

SEATTLE SWISS SOCIETY INC.



October 2013

www.seattleswiss.org

seattleswissclub@gmail.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event	Location
Oct 25	Fall Dinner	South Seattle Community College
Dec 8	Christmas Party	Monroe Swiss Hall
Late Jan, 2014	General Meeting	

Our club newsletter and other announcements are available to you online at: www.seattleswiss.org
 If you would like to be notified of new publications or to stop your paper copy, please let us know at seattleswissclub@gmail.com or you may list your email address on the membership renewal form. Thanks!
 For those who do not have email, we will still mail out our newsletter.

SWISS FALL DINNER

The Swiss Fall Dinner in the **Alki Room** at South Seattle Community College is set for Friday, October 25. This is always one of the favorite events on our calendar.

Chef Robert Houot has created a delicious-sounding menu so please come join us for a delightful culinary evening.

The social hour starts at 6:30, followed by dinner at 7:30.

The cost is \$40 for members and \$50 for non-members and guests. This includes the reception, dinner, beverages, tax and gratuity.

Please send in your sign-up form no later than October 18 as seating is limited.

(Reservation Form on page 5)

Menu

Appetizers

Baby greens with goat cheese crostini and raspberry vinaigrette

Entrée

Roast pork loin Normande
(with apple brandy)

Dessert

Apple tart Alsacienne

South Seattle Community College
 6000 16th Ave SW
 Seattle, WA 98106

Inside This Issue:

Fall Dinner	1
2013 Board	1
Aug 1 Recap	1
President's Message	2
Swiss Hike Recap	2
Wine Tasting	2
Links & Stuff	3
Other Swiss Clubs	3
Ausländer Correspondence	3
Fall Dinner Res Form	4



YOUR 2013 BOARD

President:	<i>Hans Saxer</i>	360-863-2094
Vice President:	<i>Roland Oberholzer</i>	425-637-8750
Treasurer:	<i>Patty Richert</i>	425-444-7672
Secretary:	<i>Dick Reutimann</i>	206-232-7022
Events Chair:	<i>Margaret Aebersold</i>	425-353-0788
Newsletter:	<i>Rick Bützberger</i>	206-395-5153
Auditors:	<i>Jon Boyce</i>	Simone Studer

FIRST OF AUGUST CELEBRATION

On August 4, the Seattle Swiss Society once again celebrated our Swiss National Holiday at Edgebrook Swim and Tennis Club in Bellevue. The event was very well attended with about 90 members and friends present. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful afternoon of socializing and feasting on sausages, brot, side dishes and desserts. Many thanks go to those who helped out that afternoon: Roland & Doris Oberholzer for helping prepare and getting the tables and chairs delivered, Margrit Aebersold for getting things organized before she left, Rudi and Norma Vogeli for taking over Margrit's duties at the picnic, Dick Reutimann for manning the grills. We also had the Reichlin Sisters of the Tacoma Lady's Choir entertain us with their beautiful voices.

SEPTEMBER HIKE (With a Surprise!)

This was the 19th Swiss Hike and it was a blast! A Swiss Teenager would probably call it “mega cool”!

September 7: Meeting in the parking lot in Gold Bar: our leader, Jon, and Simone, Evelyn, Nels, Yvonne and Bruno. We carpoled to the Wallace Falls trailhead and started on our Saturday hike! Wallace Falls’ trails offer a simply beautiful view - lots of moss-covered trees as befits a proper rainforest, romantic bridges crossing tumbling creeks. We took Woody Trail which ascended to the Lower Falls where we enjoyed lunch at the covered picnic tables.



Chatting and laughing our (very fit!) group eventually reached the top of the Upper Falls where we had a surprise: Evelyn and Nels unpacked their Alphorns, “telescoped” them out and played “Uf de Bänkliap” among the stately trees! That was only a warm-up, they assured us!

We were back at the parking lot by about 4pm and proceeded to Stevens Pass and the Swiss Ski Club’s cabin. Four more people had arrived - Tina, Peter, Philippe and Laura. Now it was time for appetizers, a glass of wine or a beer and getting to know each other!

Simone was the chef of a wonderful dinner – Züri Gschnätzlets, Spätzli, salad, green beans, and pies for dessert. Scrumptious!

The sleeping arrangements were also highly interesting: ten people sleeping in ONE room?? What if you are a light sleeper? Surprise, there were no snorers, and the Alphorn Reveille was the traditional “Aus dem Klönthal”. The breakfast, prepared by Jon, was another hit: scrambled eggs & bacon, fruit, bread, orange juice, coffee. We were ready for the day!

The Sunday hike took us to Lanham Lake, which starts in the cross country skiing parking lot at Stevens Pass. Again, it was an exciting hike with beautiful trees, some obviously downed by a winter storm years ago, mushrooms, shrubs, even alpine flowers were still blooming. We reached our goal around noon. It’s so incredibly picturesque! Surrounded by mountains and trees, with blue sky and a warming sun overhead – what could be a better place for an Alphorn concert!? The two musicians played “Yodel Reigen” and “Trümpi” and it wouldn’t have surprised anyone if Schellen-Ursli or Heidi and Peter had miraculously appeared!

To be sure – we were lucky with the weather. It sprinkled a bit on the first day, but Sunday was glorious! Both hikes were fairly steep, especially the Upper Wallace Falls, and Lanham Lake definitely involved lots of “stair-stepping”, but, as mentioned before, this was a very fit group indeed. One more thank you to the organizer Jon, the wonderful cooks Simone and Jon, the Swiss Ski Club for the cabin – it was a “mega cool” end of summer and start of fall!

-Yvonne



PRESIDENT’S CORNER

Dear Members:

Already it is “Herbst” again, even though daylight savings time does not end until the 3rd of November.

I hope you have enjoyed the warm sunny days and are prepared for our typical rainy season. This year our traditional fall hike was organized by Jon Boyce and I have heard that he did a great job. It is always great if a member steps up when the need arises. Also Roland Oberholzer did it again by organizing the wine tasting that brought together about 16 of us for an enjoyable evening. It is really nice to get together in these smaller groups, where one has a chance to talk with all the members present. So if you have a good idea for an event, do not hesitate to suggest it, or better yet to organize it. The more really active members we have, the better our club is.

Next is our fall dinner. We are a bit late with our newsletter; please make sure you sign up in time.

I hope to see you on October 25.

Hans Saxer

In Memoriam

Our Honorary Member Alex Kunzler passed away on September 27, 2013, after a long illness. His wife Idy will return from California to live in Issaquah. Alex is also survived by a son, two daughters and six grandchildren. We will always remember Alex as a good and reliable friend.



Seattle Swiss Society Guests Sip Award-Winning Wine At Zero One Vintners

A big thanks to Thomas Vogele who opened the tasting room at his winery, Zero One Vintners, for our exclusive wine tasting event on Wednesday Oct.2.

Vogele, a second-generation Swiss-American, proudly introduced us to his line of award-winning wines. His Chardonnay “Parison”, “Golden Delicious” Riesling, “Copper Lily” Sauvignon Blanc and the 2008 and 2009 “The Wild Sky” Cabernet Sauvignon were on offer and incredibly well received. If the name sounds familiar it’s because Zero One Vintners’ Merlot-based wine, “Sauce”, is what we have served at our events for the past several years.

As we all know, no wine tasting is complete without the right appetizers. The Tetedemoin cheese, Bresola “Bündnerfleisch” and homemade “Chäschuechli” not only added to the Swiss-ness of the evening but were a perfect match for the delicious wines we had the opportunity to enjoy.

The event was marked by an amiable and intimate atmosphere that accompanies the smaller events we host from time to time. There is something special about mingling with fellow Swiss and this wine tasting was a grand example of the camaraderie that exists in the Seattle Swiss Society.



LINKS & STUFFSeattle German resources: www.seattleaufdeutsch.comFrom Gerard Wirz: www.iloveseattle.org

Barbara Curran wants Swiss teachers for the Greater Seattle German-American School - 206-349-3609

barbara@curranonline.com www.sagaschool.org508 Alphorns at 10,000' in the Alps! <http://tinyurl.com/mfbpqra>Why Switzerland Has Some Of The Happiest, Healthiest Citizens In The World: <http://tinyurl.com/mnz47vf>**Monroe Swiss Colony****75th Anniversary Celebration!****Swiss Dance, Alphorns, Bratwurst Dinner & Auction****October 12th, 6 pm**

For information contact:

monroeswisscolony@yahoo.com

Darlene Thorpe 425-327-4363

Or Dorothy Marty 425-788-1971

Monthly Meeting & Potluck Luncheon - 1st Sundays
Doors open at noon, lunch at 1 pm, then we have our meeting.**July/August - no meetings****Monroe Swiss Hall** - 18500 Tualco Road, Monroe

For hall rental and club information, contact:

thorpe84@msn.com or call 425-327-4363**Tacoma Swiss Clubs Calendar**

Nov 9 Rippli Dinner/ Enzian Concert

For information on this and other events, call the

Tacoma Swiss Society

Joe & Louise Hospenthal at 253-896-2593

www.tacomaswissclubs.com**Swiss Club Helvetia of NCW (Leavenworth)**For information contact **Martin & Heidi Stoller**
(509)782-5808**Philippe Goetschel****Honorary Consul**

Consulate of Switzerland

6920 94th Avenue SE
Mercer Island, WA 98040

206 395 4812

seattle@honrep.chwww.swissemb.org**AUSLÄNDER CORRESPONDENCE**

We had planned on going on a two-day hiking trip over the weekend with some family to Zwingli-Hütte in Wildhaus, SG (I even made my travel buddy purchase hiking boots, although he insisted he wouldn't need them). But alas, our adventure was scheduled on the same weekend that Fall decided to make its way into Switzerland and the hike was cancelled due to unfavorable weather.

We were left with two "Tageskarten" for Sunday which we purchased from our local Gemeinde and we decided to head south for a relaxing day trip in Wallis; Leukerbad to be exact.

Our train connections were smooth and while it was grey and chilly in Biel, the sun was making its way through the clouds on our way up to the largest thermal spa and wellness resort in the Alps (apparently a favourite vacationing spot of my grandparents).

The mountains in Switzerland never cease to amaze me. In any season, in any city, I am humbled by these towering peaks and have not yet decided if it's strange for me to feel a sense of protection when I see them all around me. At Leukerbad there is a toasty outdoor thermal pool in which we spent quite a bit of time wading around in silence. The outside air was cool and the fog was swirling around the top of the cliff that jutted out of the ground in the distance. "Bliss" doesn't even begin to cover it.

Of course, no pool experience is complete without trying out the water slides! As is usually the case, our ages changed from 24 and 30 to 12 and we found ourselves in line with the little ones, inner-tubes in hand and adrenaline pumping.

When I compare the experience to any of my other pool adventures in Washington, it seems as though this one was in a league of its own. Comparing it to Wild Waves seems grossly unjust! One thing I've come to notice is that while the Swiss are often known for working incredibly hard, they sure do know how to treat themselves to some rest and relaxation. Wellness spas can be found anywhere you go and it's certainly not uncommon to find them packed over the weekends. Fortunately, our change of plans occurred on a rather low-key day and we didn't feel crowded or overwhelmed as we splashed from pool to pool.

We also took some short dunks in the natural rock grotto – a little cave filled with skin-reddening- hot water and steam. This water travels along subterranean routes for more than forty years and becomes saturated with calcium and sulphate. As the water warms up it surfaces in numerous springs in Leukerbad. All natural, all Swiss – that's how we like it.

- Samantha Oberholzer

About the writer:

Samantha is an expatriate living in Nidau, helping the watch industry thrive one text at a time. She's particularly drawn to Ovomaltine chocolate bars and has an affinity for baby cows.

Seattle Swiss Society

Online Membership Application

http://www.seattleswiss.org/main/join_membership.htmlFrom the Publisher's Desk . . . **Stories Wanted!**

Do you have any news, information, thoughts or ideas that you would like to share with other members of the Club? Please contact your publisher/editor:

Rick Butzberger rick.butzberger@gmail.com

206-395-5153

FALL DINNER RESERVATION FORM - OCTOBER 25, 2013 (Due October 18)

Number of members _____ x \$40.00 = _____

Number of non-members or guests _____ x \$50.00 = _____

Total amount of check: \$ _____

Name(s) as you would like them to appear on the name tag:

Please mail this form together with your check made out to the **SEATTLE SWISS SOCIETY** to:

Patty Richert
4122 135th PI SE
Bellevue, WA 98006
(425) 444-7672

Image courtesy of Димитрий-5-Аверин



SEATTLE SWISS SOCIETY
4122 135TH PLACE SE
BELLEVUE WA 98006