



SWISS HERALD

July/August 2019 Edition

Swiss Society of Vancouver
P.O.Box 32021 Walnut Grove
Langley, BC V1M 2M3

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TIME TO CELEBRATE ANOTHER 100. BIRTHDAY



August 11th, 2019 will be Werner Rutishauser's big day! He will turn 100 years young. No, don't congratulate him in advance. It's bad luck to do so, and we hope, Werner will live at least a dozen more years in good health.



REMEMBERING DOMINIK FASSLER

Dear Swiss friends and neighbors,

It is with great sadness, but with inner peace, we share the passing of Dominik Fassler on April 10, 2019. The long journey of Alzheimer's and learning to live a day at a time was graciously accepted by both Dominik and his wife Silvia.



With Louis Schurmann in the 60ies

Ad-Hoc-Band-1963

Dominik grew up on a farm above Pfäeffikon, SZ in Switzerland. He came to Canada in 1961 to start an adventurous new life, first on a dairy farm in Fort. St. John, then moved south to the West Coast. Some of you may remember the early Swiss functions where Dominik & his many musician friends were invited to play the happy Swiss tunes. At the time Dominik played the trumpet & the Alpine horn, and of course his accordion.

At the Swiss Society's 50. Anniversary

Besides working fulltime as a backhoe operator, Dominik and Silvia raised their family on a hobby farm in Langley. Long before 'being green' was popular, he decided that his family needed fresh milk, eggs, organic fruits & veggies... his favorites were the honey bees!

Playing Swiss music on his Schwiizeroergeli was a gift he happily shared with family & friends.

He is dearly missed by his family, Silvia (wife of 53 yrs), David (Grace), Nick (May), Theresa (Brad); his grandkids, Adam, April, Summer, Nathan, and Andrew, as well as his siblings, nieces & nephews in Switzerland and in Canada.

Thank you for sharing your memories and your kind supportive thoughts & prayers. Silvia Fassler



SWISS NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION



SATURDAY, JULY 27, 2019 AT THE CHALET OF THE SWISS MOUNTAIN RANGE ASSOCIATION

4141 Quarry Rd, Coquitlam, BC V3E 3H5

The Swiss Society of Vancouver and its Clubs and Choir, the Swiss Mountain Range Association, Swiss Consulate in Vancouver and Swiss Canadian Chamber of Commerce invite everyone to our celebration Swiss National Day.

The 2019 Swiss National Day celebrations ("August 1st") will be held on Saturday, July 27, at the Mountain Range Chalet at 4141 Quarry Road in Coquitlam. The gates will open at 1 pm. Entrance is \$10, everybody under 18 is free.

There will be activities for the kids, live performances by the Vancouver Swiss Choir and S-Bahn, and of course there will be the BBQ with Bratwurst and other yummy food. The singing of the Anthem and a Lampionumzug for the little ones will of course not be missing.



SENIOR S' SECTION

There won't be a Filmnachmittag until October 20th, 2019

Interessierte: October 20th & November 17th, 2019

im Deutschen Haus

Kosten: \$8 fuer Kaffee und Kuchen

SSV SENIOR OUTING May 7th, 2019

Report from Lotti Frowein, Photos from Veronika Sans & Lotti Frowein

Since I suggested at the last AGM that something should be done for the Seniors I got myself a job. To avoid the holiday rush and from suggestions of other Seniors we opted to have our first outing taking **the Sea to Sky Gondola ride**. 13 of us met at the bottom of the Gondola at about 10.30 am and together we boarded the tram. The weather couldn't have been better. Once up we just followed these beautiful, well kept trails enjoying the view from the various points. Then we indulged in a great lunch in the Restaurant and some preferred the fresh air outside. A few participants headed down and some of us explored more trails. I guess we all had a good time and hopefully we can repeat this.





Next on the program was **Bowen Island**. This time we were only 7. We met May 28th at 10.30 in Horseshoe Bay, hoped on to the Ferry (no charge for Seniors) and once on Bowen we enjoyed a leisurely walk through the forest and over meadows to Killarney Lake. A well deserved lunch of Fish & Chips at Doc Morgan's Pub was just awesome.

I am happy to say that the executive of the SS allowed us a budget of \$ 500.00 for the balance of the Club year. This is meant to be used mainly for transportation. a limit of \$ 10.00 per person per trip is recommended. Well at least the Seniors are now on the radar!!!

These trips will be announced spontaneously. If someone has a suggestions please let me know, anybody is welcome to arrange an outing.

Lotti Frowein+



Cecilia, Wally and Denise are ready for a snack.



SWISS CHOIR

Choir Spring Concert June 15th, 2019



The Vancouver Swiss Choir had its Spring Concert at All Saints Church on 7405 Royal Oak Ave., Burnaby. It was a beautiful sunny day. Everyone in our choir had worked very hard under the direction of our conductor Dr. Sergio Pires. Beat Heeb played his Swiss Alphorn and Schwyzer Oergeli wonderfully. The yodeling by Andrea Fluckiger, Dorli Meyer, Maja Joehl and Sarah Elbert was very much appreciated. We missed our fantastic bass singer Hans Wacker who was in Switzerland and also our member Marion Vlek's voice. Alfred Eigenmann; some photos from Lotti Frowein





Report from the former Choir President Silvia Kinvig

Our choir has successfully finished the year with our Spring Concert. There was yodeling, the alphorn and of course a lot of singing. The concert was a big success. We were honored with a lot of guests and everybody enjoyed the refreshments after in the church basement. Andrea Flukiger did bake a lot of bread again. The crunchy, crispy Bauernbrot and Zopf sold out quickly. It is amazing what Andrea produces in a day.

Now we are all looking forward to a relaxing and sunny summer. We still have a few the performances to attend. Of course we will be singing at the Swiss National Day celebration in Coquitlam (Saturday, July 27th at 7 pm). We've been asked to perform at a concert with a Mandolin Band from Germany Friday, Aug. 2nd at 7:30 pm at the Alpenclub.

So we are not finished for the summer. In July we are invited by Alfred and Christel Eigenmann to their place for our yearly picnic

The choir is looking for new leadership. I have stepped down from the presidency and I'm looking forward to concentrating on just singing again. I do not know how it will go but rest assured the choir is here to stay; we will figure it out.

We are still looking for more singers! If you love to sing, come and join us in the fall, we need new voices in the choir. We do have fun, and you do not need to have the greatest voice, but you don't mind to put some commitment in it. Please come and help us out and you'll notice how much singing and music will do good for you!

Danke Schoen!

On behalf of our choir I'd like to thank everybody who has been so supportive at our concerts. It was a great pleasure to see so many at our spring concert. It makes us work harder and it's worth while efforts to see a full house. We are working hard all year long with great determination to bring you the best concert we are capable of. Thank you all who come to our concerts you are the best audience we have. A great thank you as well to the Vancouver Swiss Society who support us fully every year. We hope to see you all on Nov. 23rd at our Christmas concert.

Editors' Note: Chapeau or Hut ab to Silvia Kinvig

In the name of the Swiss Society Board I like to thank Silvia for her enormous effort, time and determination she put into her leadership the last few years.

It was not an easy job and sometimes impossible to please everybody. Silvia did it with a lot of patience and respect. She helped hands-on and wrote lots of emails, made phone calls and came to all the board meetings. Luckily she'll stay in the choir as a singer and will not hesitate to help the future president.

Christina Lips



JUNGBUERGERFEIER



On June 23rd the Consulate General of Switzerland once again hosted the “Jungbürgerfeier” at the Residence of the Swiss Confederation in West Vancouver.



This event is held to celebrate the 18th Birthday, the age of majority in Switzerland, of young Swiss citizens living in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

This event was very well attended with about 30 Jungbuerger and their families coming from as far away as Saskatchewan.

The program included Alphorn music, Swiss trivia and prizes for the Jungbuerger, a classic Swiss Raclette lunch, information about your rights as Swiss Citizen, and of course the opportunity to meet fellow young Swiss living in Western Canada.

Congratulations to the “class of 2001” (birth year)

Pascal Vogel



VANCOUVER DORFMUSIK



The Dorfmusik had performances at the European Festival, at the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival and at the Kitsilano Showboat.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, July 22 nd , 2019	Board Meeting	SSV
Saturday, July 27 th , 2019	National Celebration	Rifle Range Ass. and SSV
Friday, August 2 nd , 2019	Concert with Mandolin Players	Choir
Sunday, October 20 th , 2019	Filmnachmittag	Seniors
Sunday, November 17 th , 2019	Filmnachmittag	Seniors
November 23 rd , 2019	Christmas Concert	Choir
Saturday, December 7 th , 2019	Senior's Luncheon	Seniors

Fees for Advertisement in the Swiss Herald

Fees for design:

To make minor adjustments: Free

To make major changes to an ad: \$ 25

To create a new ad: \$ 50 – 100

Deadlines for sending in ads or articles:

20th of August, October, December, February, April and June.

Fees for advertisement:

Ad Size	One Issue	Six Issues
One full page	\$ 150	\$ 825
½ Page	\$ 90	\$ 495
1/3 Page	\$ 60	\$ 330
¼ Page	\$ 40	\$ 220
Business Card (5 Lines)	\$ 20	\$ 110

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MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO FIGHT GLOBAL WARMING? PLANT TREES

From Swissinfo.ch

The ETH Zurich researchers say six countries with the most space for new trees are Russia, the United States, Canada, Australia, Brazil and China.

(Keystone / Friso Gentsch)

An area of 900 million hectares could be planted with at least one trillion trees around the world to effectively combat global warming, researchers at the Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich (ETH Zurich) have calculated.



Once they have grown, the trees could store 205 billion tonnes of carbon, according to a study by Jean-François Bastin and Tom Crowther from [ETH Zurich](#) external link, which has been published in the latest edition of the journal Science.

This represents about two-thirds of the 300 billion tonnes of carbon that has been released into the atmosphere as a result of human activity since the Industrial Revolution.

The researchers say most of the benefit will come early on because trees remove more carbon from the air when they are younger. The potential for removing the most carbon is in the tropics. The researchers used Google Earth and artificial intelligence to see what areas could support more trees, while leaving room for people and crops. Bastin estimated there's space for at least 1 trillion more trees, but it could be 1.5 trillion.

"We all knew that restoring forests could play a part in tackling climate change, but we didn't really know how big the impact would be. Our study shows clearly that forest restoration is the best climate change solution available today," said Crowther. "But we must act quickly, as new forests will take decades to mature and achieve their full potential as a source of natural carbon storage." *Keystone-SDA/sb*



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ANOTHER BIG THANK YOU! To Margrit Ruevekamp

Former Treasurer of the SSV

Margrit joined the SSV Board a few years back and learned quickly how to arrange the accounting books. She spent a lot of effort to communicate with different banks and also volunteered in all other areas of the SSV.

Her humor and wit enchanted our meetings and she was a great asset. Everyone loved her organic apples from her own apple tree!



The opposite of Margrit!

Margrit, we wish you a great new start in Kelowna and lots of enjoyment with your kids and grandchildren there!

Christina and the SSV Board will miss you!

Volunteers!



Please come and join the board! We don't just work hard, but also have fun and eat delicious goodies!



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IS IT TRUE? By Thomas Stephens from swissinfo.ch



Is it true that it's not possible in Switzerland to buy just one guinea pig – you have to buy at least two because they get lonely and need company?

It's possible to do many things in Switzerland, Vanessa, but whether they're TOTES legal is another matter. You can certainly buy just one guinea pig – it's not as if they come in multipacks – but “guinea pigs are very social animals and may not be kept on their own”, the [Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office external link](#)

confirms.

Keeping pets

Cats are the most common household pets in Switzerland with 1.4 million feline companions ruling the roost in Swiss homes.

The 182-page [Animal Protection Ordinance external link](#), in force since September 2008, has mind-boggling information on how hundreds of species should be kept. Did you know that you're not allowed to force domestic poultry to wear glasses or contact lenses? (Art. 20 (c).)

The species that “must be kept in groups of at least two animals” are (for mammals) guinea pigs, mice, gerbils, rats, degus and chinchillas, and (for birds) Japanese quails, macaws, cockatoos, parakeets, parrots, canaries, estrildid finches and – of course – lovebirds. Domestic rabbits “may not be kept on their own during their first eight weeks”, after that they should be kept in groups “whenever possible”. If it's not possible, they must at least be able to hear and smell other rabbits.

The veterinary office has loads of advice (in German, French and Italian) [on looking after guinea pigs external link](#) and other pets. “An “An ideal guinea

pig group comprises two or three females and a castrated male,” it says. Disputes occur more often among exclusively female groups, apparently.

But what about hamsters? Elena May wrote in, wondering: “Is it true that it's illegal to own only one hamster in Switzerland?” Well it turns out that “[gold hamsters are loners external link](#) and should be kept on their own”. However, the veterinary office says Russian dwarf hamsters and Chinese hamsters can live in family groups.

As for enforcement and punishment, the cantonal veterinary services, which carry out animal protection checks, determine the penalties of non-compliance.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2019

2019 SSV / Choir MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

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

If you did not renew in 2019 yet or would like to join the SSV for the first time please send the membership / liability form with the payment. You can download & print the form from the SSV website or send me an e-mail.

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

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

You can send the cheque to : **Swiss Society of Vancouver**
P.O.Box 32021 Walnut Grove;
Langley, BC ;
V1M 2M3

Memberships are as follow:	Optional memberships is:
SSV Individual: \$ 40.00	Outdoor Club Single \$.12.00
SSV Family: \$ 60.00	Outdoor Club Family \$ 18.00
SSV Single Senior \$ 25.00	Choir \$ 80.00
SSV Senior with Spouse \$ 40.00	
All members are required to pay the SSV membership.	

If you miss sending in the payment by the March 31, 2019 deadline, I would need a new form filled out, because it lapsed and the liability has expired. There is an updated form available on-line at the SSV website under "membership", or call me, then I 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?)

If you receive the Herald by mail and you do have an e-mail account, you might want to consider making a donation of \$ 20.00 to cover the printing and mailing cost of the Herald. The SSV would really appreciate this gesture.

Please get in touch with me, if there are any other questions.

Sincerely, **Susanne Wilson**, SSV; Outdoors Club & Choir Membership chair



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Advisor	Pascal Vogel		604-761-5835
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Treasurer	vacant		
Choir	vacant		
Youth Club	vacant		

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