back to Snug Cove. The trip length is about 10 km; max altitude reached will be 400 m; trip duration is about 3 hours. Carry food, water, rain gear; good walking shoes are a must. Upon return to Snug Cove, we'll sip a beer and socialize while waiting for the return ferry.

Lets meet in the departure lounge of the Horseshoe Bay ferry terminal & leave for Snug Cove at 11.05 am. Please arrive early because the ticket sale closes 10 minutes before departure time. Seniors travel free, but must get a ticket by showing their gold card. Return fare for non-seniors is \$10.65. The bus on Bowen Island belongs to Translink, therefore the fare prices in Vancouver also apply on Bowen: \$1.75 for seniors and \$2.50 for the not-so-old. The return ferry from Snug Cove leaves at 5:15 pm or 6:20 pm. (no 4 pm Wed)

For more information and for reservations, contact your trip leaders:

1. Joe Mueller: 604 732-6213 or josefmueller@shaw.ca
2. Peter Schaerer: 604 987-3716 or pschar@axionet.com





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).

GROUP WALK AND BIKE RIDE!

Fort to Fort trail in Fort Langley - Pictures

When: Sunday, May 20th, 2012

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

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

To all members,

14 or so participated in the Derby Reach to the Fort walk as far as I know it is 6 km one way. For me, excellent weather; overcast but did turn to drizzle later and we ended up a little damp, but here in B.C all were



prepared. We had a surprise visit from Ilse Staeubli at the Fort picnic shelter. All had a good and refreshing time.

Thank you to Susanne and Steve Wilson for planning and leading of the walk. They had all of the angles covered. They parked their van at the Fort, just in case the rain would disrupt our return and we drove back to our cars. How forward thinking of them. Thank you to you both.

Jacques Goldschmidt



CABIN SPRING CLEANING - ALL HANDS ON DECK!

Hello to all members,



This past week end we had our annual cabin clean up. 13 members made it after extra long waits at the border. The inside of the cabin is "Jeanette Kuenzli" clean. The roofs and the gutters are all clean, while the deck, stairs and cement patio are pressure washed. The walkway grooves are scraped. The logging crew has cut fallen logs up the trail and transported the wood down to the splitting station and it was piled under the overhangs of the wood shed to dry for

next year.

All have done an excellent and great job. The grass was cut during the past week by the Kuenzli's and I think Sepp, as the numbers of volunteers for the weekend was smaller then in the past years.

A barbecue followed the executive meeting and the evening was enjoyed by all.

Thank you for your dedication.

Jacques Goldschmidt
Swiss Outdoors Club

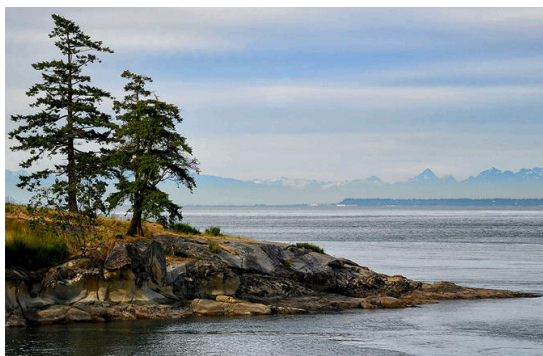




NEW OUTDOORS CLUB EVENT!

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!



Juliet Fricker - just before getting on the ferry at Galiano

On our joint hike with the Pathfinders we had 31 people coming along; 17 from the Pathfinder Club and 14 from the Swiss Outdoors Club.



Famous Charles Clapham, who wrote the book on hiking in the Lower Fraser Valley, led us. We enjoyed perfect weather and warm camaraderie. Except for some minor mishaps on sloperly rocks, all went well.



The picture to the left, as well as the picture above, are both taken by Joe Mueller - I am so grateful for his help every time I put together an issue of the Herald. I also love the picture by Juliet Fricker! What a work of art!

Betreff: Helvetia: Von der virtuellen Welt zurück in die Realität

Mitteilung des Delegierten für Auslandschweizerbeziehungen zur elektronischen Schweizer Revue

Gestatten Sie mir eine Frage: Haben Sie die kürzlich versandte elektronische Ausgabe der "Schweizer Revue" gelesen? Oder haben Sie die entsprechende Infomail aus Versehen gelöscht?

Wir stellen fest, dass von den 140'000 elektronisch erreichten Empfängern, nur ein kleiner Teil diese speziell für die Auslandschweizerinnen und Auslandschweizer herausgegebene Zeitschrift lesen. Somit verpasst rund 75% der virtuellen Leserschaft nicht nur die von der Auslandschweizerorganisation sorgfältig auf ihre Bedürfnisse zugeschnittenen Artikel über ihr Heimatland, sondern auch die durch die Konsularische Direktion des EDA ("Aus dem Bundeshaus") oder die von den schweizerischen Vertretungen (Regionalseiten) vorbereiteten offiziellen Mitteilungen.

Wir empfehlen Ihnen, die "Schweizer Revue" regelmässig zu konsultieren. Aufmerksam lesen anstatt löschen heisst, die Aktualität der Schweiz aus politischer und administrativer Sicht aus der Ferne in Ihrem eigenen Interesse zu verfolgen und zu verstehen. Übrigens, die aktuelle Ausgabe und Archive (inkl. Regionalseiten) können Sie jederzeit unter www.revue.ch nachlesen.

Bleiben Sie in der Realität Helvetias, lesen Sie virtuell über Helvetia!

Jean-François Lichtenstern

Delegierter für Auslandschweizerbeziehungen

Délégué aux relations avec les Suisses de l'étranger

Delegate for Relations with the Swiss Abroad

Delegado de las relaciones con los Suizos del extranjero

***"Aufmerksam lesen
anstatt loeschen!"***



PAST SWISS CHOIR 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...

Dear friends,

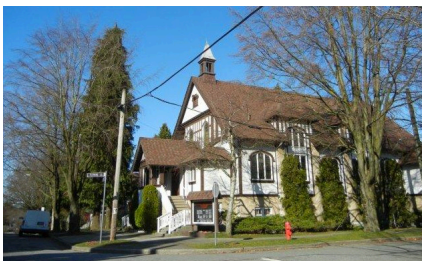
Wow, what a busy day it was for many of us Swiss Choir members. As many of you have known, today we celebrated our Vancouver Swiss Choir spring concert at the St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Vancouver BC. After many hours of choir rehearsals, food preparation, decorating, and hoping for decent weather, our concert started at 2:30 pm. Our conductor Dubravko Pajalic prepared a very lively and exciting program for the 132 people in attendance. The program consisted of many beautiful songs, two alphorn players, Kim Hong Chul and Beat Heeb, the new yodel group, and the yodel trio Andrea Flükiger, Dorli Meier, and Anna-Marie Spaeti. We enjoyed a special performance by a young upcoming yodeling star Daniel Kim (9 years old) who recently arrived from south Korea. Daniel was singing and yodeling two songs in Schwyzer dütsch, which he learned from his and our great yodeling teacher Kim Hong Chul. Our guest artist John Watkins entertained us with his unique Swiss instrument "Hung". Something very special indeed. Not to forget our Master of Ceremony Andrea Stolte, who did a marvellous job. Also a thank you to our camera man Bernardo.

After the concert everyone was invited downstairs for some fellowship, food and of course a lot of singing with Kimi and his Schwyzer Örgeli. All in all it was a very special day for all in attendance.

Last but not least, please enjoy the attached pictures. The door to join our Swiss choir in the near future is always open.

Now, I wish you all a nice and blessed Sunday and hope to see one of these days again.

Yours truly,
Alfredo



Pictures and article by Alfred Eigenmann





THE SWISS CHOIR

Choir News

Thank you to all who came to our Spring Concert on June 9th. It was a joyous occasion with a varied program of Choir songs and several solo performances. An interlude with John Watkins introduced us to a new Swiss Instrument called a Hang drum. A young soloist, Daniel Kim sang two very popular Swiss Yodeling songs and finally our Yodeling trio from the Fraser Valley graced us with two beautiful songs; Dorli Meier, Anna-Marie Spaeti and Andrea Flukiger are part of our choir and travel many hours to rehearse with us weekly. Maja Joehl prepared four beautiful raffle baskets and also decorated the Concert venue with great Flower arrangements. After the concert a reception with home baking, Creme Schnitten, Gipfeli and Sandwiches made for a wonderful Z'Vieri". The big baskets of genuine "Puurebrot" were a very popular addition to the offerings; we thank the Valley women for these great gifts.

Our choir has now 36 members and has the enquiry of a few more singers who would like to join us in the fall. We urge all those still interested in joining the choir to contact us, so that we can invite you to summer functions such as the Swiss National celebration on July 28 and the choir picnic August 26. These social events are a great way to get to know us and participate in the always present sing-alongs whenever we gather. We also urge former Associate members and former choir members who wish to become Associate members to contact us. We would like to revive this tradition.

It has been a very productive year and our many outings allowed us to form closer bonds and to have a repertoire we can travel with. Our Quadra Island adventure proved that a dinner Concert is indeed a very much enjoyed event for all. To sing in an adapted Yodel service in a First Nations Church was another memorable experience on Quadra island. Our seasonal rehearsal weekends at the Mt. Baker Cabin were very productive this past year and a source of great fun and "Gemuetlichkeit"

As our choir is growing we are in desperate need of costumes: Trachten and Chotteli. We appeal to anyone who still has a "Tracht" or a "Chotteli" forgotten in a closet to please have us pick it up. Recently we were given a number of Swiss costumes and were very grateful. We would like to Thank Mr Victor Puchmajr, Cecilia Trachsler and Heidi Luthi for donating their personal Swiss Costumes to the choir.

We wish our two Alphorn players, Beat Heeb and Hong Kim much success in their World Exhibition engagement at the Swiss pavilion in Korea!

We thank the Swiss Community of Vancouver for their continuous support and we are delighted to share our Swiss Singing and Yodeling tradition with all. If you are interested in Yodeling classes and Schwyzzeroergeli classes please contact us. (see below)



Contact:
Marie-Louise Hanna
mhanna18@shaw.ca
604536-6382





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

July 28th Swiss National Holiday celebration at Rifle Range

August 1st Swiss National Holiday Celebration in the Valley (pending *Invitation*)

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!

“Help to Paint a Picture of Switzerland” ***(from Swiss Revue)***

www.swissworld.org/en/your_switzerland/



Who exactly are the Swiss? How do they live? Where do they live? And what are they like?

Presence Switzerland has launched “Swiss-world – Life in Switzerland”, a portal designed to answer these questions. The Swiss identity is shaped by its people living, for instance, in Berne, Moutier or Flims, but also abroad. This is why Presence Switzerland wishes to invite the Swiss abroad to contribute to the portrait gallery as well.

Adding your contribution to the gallery couldn't be easier. To document your piece of Switzerland abroad, simply go to www.swissworld.org/en/your_switzerland. You can upload text, photos and videos, which can then be viewed at www.swissworld.org/en/know/life_in_switzerland, painting a picture of a fascinating, colourful and diverse country.

Join in and show the world the makers of Switzerland as we know it!

AUSLANDSCHWEIZER ORGANISATION-ASO



Auslandschweizer-Organisation
Organisation des Suisses de l'étranger
Organizzazione degli Svizzeri all'estero
Organizzaziun dals Svizzers a l'ester

Congress of the Swiss Abroad in Lausanne

17. - 19. August, 2012

JEDERMANN –Schweizer & Nicht-Schweizer- KOENNEN SICH ANMELDEN
Anmeldung, Programm, Thema und Hotelunterkunft finden Sie auf:
<http://aso.ch/de/angebote/auslandschweizer-kongress/kongress-2012>

ABLAUF [das Folgende ist eine Zusammenfassung von Rolf A. Brühlhart, Delegierter im ASR in Bern]

1. SITZUNG DES AUSLANDSCHWEIZERRATES-ASR am Freitag, 17. August, 2012

-Vote électronique/Stimmabgabe per Internet–Standortbestimmung:

Barbara Perriard, Leiterin Sektion Politische Rechte, Bundeskanzlei und andere werden vor dem ASR sprechen und Rede und Antwort stehen. Die Hälfte der Kantone hat bereits Versuche mit Vote électronique [Abstimmen via Internet] durchgeführt. Prioritäre Zielgruppe bilden dabei in der Regel die Stimmberechtigten im Ausland. In den Kantonen Genf und Neuenburg steht die elektronische Stimmabgabe auch einem Teil des inländischen Elektorates offen. Weitere Kantone bereiten die Einführung von EVoting vor. Auslandswalliser werden bald elektronisch stimmen und wählen können: Der Grosse Rat des Kantons Wallis hat am 9.05.2012 mit 86 zu 12 Stimmen ein Postulat von Pascal Duboisson, CVP Unterwallis überwiesen, das den Regierungsrat ermutigt, Vote électronique einzuführen. In ihrer Stellungnahme hatte die Exekutive die Absicht bekundet, den Stimmberechtigten im Ausland ab Ende 2012/Anfang 2013 die Stimmabgabe per Internet zu ermöglichen. Wenn gewünscht, könne das elektronische Stimmverfahren später auf alle Stimmberechtigten ausgedehnt werden.



-Schweizer Banken und Auslandschweizer:

Am 24.03.2012 hat der ASR-Auslandschweizerrat einstimmig eine Resolution verabschiedet in welcher Banken und Behörden aufgefordert werden, Lösungen zu unterbreiten, welche es unseren Mitbürgern im Ausland, die sich an die Steuergesetze halten, ermöglichen, in der Schweiz Bankbeziehungen zu vernünftigen Bedingungen zu pflegen. Orientierung über die seither unternommen Schritte; Resultate & Perspektiven; Diskussion & Beschlussfassung über weiteres Vorgehen.



-Konsularnetz–Standortbestimmung:

Nationalrat Büchel verlangt Moratorium bei Konsulatsschliessungen: Mit einer am 14.06.2012 eingereichten Motion verlangt SVP-Nationalrat und ASOVorstandsmitglied Roland Büchel ein Moratorium für Konsulatsschliessungen bis zum Ende der laufenden Legislatur. Vor weiteren Abbaumassnahmen sollen die Auswirkungen der bisherigen Reorganisation und Regionalisierung des Konsularischen Dienstes evaluiert werden. Zuvor hatte sich Büchel in der Fragestunde am 11.06.2012 beim Bundesrat erkundigt, ob in den nächsten 12 Monaten weitere Konsulatsschliessungen geplant seien und weshalb bei Schliessungen nicht immer per Communiqué informiert werde. Im Rahmen der Aufgabenüberprüfung würden bis Ende 2014 weitere Restrukturierungsmassnahmen umgesetzt; beschied ihm Bundesrat Didier Burkhalter. Informiert würden jedenfalls die betroffenen Botschaften sowie die Schweizergemeinschaften und die Behörden des jeweiligen Landes.



-Auslandschweizergesetz–Standortbestimmung:

Die mit der Ausarbeitung eines Auslandschweizergesetzes betraute Subkommission der Staatspolitischen Kommission des Ständerates hat ihre Arbeiten am 24.05.2012 aufgenommen. Zum Auftakt der hinter Verschlussenen Türen stattfindenden Beratungen erhielt die ASO [Auslandschweizer-Organisation] Gelegenheit die Sicht und die Anliegen der Interessenorganisation der Fünften Schweiz bezüglich des zu schaffenden Gesetzes darzulegen. Orientierung des Rates über den Stand der Arbeiten und über das weitere Vorgehen.



2. AUSLANDSCHWEIZER – KONGRESS

Freitag-Sonntag, 17.-19. August Kongressthema: <http://aso.ch/de/angebote/auslandschweizer-kongress/kongress-2012>

Mobilität und Innovation: Die Schweiz in Zeiten internationaler Herausforderungen. Im Palais de Beaulieu in Lausanne werden sich die Teilnehmenden [inkl. Debatte am Runden Tisch] mit zwei Themen auseinandersetzen: Dies sind die internationale Mobilität und die Globalisierung des Wissens als Wachstumsfaktor unseres Landes. Nebst wirtschaftlichen Fragen geht es auch um die Rationalisierung und Nutzung von Synergieeffekten. Bundesrat Didier Burkhalter, EDA, hält die Kongressansprache.



TYROL WHISTLER - PART I

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

The Motion was Carried!

Dear Members of the Swiss Society of Vancouver,

we would like to thank all members that made an effort to come to the extraordinary general meeting last Friday. With exactly 50 members present we had the necessary quorum to continue the meeting and to vote on the motion to invest \$100.000 into the Tyrol Investment GP Inc. in Whistler. The minutes of the meeting will be send out shortly.

The explanations of Rolf Frowein about the historical background of the Tyrol Ski and Mountain Club and the involvement of the Sons of Norway and the presentation of Jim Brown (President of the Tyrol Club) were followed by a lively question & answer session that touched on many important issues and worries. For instance, the proposed benefits for the Swiss Society as a new member of the Tyrol Club were amended to 20 votes instead of the granted 10 votes.

The motion was carried with a majority of approval and only 2 opposed votes. The board members will take the necessary steps to process the investment and together with the minutes of the extraordinary general meeting we are going to send out the benefits that we as members of the Swiss Society will have as members of the Tyrol Club.

We are also happy to announce that there is the possibility to invest into this property in Whistler as a private person. You have to become a member of the Tyrol Club to be eligible to invest, but as a member of the Swiss Society you don't have to pay the initiation fee of \$300. The annual fee for singles is \$100 and for families \$200. Each share is sold for \$5000.

Please find attached the information package of the Tyrol Investment GP Inc. and a document for the expression of interest. If you want to invest, please fill out this expression of interest and send it to Jim Brown as indicated on the document as soon as possible. You will receive a notification how to proceed then.

Kind regards,
Karin Kapp & Mirjam Mai

President & Vice President
Swiss Society of Vancouver

“The objective is to raise at least \$1.25 million by issuing 250 shares at \$5,000 each.”





TYROL WHISTLER INVESTMENT

Partnership Expression of Interest?



In 1963 the Tyrol Ski and Mountain Club and the Sons of Norway jointly purchased our 5 acre property in Whistler, with three acres (60%) set aside for Tyrol and two acres (40%) for the Sons of Norway. The property was not formally sub-divided but held as joint owners. The Tyrol Ski & Mountain Club built a ski lodge and have enjoyed this facility for all these decades. The Sons of Norway did not built on the two acres allocated to them and have since developed property elsewhere.

In 2007 we received advice from the Sons of Norway that they wish to dispose of their interest in the joint ownership of our property. Under the registered land title the Tyrol Ski and Mountain Club has rights of first refusal, but otherwise cannot block the sale of the land. For several years we have been working with the

Sons of Norway (SON) and the Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) to rezone and subdivide the property. Under this process the SON's two acres would be designated as single dwelling and the Tyrol Ski and Mountain Club 3 acres would be designated as a form of tourist accommodation/hostel.

The rezoning is important for the Tyrol Lodge because the current zoning (RSE1) does not allow for anything other than a large single family home and auxiliary buildings associated with that home. This renders the Tyrol Lodge "legally non-confirming", fine to operate as is but not able to replace the current use in the future if re-building was desired or required.

The subdivision is important to allow the two acre lot to be sold separately, leaving the Tyrol Lodge free to operate as a club facility. Last year the rezoning application was completed but we faced one condition which prevented the final filing of this application. The current access road from the parking lot is too steep to meet fire safety standards. This prevents the application from going forward. There are two choices to rectify this problem. One alternative is to establish an easement through our neighbouring property to the south. The other choice is to re-align the access road from the parking lot to significantly reduce the grade.

The subdivision process was also challenged by the long-standing RMOW policy of severely restricted growth (essentially no growth beyond current development capacity as allocated by "bed units" associated with parcels of land). The required investment in time and money to rectify these obstacles blocked the completion of the rezoning application in a time frame that was acceptable to SON. They have given Tyrol Ski and Mountain Club a deadline to purchase their share by July 10th, 2012 or the entire property will be listed for sale.

The only remaining option, as discussed at the recent AGM, is for the Tyrol Ski and Mountain Club to purchase the Sons of Norway's two acres. Since the AGM we have been working on this option. A key milestone was reached on February 10, 2012 where an agreement was signed with the Sons of Norway to purchase their two acres for \$840,000.00 which is down considerably from the original asking price of \$960,000.00. This is good value for the property, benefiting from both the legally. The property will be held for a maximum of ten years. If the sub-division is not achieved by this time the entire property will be sold.



EUROPEAN FESTIVAL

Where You There This Year?

Europe Day 2012 Fashion Show

17 countries represented their traditional costumes at the 2012 Europe Day Fashion Show, including Germany, Austria & Switzerland. Hans-Peter Willi from the Swiss Consulate and Peter Schalle with his wife, Helen were in attendance, as well as these two lovely models.



1



3

4



2



6

5



This year, the 15th Annual European Festival was held in the Swangard Stadium for the first time. (1) The Swangard is located at the corner of Kingsway and Boundary Road in Burnaby, just down from the Patterson Skytrain Station. The day started with the flag carriers from each of the participating country getting ready for the flag parade at 10:30 am. When the M.C. called their names, they lined up in front of the stage (2). At 12:35, the Swiss Choir performed a number of yodeling songs (3). The day was spent by the public visiting the cultural booths, including the German one, where Rolf is holding a beer mug thinking "I like the Swiss ones better!". (4). There was also delicious Swiss food, Swiss toys and Swiss Stromer Bikes that people could try. Towards the evening, the S-Bahn arrived (5) to perform on behalf of Germany. They sang songs like "Marmorstein & Eisen bricht" and the "Zillertaler Hochzeitsmarsch", where Peter was dancing with my daughter Sophia (6). The beer tent was also very popular, as it was an extremely hot and sunny day, just made to order. If you would like to see a short video on the Festival, please check out <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vrOlrgV9-g> on YouTube, as it shows the Swiss, Austrians and Germans at the European Festival. It can be found on my channel: PorterPR. The video shows Rolf yodeling in the stands and Peter doing the chicken dance, as well as the yodeling trio performing. Written by Elke Porter



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!

General Consulate of Switzerland

Urs Strausak, Consul General

email: vertretung@van.rep.admin.ch

Swiss Canadian Chamber of Commerce

Vince Sciamanna, President

chamber@swissccc.com

Check out The Platform for Swiss

Abroad & join:

<http://http://www.swisscommunity.org/>

Council of Swiss Abroad

Rolf A Brulhart, Western Canada Delegate

rbrulhart@hotmail.com

Swiss Mountain Range Association

Rene Zollinger, President

president@scmra.ca

Vancouver Dorfmusik

Urs Fricker, President

julieturs@hotmail.com

Juni War Vatertag!

Du bist immer für mich da,
das finde ich ganz wunderbar.
Schufstest schwer für meine Träume,
versetzt für mich Berge und Bäume.
Selten war ich dankbar dafür
und hoffe Du verzeihst es mir.
So möcht' ich Dir sagen an diesem Tag,
dass ich Dich sooo ganz besonders mag.
(gefunden im Internet)



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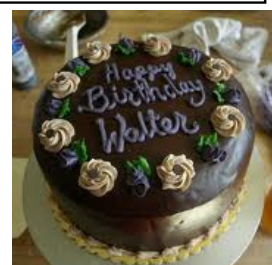
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SWISS COMMUNITY NEWS

Das Urteil der Mitmenschen... vom Internet

Ein Mann aus der Schweiz hatte einen Sohn, der sich nicht aus dem Haus traute, weil er sich so hässlich fand.

"Was werden die anderen sagen, wenn sie mich sehen", sagte er immer.

"Höre nicht auf die Leute", riet ihm der Vater.

"Du wirst sehen, sie reden und reden, und es ist doch ohne Bedeutung."

Am nächsten Tag gingen die beiden gemeinsam auf den Markt. Der Alte ritt, der Sohn lief nebenher.

Als sie auf dem Markt ankamen, schüttelten die Menschen über ihn den Kopf.

"Schaut euch nur die beiden an", sagten sie.

"Da sitzt der Alte gemütlich auf dem Esel und der junge Mann muss laufen."

"Hörst du?", sagte der alte Mann zu seinem Sohn.

"Morgen kommen wir wieder."

Am nächsten Tag gingen sie wieder zum Markt, dieses Mal aber saß der Sohn auf dem Esel und der Vater lief nebenher.

"Seht euch die beiden an!", riefen die Leute.

"Dieses ungezogene Kind lässt sich tragen, und der alte Mann schleppt sich mühsam durch den Staub."

"Hast du gehört?", sagte der Vater.

"Morgen gehen wir wieder auf den Markt."

Am nächsten Tag gingen Vater und Sohn zu Fuß, dabei führten sie den Esel am Strick.

"Schaut euch diese Dummköpfe an!", lachten die Händler.

"Sie laufen zu Fuß. Wissen sie denn nicht, dass man einen Esel reitet?"

"Hast du auch das gehört?", fragte der Vater.

"Morgen gehen wir wieder auf den Markt."

Als die beiden auf den Marktplatz kamen, saßen sie beide auf dem Esel.

Die Händler schüttelten empört die Köpfe.

"Das arme Tier!", riefen sie. "Haben sie denn kein Herz?"

Als sie am fünften Tage auf dem Marktplatz erschienen, brachen die Menschen in schallendes Gelächter aus. Vater und Sohn trugen nämlich den Esel auf dem Rücken.

"Was sind das denn für Tölpel!", lachten die Leute.

"Tragen den Esel, statt ihn zu reiten!"

Zu Hause setzte sich der Vater zu seinem Sohn.

"Hast du nun gehört, mein Sohn?", fragte er.

"Egal, was du tust, die Menschen haben immer etwas daran auszusetzen."

Darum ist es wichtig, dass du so handelst, wie du es für richtig hältst und deinen Weg gehst."

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!

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.



SWISS ON THE'NET

There are a few online organizations you can join as a Swiss in BC. One of these is the meetup group, but there is also the SwissCommunity or even GermanBC (for Swiss & Austrians, as well)

Meetup Groups

1. The Vancouver Swiss-German Language Meetup Group Message Board
<http://www.meetup.com/german-359/>
2. The Greater Vancouver German Language Meetup Group
<http://www.meetup.com/german-21/>
3. The Vancouver Italian Meetup
<http://www.meetup.com/vancouver-italian-meetup/>
4. Vancouver French Language Meetup Group (Franco Vancouver)
<http://www.meetup.com/french-812/>



From Switzerland

1. <https://www.swisscommunity.org/en/my-network/welcome> - SwissCommunity.org
2. Swiss Revue: http://pageflip.revue.ch/?title_id=34&iissue_id=888&lang=en - Interesting article in the latest issue called "The Political Profile of the Swiss Abroad"...



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DEADLINES: As stated below, please send me the information you wish to see in the Herald at least a week before the due date. There will be no Herald for the summer months of July & August. The next deadlines will be:

-September 30th, 2012

-November 30th, 2012

-January 30th, 2013

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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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