SWISS HERALD

November/December 2026 Edition
Swiss Society of Vancouver
P.O.Box 32021
Walnut Grove
Langley, BC V1M 2M3

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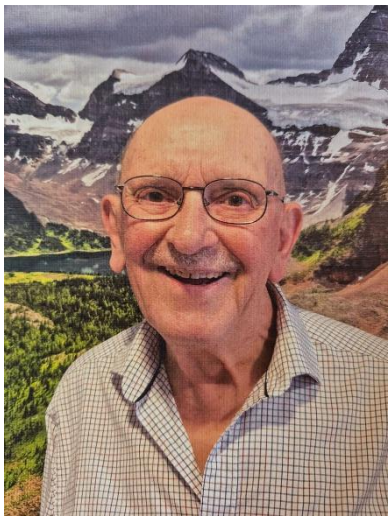
Maud Lewis

WANTED: COOKIE-BAKERS OF ANY AGE!



Erika Humbel is inviting other bakers to join her team. Every person creates their favorite cookies. ANY AMOUNT IS WELCOME!
If you're not able to bake, you could do a chocolate contribution.
They will all be put in bags and every senior will receive one at the Christmas Senior's Luncheon. The more people volunteer, the bigger the bags!
Please call Erika Humbel 604-437-5970 or ewhumbel@yahoo.com by November 25 and let her know what kind of cookies you will contribute.
There will be a "packing-the-cookies party" Thursday, December 3rd 2026 10 am at her place.

IN MEMORY OF: Max Bissegger



Max grew up in Saint Gallen, Switzerland, the second child of Johann and Anna Bissegger.
He had two brothers, Hans and Walter, and one sister, Anna Marie. Although money was tight, the family was supported by a community of friends and neighbours. Max was always glad he was able to complete 2 years of high school before he had to leave school and start his apprenticeship as an upholsterer.
Max began military service at 18 and he used to remember that this is where he received his first toothbrush. After that he worked as a journeyman in different jobs in St. Gallen and across Switzerland. He used to talk about working in Geneva where he learned French.

In 1952 Max immigrated to Canada in search of adventure and opportunity. He settled in Vancouver where he met and married his beloved wife, Frances. They started a family and Max opened a small business, Maxwell Floors. At Maxwell Floors, Max started small but as time went on, he was able to get bigger jobs that were further afield. Eventually he and his crews did flooring jobs in hospitals and schools in many remote towns across BC. He had many stories to tell about travelling in poor weather conditions to these remote areas in a van loaded with heavy flooring materials. He must have liked the adventure and felt proud he was able to help build up schools and hospitals across his new home province.
As well as being a father of four and managing his small business, Max was involved in his community. He sang in the Vancouver Swiss Choir and was president of the Choir for a time. With his family, he was active in all the events of the Vancouver Swiss Society including choir concerts, dances, picnics, and the Swiss Children's Christmas party.
After his retirement, Max stayed active and found many new adventures. With Frances, he travelled through Europe, Canada and many other places around the world. He and Frances enjoyed square dancing, cycling and gatherings with family and friends. They took on a new role of supporting their son Greg, after an accident. When Frances passed, Max carried on being a loving father and loyal friend to Greg, visiting him every week, taking him on trips and family outings and taking him to church for many years.
Max’s humor, enthusiasm and energy was a blessing to us all and he will be dearly missed.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello again everyone,

What a beautiful fall we have had, as we were able to enjoy many sunny days in September and October in and around Vancouver.

MONTHLY LUNCHEONS:

The first of our monthly luncheons was held in North Vancouver and was attended by 16 persons. Participants were treated to a lovely lunch and enjoyed catching up with old friends and making new ones. Thank you Irene Sturzenegger for organizing this event.

Our October luncheon was held on October 8th in White Rock at Ueli's Restaurant. This time 15 persons attended to enjoy a tasty meal and camaraderie. Thank you to Silvia Fassler who assisted Irene in organizing this luncheon.

With a view to spreading out our luncheons across the Lower Mainland, our November one will be held in Abbotsford on November 17th at Brown's Social House. Thank you to Dorli Meier for assisting in organizing our next luncheon together with Irene. Please see separate ad in this issue of the Herald for details.

FILM NACHMITTAGE:

With fall upon us, our film afternoons have started again, usually the third Sunday of each month. Please see details in separate ad in this issue of the Herald.

CHOIR CONCERT:

We hope to see you all out at our Choir's concert which will again be held in Burnaby at the All Saints Church on November 21st. See ad in this issue of the Herald for details.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON:

Our Christmas Luncheon will once again be held at the Holiday Inn (now known as the Double Tree by HIlton) in North Vancouver. Please see our ad in this issue of the Herald and please reserve your spot with Edvige Weingand before the deadline. As we have different menu choices, the hotel needs to know how many people are coming one week in advance. We look forward to seeing you all there to start off the Christmas season.

WALDWEIHNACHT:

This enjoyable event will be once again held at the premises of the Swiss Canadian Mountain Range in Coquitlam. Please note separate ad in this issue of the Herald and make your booking with Hanspeter and/or Ursula Hauser, so that we know how many people would like to attend. As in the past, we will have a light meal of soups and "Wienerli" available for a reasonable cost.

JASS TOURAMENT:

We have not had a Jass Tournament for a couple of years. However, we will try again in the next few months. Instead of having the tournament in November, as we have in the past, we are going to have it in February. Look for details in the next issue of the Herald. Hopefully we will have a good turnout. Otherwise, we will no longer be putting on a Jass Tournament. Hope to see you there!





As the Christmas Season will be quickly upon us in the next few weeks, I wish you all a wonderful time with family and friends. I look forward to seeing you at one or more of our upcoming events.

Sincerely

Elisabeth Rechsteiner 604-375-9802
elisabethrechsteiner54@gmail.com

SENIORS' LUNCHES

1. **Lunch happened Tuesday, September 15, 2026 in the Lobby Restaurant at the Pinnacle Hotel in North Vancouver**





Irene Sturzenegger organized this event and she writes:
"I am very happy to report that the lunch was a big success! We were 16 people, 15 were members.
The guests let me know that they liked the location, loved the easy way to park and not have to pay, also some came with the Seabus and Skytrain; they loved the food, service was good."

2. **Lunch: A lovely group of 15 people enjoyed a tasty lunch at Uli's Restaurant in White Rock on Thursday, Oct 8th, 2026**









Organized by Silvia Fassler with help from Irene Sturzenegger

THIRD SWISS MONTHLY LUNCH FOR SENIORS



November 17th, 2026 at 12 Noon

BROWNS SOCIALHOUSE MCCALLUM
1828 McCallum Road, Suite 170
ABBOTSFORD BC

Please make your reservation before November 10th with our very friendly and well known Choir member Dorli Meier.

dorlimeier@gmail.com
or by phone # **604-309-1567** if Dorli does not answer, please leave a message and she will get back to you.

Bring your spouse or bring a friend, it is not necessary to be a SSV member!
SSV members will get $10 towards the lunch. A 20% tip will be added to the bill.

You will enjoy a nice lunch with some friends that you may not meet too often.
Our 2 lunches we had were a big success and some people joined both occasions.
Our aim is to give you a chance to sit together and meet new and old friends.

Irene Sturzenegger

SENIORS' CORNER



The next **Filmnachmittag** will take place on

Sunday, November 15th, 2026
1:30 pm to 4:30 pm

Movie: Sissi Part 2
Location: **Martin Luther Church**
Address: **505 East 46th Ave, Vancouver**

Please register by calling
Elisabeth Schupbach 604-584-3742

If you want to donate some baking, please let **Susanne Wilson** know: **778-908-5906**

CHOIR NEWS

Your Vancouver Swiss Choir is getting ready to see you on Saturday, Nov.21st, 2026 at the annual Christmas concert conducted by Dubravko Pajalic. See the poster in this edition of the Swiss Herald for details. Some of the songs you will recognize and we hope you sing along with us. Refreshments and coffee will be available like usual after the concert.



We are also singing at a couple of senior care homes to spread Christmas cheer with our repertoire of songs sung in Swiss German, French, Italian, German, English and Jodel!

Our rehearsals will resume in January 2027. New singers are welcome, seasoned singers are welcome to return!



Theresa Weltzin
tweltzin@telus.net
604 788 4973

Chez Christophe



CHOCOLATERIE PATISSERIE

Chez Christophe Chocolate and Pastries is your trusted source for locally-made artisan chocolates, cakes, croissants, macarons, and specialty desserts. Proudly a Canadian small business!
Serving classic Swiss desserts & pastries



BURNABY 4717 Hastings Street 604.428.4200
WHITE ROCK 1558 Johnston Road 604.385.4474
WEST VANCOUVER 2215 Marine Drive 604-281-1930
OPEN: Tuesday - Saturday 9am-5pm
CLOSED: Sunday & Monday
https://chez-christophe.ca/

Christmas Wreath Cheese Board

Use your own imagination to create it!





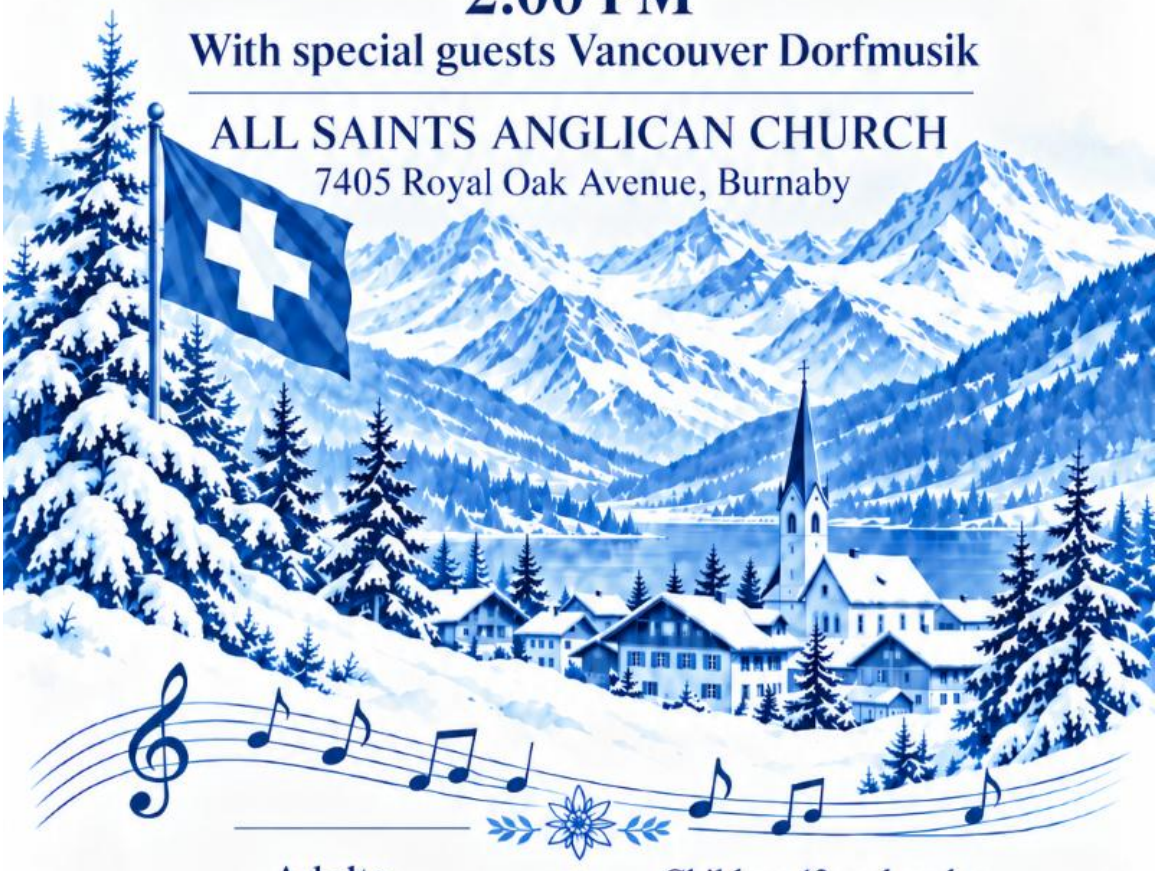
VANCOUVER SWISS CHOIR

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2026
2:00 PM

With special guests Vancouver Dorfmusik

ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH
7405 Royal Oak Avenue, Burnaby



Adults
$25

Children 12 and under
FREE

Cash only or e-transfer at the door



Sunday, December 6th, 2026

SWISS SOCIETY CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Double Tree by Hilton (former Holiday Inn & Suites), 700 Old Lillooet Road
North Vancouver

If you need a ride or have extra space in your car, please contact
Susanne Wilson, 778-908-5906

Doors open: 10:30 a.m.
Program starts: 11:45 a.m.

Cost of the Luncheon is:
$35.00 per person for 2026 Swiss Society Members
$65.00 per person for all others wishing to attend.

Reservations required by November 30th, 2026

Contact: Edvige Weingand at 604-953-1963 or
email: edvigeweingand@gmail.com



Menu options for Seniors' Luncheon 2026

Please let Edvige know what you'd like to eat and make sure you will remember what you ordered at the Luncheon!

Soup or salad

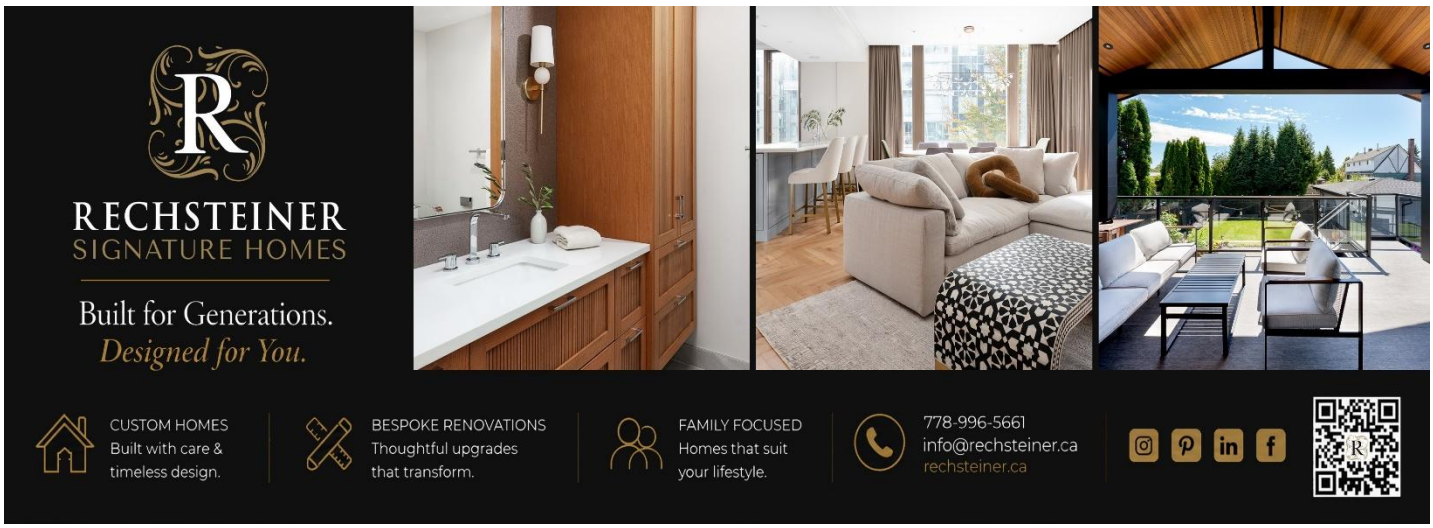
- Ceasor Salad
- Chef's Daily Soup Creation

Main Course: Choose One

- **Chicken with creole butter,** mashed potatoes and seasonal vegetables
- **Salmon with creole butter,** mashed potatoes and seasonal vegetables
- **Wild Mushroom Ravioli** with pancetta and asparagus cream

Dessert: Choose One

- **Crème Brulee**
- **Cheesecake**



The Swiss Society Vancouver

Invites you to a

Waldweihnacht

Sunday, December 13, 2026 at 5pm



Location: THE CHALET OF THE SWISS MOUNTAIN RANGE ASSOCIATION
4141 Quarry Rd, Coquitlam, BC V3E 3H5

Program: At 5 pm we will proceed outside and have a good old fashioned Christmas sing along near a Christmas tree with real candles.
We will walk to the Chalet, warm up and sit around tables covered with goodies. Gluehwein and hot chocolate milk will be served.

We will be serving a simple hot meal this year: Soup and bun or 2 wieners and bun, for $ 10.00 (Cash only). When you register with Hans Peter and Ursula, please let them know if you are interested in a meal, so that we can plan on how many people to prepare for.
If Santa will find the place, he'll make an appearance at our gathering

Elves (volunteers) are needed!

RSVP by Dec. 8. 2025 to:

Ursula & Hans Peter Hauser 604 826-5540 (TEXT ONLY) or hphauser@telus.net

FEES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS 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



CALENDER OF EVENTS

Date	What kind of event	Where
Nov. 17th, 2026	Seniors' Lunch	Brown's Social House, Abbotsford
November 21st, 2026	Choir Christmas Concert 2 – 4:30 pm	All Saints Anglican Church Burnaby
Thursday, Dec.3,2026	Cookie Baker's Packing Party	Erika Humbel, 3559 Dieppe Drive Vancouver
Sunday, Dec. 6th, 2026	Seniors' Christmas Luncheon 10:30 – 2 pm	Double Tree by Hilton North Vancouver
Saturday, Dec. 12th, 2026	Dorfmusik Concert 2:30 -4:30 pm	North Vancouver Shipyards Christmas Market
Sunday, Dec. 13th, 2026	Austria Club Christmas Celebration 12-5 pm	5851 Westminster Hwy, Richmond
Sunday, Dec. 13th, 2026	Waldweihnacht 5 pm	At the Mountain Range in Coquitlam
Sunday, March 21, 2026	Annual General Meeting Swiss Society Vancouver	Edmonds Recreation Centre, 7433 Edmonds Street Burnaby **Not confirmed yet!**

VANCOUVER DORFMUSIK



For the first time after 30 years the Dorfmusik played at an Oktober Fest again.
It happened in Mission at a Party organized by the Steelhead Community Association in their cosy hall.
Reto Koch, our conductor's son, was our liaison and he did a fabulous job as the host.
We had an incredible audience, cheering, singing and dancing to our music.





The youngest one was about 3 months old, the oldest on in his 90 ies. The band-members enjoyed it as much as they did! The food was delicious and Bratwuerste were served too.

The Dorfmusik played also at the Oktoberfest of St. Mark's Lutheran Church 2 weeks later and the members were welcomed with open arms.
The Dorfmusiker practise in the parish hall every second week, but for the Oktoberfest they played in the church.

AUSTRIA VANCOUVER CLUB



Members of the Vancouver Dorfmusik will play festive music at the

Austria Club Christmas Celebration Sunday, December 13 from 12-2 pm: 5851 Westminster Hwy, Richmond

The whole event is from 12-5. Members and their Family and friends are welcome.

https://austriavancouverclub.ca/

Yes, same day as the Waldweihnacht, sorry. You could start in Richmond and then drive or take helicopter to the Mountain Range in Coquitlam.

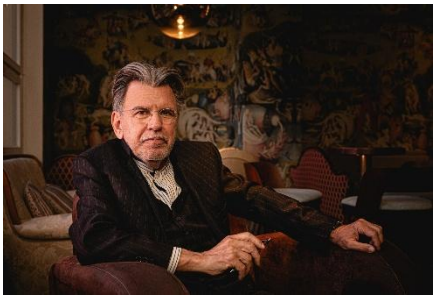






WEISS DER TEUFEL

Dear members,



Many will remember **Stephan Klapproth from «10vor10»**, which he presented from 1993 to 2015. In his new conversation series «Weiss der Teufel», he welcomes fascinating guests ten times a year at **From Heaven in Bad Ragaz.**

Recorded in front of a live audience, the conversations explore the people behind familiar faces: their life experiences, defining decisions and life's big questions. Personal, thoughtful, charming and humorous – a little of Switzerland to watch and listen to from afar.
A familiar Swiss voice to enjoy between community gatherings.
The opening guest is former Federal Councillor **Doris Leuthard**. «Macht Politik glücklich?» – does politics make you happy? – is the question she explores with Stephan Klapproth.
The conversation lasts around an hour, is in Swiss German and is freely accessible:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=paCtpbuil9M

A short preview – watch the teaser:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-uk4r9WEojc

To discover future conversations, subscribe to the «Weiss der Teufel» YouTube channel. Feel free to share the recommendation with friends and family.
Enjoy watching!

Die nächsten Gespräche: **7. Dezember 2026 · Weiss der Teufel · Vera Kaa**

Sylvio Rodrigues
Producer, «Weiss der Teufel»
From Heaven Gastro AG · Bahnhofstrasse 38 · 7310 Bad Ragaz · Switzerland
sylvio@fromheaven.ch



BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION

Title	Name	Email address	Number
President	Elisabeth Rechsteiner	president@swiss-society.org	
Vice President	Peter Schaelle	vicepresident@swiss-society.org	604-435-6159
Secretary	Theresa Weltzin	secretary@swiss-society.org	604-788-4973
Treasurer	Andrea Flukiger	andreaflukiger@gmail.com	
Seniors			
Membership	Susanne Wilson	membership@swiss-society.org	778-908-5906
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Advisor	Erika Humbel	ewhumbel@yahoo.com	778-997-9951
Advisor	Walter Humbel	ewhumbel@yahoo.com	778-997-9951
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Advisor	Christina Lips	ch.lips@live.com	604-928-9097
**********	**********	**********	**********
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