



SWISS HERALD

January/February 2022 Edition
Swiss Society of Vancouver
P.O.Box 32021 Walnut Grove
Langley, BC V1M 2M3

Table of Contents

SSV Annual General Meeting	1
Farewell, Rosa Zumbrunn	2
Tribute to Beat Joehl	3-6
Choir Report	6
Membership Renewal	7
Nominations for Honorary Membersh.	8
Fees for Advertisement	8
Winter Impressions	9
Swiss Lakes Quiz	10
Advertisement and Answers	11
Board of Directors	12

Sunrise on one of the coldest days
December 28th, 2021 at 8:14 am in West
Vancouver Photo Christina Lips



THE SWISS SOCIETY OF VANCOUVER ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

Will be held Sunday, March 27th, 2022 from 3 – 6 pm
ON LINE via Zoom.

If you are not familiar with a computer, try to get help from a family member or friend – Or, you can join the meeting from your phone. Aio Haeberli and Susanne Wilson will send instructions closer to the date.

GOOD BYE AND FAREWELL, ROSA!



Rosa Zumbrunn, the Swiss Society's oldest member, passed away peacefully on January 7th, 2022 just 3 days after her 104th birthday. Rosa was an honorary member of the Swiss Society Vancouver and she sang in the choir for many years. Now she is reunited with Fritz and daughter.

May She Rest In Peace



With Lotti Frowein

These photos were taken on her 100th Birthday.

With Erika Humbel on her 103. Birthday



More in the next Herald

A TRIBUTE TO BEAT JOEHL

Written by his son Alex Joehl

Beat was born January 29, 1944 and was the youngest of eight children.

He grew up in Amden, Switzerland, in the shadow of the Mattstock, where he developed his lifelong love of both hiking and skiing. When he moved to Canada this passion would serve him well.

Service to God was central to Beat's life right from his youth. He was an altar boy at his local church, and eventually left home to attend Collège St. Joseph in Matran, Fribourg. It was there that he learned that while we can trust the Word of God that we also need to question everyone else. His skills to think critically and understand history would go on to define his professional and public life for the next six decades.

Many of his practical skills, along with his physical fitness, came due to his time with the Swiss Army. Like all able-bodied young men, Beat did his time with the military. Some of the stories he'd tell would be unbelievable to most.

But Dad didn't want to be a career soldier, nor be a priest or monk. He had dollar signs in mind. He went to business school and eventually got his first job opportunity with IBM in Zurich.

Beat made a leap to Bournemouth, England to learn English before returning back to his previous job in Switzerland. He travelled all over the world in his young life, but eventually decided where he wanted to settle down.

In 1969, Beat moved to Vancouver. For a young 25-year-old immigrant it may have seemed overwhelming, but through his old boss Alec Nelson he was able to connect with the Wittenberg family. While living there with them he was able to establish himself here both independently but also had a close bond to their German-speaking family. Mrs. Wittenberg was a surrogate mother to him as he acclimated himself to life in the 1970s.

Very quickly upon moving here he earned a job with Lipton. He always talked fondly of his time there and the accomplishments they made with him at the helm. He worked for this company for 29 years, longer than any other job he ever had, helping improve Unilever's Metro Vancouver properties and increase profitability and efficiencies.

One of the activities he returned to once he moved to Canada was judo. He had begun it in Switzerland and also trained in London, but now was a member of the Vancouver Judo Club. He had many great anecdotes of his time working out with those fellow members. Beat would achieve the rank of Second Dan, also known as double black belt.

Beat bought his first home in Vancouver in 1975, near Burnaby Central Park. I have fond memories of walking to the lake and feeding the ducks and playing on a nearby playground.

Beat became a member of the Swiss Society of Vancouver and also the Swiss Canadian Mountain Range Association.

The firearms training from his military days stuck with him and Beat had a passion with target shooting. He always participated in the obligatory shooting events each year, even as his eye sight wasn't as reliable. The opportunities he presented to Daniel and I are not lost on us. We were both taught the value of the right to own a weapon, but also the responsibility that comes with it.



Over the years he held many roles in those Swiss clubs, including President, Treasurer, and Auditor. He was an integral member of the Outdoors Club and was even instrumental in supporting the Swiss Choir at times as well. His countless hours of volunteer work helped mold the direction of the Swiss community for decades.



Perhaps the most important Swiss-Canadian event he ever attended was Fasnacht in 1972. It was at that masquerade that he met Maja.

He was attracted to her right away, dressed as a gypsy, but had no interest in getting in line to dance – she had two or three other suitors already, and even danced with her sister first instead. But eventually they would connect that night and he asked her out on a future date.

When Mom met one of his sisters she told her that “if you want to marry my brother you’ll have to wait a long time because we Joehls don’t make up our minds.” In 1975 they became engaged, but Beat wanted to keep it secret, keeping their wedding bands hidden in the underwear drawer because he didn’t want to chance

anyone knowing.

But, eventually, Mom put her foot down, gave him an ultimatum, and he agreed it was finally time to tie the knot. They were married in 1977.

But before Maja and Beat got married, he bought the only brand-new car he ever owned, the 1973 Pontiac Firebird. He was so nervous about crashing it that he had Maja drive it home from the dealership for him. It was a bright red muscle car for a man that exuded a quiet strength. It was both too flashy for him and suited him perfectly at the same time.

But, he eventually had to part with it to buy a station wagon, because I came along. Beat and Maja weren’t blessed with their own children but were excited when they were given the opportunity to adopt Alex in 1982 and Daniel in ‘86 to complete their family.

While Daniel and I were young I would say Dad wasn’t super hands-on in raising us in the earliest years – Mom carried a lot of the workload at home. But he was a fabulous provider for us. Because of his work ethic he was able to make sure that we never wanted for anything. And regardless of his long days he would work, he was always there at bedtime to say a prayer with us and giving a blessing, which is something I definitely took for granted at the time.

But I do remember that more than a few evenings he took time away from whatever he was working on in his office to come spend some time with Daniel and me. His core strength that he developed during his military days and judo training did him well to roughhouse with us in the basement – he called it “Sauli aufhänge”.

Beat really leaned into the father role as Daniel and I got a bit older. During the winter we did a lot of skiing. Dad wasn’t the best teacher but I did eventually reach the appreciation of skiing that he had and at least once a year, until he was 75, we still went skiing together. He even got the opportunity to ski with his grandson Allister once, which was a special moment for me.



During the summer we were often going on hikes, whether it was an Outdoors Club event or just a family excursion. He led many hikes for the Outdoors Club, and he never complained about carrying something on his back, whether it was a backpack full of lunches, bug spray, and sunscreen, or if it was a toddler version of me or my brother, along for the ride.



Eventually Dad got us to start doing Judo as well, first in Langley and then with the Seikidokan Judo Club in Vancouver...born out of the Vancouver Judo Club that he attended for so long. Most Fridays Mom would drive us out to Dad's office at Lipton and we'd wait until he finished his long work day. I'd play on his tickertape calculator until it was time to go. After Judo practice we'd almost always go to Dairy Queen afterwards, to have a treat. When I decided to make a return to Judo in my late-20s Dad also joined me at the Seinen Judo Club and worked out with me there. Watching Beat volunteer and take on major roles in the Swiss Society, judo clubs, our school taught me

and Daniel a lesson in obligation – you can only take so much, before you have to give back. And he never complained about having to give back; in fact, he thrived on the opportunity to chip in.

In December 1987 we moved to Surrey. Mom and Dad wanted to give Daniel and I a big backyard to play in and a little more privacy than the Vancouver house could provide. An added bonus was that he was able to get a goat, which along with the rabbits he raised would help scratch his itch to be a farmer like his family back in Amden.

The house came with a swimming pool that my parents threatened to fill in every single year. Obviously I'm glad they didn't because it became the focal point of many extended family gatherings over the years, but also, because it allowed us to experience Dad in his mustard-yellow, speedo-style swimsuit, complete with a large belt buckle. Beat often knew when to lean into a joke, even if it was at his own expense, to bring joy to a room.

It was while living at that first Surrey house that he was diagnosed with Diabetes. This was obviously a life-changing discovery for him but with the support of his wife he was able to manage it. Beat Joehl was never one to shy away from something because it was hard. I never heard him complain about his lot in life or cards he'd been dealt. He continued practicing Judo, kept going on hikes, and in general was healthier than many of his contemporaries.

Another life-changing event occurred in 1998 when the Lipton production facility was sold by Unilever. All staff were let go. The only job Beat had known for almost 30 years no longer wanted him.

Our family made some adjustments after that. Dad began working for a few different companies as a contractor, like Ballard, Scott Paper, and even headed the launch of a new business venture into the installation and maintenance of artificial turf sports fields.

But eventually he found Vela. It's hard to describe exactly what they do, but essentially they help those with severe life challenges get access to the tools that they need for a better life. He worked there for 13 years, the longest he stayed anywhere other than Lipton. But just shy of his 77th birthday Beat officially retired from a lifetime of crunching numbers.

Around the time that Mom and Dad moved to the new house in Surrey they also made a change in where they worshiped. After a lifetime within the Catholic faith my Dad decided to go looking to find a church that would align with his values, something Catholicism had not done in a long time. That's when Dad and Mom found Riverside Calvary Chapel and instantly felt a connection to this community.

In late 2016 Dad was struggling with severe pain, unable to sleep at night, so finally sought medical help. Eventually he was diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma, a blood cancer. It was a jarring revelation, but perhaps it was fitting that of all the types of cancer that this was one that some people are able to live with. After mastering Diabetes, Mom and Dad's attention now turned to this.

Eventually Dad got that disease under control too. Over the past five years outsiders may not have even known the health battles that this man had endured. He still went for a walk every day and continued going to work at Vela a few days a week.



Dad tried golf once, many years ago. At a workplace golf tournament he won the Outhouse Trophy for worst score. He wore it as a badge of honor, no matter how many shots his score was above par.

Even with all the challenges that life threw at Beat Joehl, he refused to give up hope, he would not quit, even when hopelessness was par for the course.

He will be missed by anyone who took the time to know him.

CHOIR REPORT written by the President Andrea Flukiger

***“Learn from yesterday,
Live for today,
Hope for tomorrow.”*** Albert Einstein

A challenging year ended; let's see what this new one has in store for us.

Due to nature's interference we had to put our weekly rehearsals on the back burner. Covid regulations are still having a big impact on our singing program. We are again using zoom to practice every Thursday evening. (Just a mouse click away)

As always you are more than welcome to check us out and join.

For more information please contact:

vancouverwisschoir1966@gmail.com or Rolf Brulhart 604-224-6718

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2022

2022 SSV & Choir MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

by Mar. 31, 2022

Thank you for supporting the Swiss Society of Vancouver in the past. It is time for the 2022 renewal. Members who filled out the new Membership / Liability form for the 2021 SSV membership can send in the membership payment only (no form necessary).

If you did not renew in 2021 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 & Choir with one cheque or make an e-transfer

Memberships are as follow:

SSV Individual: \$ 40.00
SSV Family: \$ 60.00
SSV Single Senior \$ 25.00
SSV Senior with Spouse \$ 40.00

All members are required to pay the SSV membership.

Optional membership is:

Choir \$ 80.00

A member of the choir has to be a member of the Swiss Society Vancouver.

Please mail cheque to: Swiss Society of Vancouver
P.O.Box 32021 Walnut Grove
Langley, BC V1M 2M3

If you miss sending in the payment by the Mar. 31, 2022 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 out.

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

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 & Choir Membership chair

NOMINATIONS FOR HONORARY MEMBERSHIP



Any member of the Swiss Society can make a WRITTEN nomination, which must include details as to why someone is recommended, and why that person should be deserving an honorary membership. Any nominations must be received by Susanne Wilson by February 10th, 2022 at the latest. Please send them to: membership@swiss-society.org or the SSV address on the front page of the Herald.

FEES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE SWISS HERALD

<p>Fees for design: To make minor adjustments: Free To make major changes to an ad: \$ 25 To create a new ad: \$ 50 – 100</p> <p>Deadlines for sending in ads or articles: 20th of August, October, December, February, April and June.</p>	<p>Fees for advertisement:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Ad Size</th> <th>One Issue</th> <th>Six Issues</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>One full page</td> <td>\$ 150</td> <td>\$ 825</td> </tr> <tr> <td>½ Page</td> <td>\$ 90</td> <td>\$ 495</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1/3 Page</td> <td>\$ 60</td> <td>\$ 330</td> </tr> <tr> <td>¼ Page</td> <td>\$ 40</td> <td>\$ 220</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Business Card (5 Lines)</td> <td>\$ 20</td> <td>\$ 110</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	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
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																	

ANDREA'S GOATS HIGHLIGHT AFTER CHRISTMAS



WINTER IMPRESSIONS 2021/22



The Lions



Somewhere in Lynn Valley
Grand Boulevard North Vancouver



Snow in the Fraser Valley



Photos Christina
Lips

Photos Andrea Flukiger

SWISS LAKES QUIZ

Do you recognize these lakes? Answers on page 11



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



Elisabeth Rechsteiner

Notary Public

....helping you with what matters....

Member

- Real Estate Transactions including Purchases, Sales and Mortgages
- Personal Planning Documents including Wills, Powers of Attorney, Representation, Agreements and Advance Directives
- Notarizations and Certified Copies
- Executorships



100-5050 Kingsway, Burnaby, B.C. V5H 4C2 Telephone: 604-433-1911 Fax: 604-433-8970 Email: info@erechsteiner.ca

Where is Waldo?

Photo Andrea Flukiger



Varty & Company

Barristers & Solicitors

DAVID L. VARTY B.A., LL.B., LL.M.

Avocat

300 - 1055 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, B.C. Canada V6E 2E9
Telephone: 604-684-5356
Fax: 604-608-3256
www.vartylaw.ca

Email: dvarty@vartylaw.ca
Associate Office:
11620 Wilshire Boulevard
Suite 900
Los Angeles, California 90025

SWISS LAKES QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Lake Lungern
2. Lake Geneva
3. Lake Sils
4. Lake Lugano
5. Lake Neuchatel
6. Lake Murten
7. Lake Waegital
8. Lake Constance (with Isle of Mainau)

Welcome to two new Board-Members:

Peter Schalle and Rolf Brulhart

Peter and Rolf have been on the Board before and are well known and experienced.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

• Title	• Name	• Email address	• Phone Number
President	vacant		
Past President	Karin Kapp		
Vice President	Aio Haeberli	webmaster@swiss-society.org	
Membership	Susanne Wilson	membership@swiss-society.org	604-888-6949
Seniors	Werner Rutishauser	wrutish@shaw.ca	604-929-6923
Advisor	Veronika Sans	vsans@prontomail.com	604-730-9781
Advisor	Christina Lips	ch.lips@live.com	604-928-9097
Advisor and Event Coordinator	Brigitte Roy	brigitte.roy@protonmail.com	604-722-8474
Advisor	Jost Klopstein	jost.in.canada@gmail.com	
Advisor	Peter Schalle	globuscontract@gmail.com	604-435-6159
Advisor	Rolf Brulhart	rbrulhart@hotmail.com	604-710-7653
-Secretary	vacant		
Treasurer	vacant		
Choir	Andrea Flukiger	andreaflukiger@gmail.com	
Youth Club	vacant		

OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION

Consul General	Andreas Rufer	vancouver@eda.admin.ch	604-684-2231
Organization of the Swiss Abroad	Thomas Arn Sam Oettli Johann Roduit	Can be contacted via LinkedIn	
Swiss Canadian Chamber of Commerce: President	Fabian Lemann	chamber@swissccc.com	
Swiss Canadian Mountain Range	Rene Zollinger	scmra.president@gmail.com	
Vancouver Dorfmusik	Urs Fricker	julieturs@hotmail.com	604-274-0802
Editor Swiss Herald	Christina Lips	ch.lips@live.com	604-984-9036
Swiss Society Vancouver Webmail Address		www.swiss-society.org/contact-us	
Legal Advisor:	David Varty	dvarty@smartt.com	604-684-5356
Webmaster	Aio Haeberli	webmaster@swiss-society.org	604-803-5910