



SWISS HERALD

July/August 2023 Edition
Swiss Society of Vancouver
P.O.Box 32021 Walnut
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Quails' Gate Winery (C.Lips)

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WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS....

...to assist at the Swiss National Day Celebration on July 29, 2023!

All Societies, and certainly the Swiss Society of Vancouver, rely on volunteers to ensure that the Society can function and thrive.

Please sign up as a volunteer for the Swiss National Day Celebration!

We need you... and we would love to have you join our list of volunteers for this year's event!

A shift is two hours long and can be carried out in various capacities throughout the event such as: the entrance gate; assisting with parking; selling of food-and beverage tickets; grilling sausages and preparing plates; handing out coffee and pastries; children's games and the lampion parade.

There are all kinds of opportunities to volunteer at this wonderful yearly event, and it is a great way to meet people who you may not otherwise meet during the course of the celebration.

Persons on the official Volunteer List do not pay the entrance fee! 😊

Please call Elisabeth Rechsteiner at **604-375-9802** (leave a message if phone is not answered) or send an e-mail to elisabethrechsteiner54@gmail.com

Please indicate your preference of work area and the time you can volunteer and we will do our best to accommodate you! Shifts start at 1:00 PM at the Gate and Parking and at 4:00 PM for the other stations.

We look forward to hearing from you!

ALERT..... SEEKING PARENTS!



We are looking for a team of parents of young children who would like to organize or assist in organizing some children's games and events for the afternoon of the Swiss National Day Celebration to be held on July 29, 2023 at the Swiss Canadian Mountain Range Association. Games would start around 3:00 PM and can include various relay races, soccer, face painting, crafts Whatever you can come up with!

Please call Elisabeth Rechsteiner at **(604) 375-9802** (leave a message if phone is not answered)... or send an e-mail to elisabethrechsteiner54@gmail.com if you are interested in assisting with the Children's Games... and I will put you in touch with other interested parents.

2023 SWISS NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION

Saturday, July 29, 2023



At the Chalet of the Swiss Mountain Range Association
4141 Quarry Road, Coquitlam, B.C., V3E 3H5

The Swiss Mountain Range Association, with the help of the Swiss Society of Vancouver, invites everyone to their celebration of the Swiss National Day!



ENTRANCE FEE: \$10.00 (16 and under are FREE)

PROGRAM:	1:00 PM	Gates Open
	4:00 PM	Bar and Grill Open
	5:30-7:00 PM	Entertainment by the Silver Stars
	7:00-8:00 PM	Performances by the Dorfmusik and Vancouver Swiss Choir
	8:00-8:30 PM	National Anthems and Official Ceremony
	8:30-10:30 PM	Entertainment by the Silver Stars
	9:30 PM	Lampion Parade

**** FREE OVERNIGHT CAMPING/RV PARKING****
(reduced tenting area from previous years)

*NOTE: Due to our liquor licence: all alcohol on the property needs to be purchased from our bar
CASH and Debit/Credit now accepted*

IN MEMORY OF



Erna Schaefer 1942 – 2023

By Lotti Frowein

Erna was born in Naefels CH, the youngest of two brothers and one sister.

She loved to travel, spent considerable time in Abu Dhabi, Dubai and she had a liking for Hong Kong. She also worked for Lufthansa in Vancouver and at times could be seen at the Airport checking in customers.



I met Erna via her husband Fred, who was my art teacher. We soon became friends, socialized and spent many happy hours together. When Fred died in 2001 I thought it would be a good idea for Erna to join our Swiss Choir to fill some of void in her life. Not only had she an excellent voice, but also volunteered to be the president for many years. The highlight was in 2008 at the Coast Festival in Portland, Oregon (above two photos from then).



With Elisabeth Rechsteiner at the Choir Concert June 2016

Her sister Rita from Ontario spent some time with Erna in Vancouver when her illness started. - It was nice for Erna to hear the choir sing for one last time before she left us on May 19th.



Swiss Booth at the European Festival May 2016

Thank you Erna for all you did for us.

Lotti

CHOIR'S SPRING CONCERT

It was the first sunny and warm weekend May 13th, 2023 in a long time, when the Choir invited for their Spring Concert.

Visitors were greeted by Isabelle Flukiger and Valentin Baertschi, who sold the tickets.



While people arrived, Patricia Doran played a medley of Swiss folksongs on the piano. She also accompanied the choir for a few songs.

Barbara Carscadden and Cora Schupp, two of the choir's new members, sang "Abendsegen" from the opera Haensel and Gretel by E. Humperdinck.

The program's songs were chosen because they were related to our worries about extreme nature events happening through global warming.



Once again Dubravko Pajalic conducted the choir with his enormous knowledge of music and guidance of various singers performing together. He also showed his talent by playing the guitar to accompany Christina Lips (member of the Vancouver Dorfmusik) to a Medley of Swiss "Schlager" music from the 1950 ies.



Here with the small male section.

The audience was «klein, aber fein!»



Our well known and loved yodelers Andrea Flukiger and Dorli Meier

Did you know that although yodeling is associated with the Swiss Alps and Austrian Tyrol, the origins of yodeling can be traced back tens of thousands of years to ancient African nomadic hunter-gatherer societies?

In the alps yodeling was also used as a means of communicating over moderate distances by the inhabitants of mountainous regions. Usually it doesn't contain words but only sounds.



Cooling off outside in the shade.



We'd like to mention a lady that has been volunteering many times at the kitchen when the choir has had its famous feasts:

A big Thank-You to Astrid Chow! The choir members and the audience appreciate it very much.



To all the NO-SHOWS at the concert:
You missed beautiful dynamics of voices and well chosen songs, a fantastic buffet of goodies and the world's greatest gift baskets!
Photos and text Christina Lips



CHOIR REPORT

written by the President Andrea Flukiger

Thank you to all who came to our Spring Concert.

It was for sure one of the hotter days in May. I very much appreciated the refreshing coolness of the church basement for our socialising afterwards.

Delicious savoury and sweet goodies were ready for our guests after the concert as well as the Bread & Zopf sale.

This year's gift baskets went home with the lucky door prize winners.

Music

Echo

United

Relaxing

Key

Singing

Melody

Rhythm

Enjoy

Acoustic

Balsam.....

Those words add up to : **Summer break**

The choir will meet again for rehearsals in September.

We converted our last rehearsal day in June to our summer party event.

This year's host was Dorli in Abbotsford and the majority of the choir was able to come.

We all enjoyed a delicious potluck, getting to know each other better, singing and chit-chatting.



I wish you all a wonderful summer

Andrea

Important: Our planned Fall and Christmas Concerts are both cancelled.

We will participate at the 75. Anniversary of the Swiss Society on November 25th and we'll be singing at the Senior Luncheon in December.

If you want to join our choir or have questions, please contact us.

vancouverwisschoir1966@gmail.com or Rolf Brulhart: 604-710-7653, 604-224-6718

VANCOUVER DORFMUSIK'S ANNUAL CONCERT

Photos and text by Christina Lips



The oldest player of the band is 94-years old, the youngest 14!
Our group grew - to 26 members, the highest number ever!

May 28th, 2023 the doors of the All Saints Anglican Church opened for the Dorfmusik's first annual Concert again after three years of hibernation. This time the members of the band out-numbered the audience. It had been the second beautiful weekend since a long time.

But nevertheless they performed a great program with some well known marches and polkas, but also a James Last Golden Hits Medley and a very unique arrangement of the song "Edelweiss".

The Alphorn Players David Gsponer and Ken Gehrs opened the concert with the piece Abendruhe.



Gordon Koch has been with the Dorfmusik since 1994; he started as a drummer and then continued as the conductor since more than 25 years!



And he hasn't lost his humor.

Here with our new drummer Guenter Schulz.



A smaller formation of the members performed as the "Edelweiss Musikanten", a group originally created by Karl Schindler many years ago with different members.

Here we see Karl, Laura Iwan, Brian Asselstine, Tom Angelus and Robert Toren.



A group picture taken from above. We even have a father-son duo playing:
With the tuba Mathias Schueller and the alto saxophone Maximilian Schueller.

Six days later we had the fun to participate at the Ladner Band-Festival, a great opportunity to listen to other formations like the Naden Band of the Royal Canadian Navy and enjoy the fried potato spirals.

Six of our members also play in the Richmond Concert band and three in the Delta Concert band. Not to forget Gordon Koch, Laura Iwan and Robert Toren, who play with the Pacific Symphonic Wind Ensemble.




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<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
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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

November 12th, 2023

**Jass-Tournament
 at the Swiss Canadian Mountain
 Range.**

Please call Elisabeth Rechsteiner at (604 375-9802 or e-mail at elisabethrechsteiner54@gmail.com if you would like to come to this event. More information to follow in the next issue of the Swiss Herald.



RESERVE THE DATE!

Saturday, November 25, 2023



*The Swiss Society of
Vancouver is 75 years old!*

We will celebrate this milestone with a day and evening of festivities at the
Austria Vancouver Club
5851 Westminster Highway
Richmond, B.C., V7C 1C3

Festivities will start around 1:30 PM and include performances by various
musicians such as
the Vancouver Dorfmusik, the Vancouver Swiss Choir,
visiting Choirs from Alberta and
the sounds of the "S-Bahn".



Specific details will follow in the next edition of the Herald.



SOME TOP FAMOUS QUOTES ABOUT SWITZERLAND



From Newlyswiss.com, by Dimitri Burkhard, Dec. 21, 2010

"(Switzerland is) a very successful but frequently frustrating alpine democracy."

Peter Coneway, former US Ambassador to Switzerland

"Switzerland is simply a large, lumpy, solid rock with a thin skin of grass stretched over it."

Mark Twain

The part about the rock is still true and will never change. However, in many parts of Switzerland, the skin of grass has been covered by concrete and pavement. Personally, I agree with this quote by Mark Twain in that I consider Switzerland to be one gigantic National Park interspersed with some towns and cities.

"I love Switzerland. It's so clean and cool. We don't get much snow where I live so I get real excited in Lausanne and Geneva. I'd like to buy a house there when I'm older and settle down. It's all so cute that it looks like a movie set."

Michael Jackson

"Switzerland is my favorite place now because it's so – nothing. There is absolutely nothing to do."

Andy Warhol

James Joyce, the famous Irish writer, is reputed to have once said that Zürich's Bahnhofstrasse was so clean that one could drink minestrone soup off it.

I would not advise it, though. Although still one of the cleanest cities on the planet, Zürich used to be even cleaner a decade or so ago.

"Switzerland is a place where they don't like to fight, so they get people to do their fighting for them while they ski and eat chocolate."

Larry David

"Swiss cities remind me of the kid at high school who's great at sports, has perfect hair, the best girlfriend, and the teachers all love him. He's just too perfect."

Rick Steves

"In Italy for thirty years under the Borgias they had warfare, terror, murder and bloodshed but they produced Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci and the Renaissance.

In Switzerland, they had brotherly love; they had five hundred years of democracy and peace and what did that produce? The cuckoo clock."

Orson Welles

I beg to differ with Mr. Welles: contrary to conventional wisdom and kitsch culture, the cuckoo clock was actually invented by the Germans! And while we are on record, so were *Lederhosen*...

"Switzerland is a small, steep country, much more up and down than sideways, and is all stuck over with large brown hotels built on the cuckoo style of architecture."

Ernest Hemingway

Small it is, but where have all the brown hotels gone? Probably to Germany's Black Forest region, where the cuckoo clock was invented in the first place! It is amazing how many cuckoo clock references there are...

"Senator John Kerry released his plan today to eliminate the deficit. He said all we have to do is find a really rich country like Switzerland and marry it."

Jay Leno

"A U.N. study claims the happiest country in the world is Switzerland. When asked why they're so happy, Swiss people couldn't answer because their hands were counting money and their mouths were full of chocolate."

Conan O' Brian

SENIORS' LUNCHEON 2023

Mark the date: Saturday, **December 9th, 2023**
at the Executive Plaza Hotel in Coquitlam.



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