

SEATTLE SWISS SOCIETY INC.



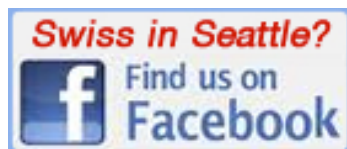
September 2015

seattleswiss.org

seattleswissclub@gmail.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Fall Dinner	Oct 24	Cafe de Paris
Fondue Class	Nov 18	Dick & Pattie's
Xmas Party	Dec 6	Monroe Swiss



FONDUE PARTY RECAP

The annual Cheese Fondue dinner was held on Sunday afternoon March 22nd at the Monroe Swiss Hall. Roland Oberholzer and Hans Peter Aebersold did a magnificent job preparing the fondue for all to enjoy. Our members prepared a delicious assortment of appetizers and desserts. We had good participation from our membership. The Seattle Swiss Society would like to thank the Monroe Swiss club for the use of the facility. Thanks also to our chefs and to all of you who helped to make this a special evening. A great big thank you to Margret Aebersold for the time spent organizing and planning the event.

WE HAVE A NEW EVENTS CHAIRPERSON!

After many years of dedicated service, Margret Aebersold has stepped down and is being replaced by Doris Oberholzer. Doris has decades of experience as an event planner from her background in the restaurant business. We're looking forward to working with her as we create future memorable functions for our members and guests. Thank you, Margret and Doris!!!

FALL DINNER - NEW LOCATION!

We are excited to announce that we have a new venue for this annual event - the Cafe De Paris Restaurant in Edmonds. Award winning Chef Firmin Berclaz will be creating some culinary masterpieces for our dining enjoyment.



Saturday, October 24th

Doors open at 6 pm, with the social hour starting at 6:30, followed by dinner at 7:30.

The cost is \$48 for members and \$58 for non- members and guests. This includes the reception, dinner, beverages, tax and gratuity.

Please RSVP by Oct 19th using the form on this newsletter.

**Cafe de Paris
109 Main Street
Edmonds, WA**

Menu

Appetizers

Soup of the day or French onion.
Salad with house dressing.

Entrées

Wild King Salmon in a light creamy champagne sauce.
Filet Steak in peppercorn sauce.
Pork Tenderloin with mushroom sauce.
Chicken Cordon Bleu.

All entrees will be served with homemade au gratin potatoes along with fresh green beans, cooked carrots, creamed spinach and homemade rolls.

Desserts

Chocolate mousse, creme caramel or warm apple crepe with vanilla ice cream. All are homemade from scratch.

NEW EVENT - FONDUE CLASS!

We have a new event planned - a fondue class. 20 lucky folks will learn how to make that perfect fondue, along with a few variations to keep it interesting. Dick and Pattie Reutimann will be hosting this class on November 18th at their home on Mercer Island. Reserve your spot now!

Please RSVP to: dick.reutimann@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Chrösümüsi
Roland Oberholzer

Hoi Seattle Swiss Club members!

We had a great time on Sunday at our First of August celebration. It was a good turnout with lots of old and new faces!

Due to lack of interest we had to cancel the hike for this year. If you couldn't make it for some reason, please let us know why - perhaps it is too early in the year, maybe you'd rather go when the kids are back in school. Whatever it is, let us know; your feedback will help us plan for next year. Feel free to contact me if you need more information!

On Saturday October 24th, we will have our annual Fall Dinner. This year we will go to Edmonds, to Café de Paris, a restaurant owned by a Swiss fellow from Wallis. See the article on Page 1.

Thank you to all of you who made the picnic this year so special! I look forward to seeing everyone at the Fall Dinner next month!

From the board,
Roland Oberholzer

FROM THE HONORARY CONSUL

Philippe Goetschel

Not since the fall of the former Yugoslavia has Europe had to deal with so many refugees; this time from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan. The political left accuses US military interventions in those countries as the root cause. The political right is alarmed by its potential impact on the Swiss social security and welfare system and its Judeo-Christian culture. Many forget that Switzerland exported over 500,000 of its poorest and most disabled citizens between 1850-1900 by buying them one way tickets to America. Never come back!

The biggest conundrum in Switzerland is the February 2014 vote by the people to curb immigration and therefore endanger the "free people movement agreement" with the EU. If the federal council (Bundesrat) fails to obtain another "Extrawurst" from the EU, it might put other bilateral agreements with the EU in danger. The two most important ones being academic cooperation and customs. This issue will be central in this fall's parliamentary elections.

At this year's Ambassador's Conference in Bern federal councilor Burkhalter pivoted our foreign relations strategy towards a pair of themes:

EU: working through Germany to improve our relations with the EU.

Peace and security: invest in training of more diplomatic negotiators and continue to support the OSCE which mediates the Ukraine conflict.

I had a chance to meet with our own US Ambassador Suzi Levine in her beautiful home. She says hello to all Seattle Swiss Society members. She is very active on social media and loves Bern. Her focus right now is on convincing Swiss businesses to improve equal opportunity/women's rights and LGBT.

The Consulate General in Francisco is thrilled that over 300 people have signed up for renewing their passport in Seattle in early November. See you there!

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday, December 6, 2015

The Monroe Swiss Colony

11:30 AM - Hall Opens 12:30 PM - Potluck Santa Arrival - approx. 2:30 PM

You are invited to join us and SANTA for our annual Swiss Christmas Party. We will provide the meat dishes and beverages for this POTLUCK LUNCHEON. Please provide a side dish or some home-made Christmas cookies or other dessert to share with our friends.

After visiting with Santa, your children (with parents' help, if needed) may make their very own Swiss Christmas cookies! Our chef, Roland Oberholzer, will provide the ingredients and guidance for making Mailänderli. Bring an apron, your favorite Christmas cookie cutters and your enthusiasm.

In the spirit of giving, we will collect food and toys for those less fortunate. Please bring some non-perishable food items for the food bank or an unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots. Thank you!

Directions to The Monroe Swiss Colony:

18500 Tualco Road, Monroe, WA

From 1-405 North or South: (Allow 45-60 minutes from downtown Seattle).

SR 522 E 12.9 miles to Monroe

Exit onto US-2 E toward Wenatchee for 0.9 miles

Turn right onto WA-203 S / N Lewis St. Continue to follow

WA-203 S for 1.8 miles Turn right onto Tualco Rd for 0.8 miles

FRÜHLINGS SPAZIERGANG RECAP

We had our first (annual, anyone?) Frühling's Spaziergang on June 14th on the Cross Kirkland Corridor Trail. We had a decent turnout of 18 walkers and a pair of dogs. The weather was warm, so the lunch break at the shaded tables at Chainline Brewery after the initial southbound segment was quite welcome. Chef Roland delivered some grilled brats, which we washed down with various Chainline brews. After lunch, those who were still in the mood hiked a ways to the north before returning to our starting location. If we decide to make this a tradition, a new feature will be the nice park that Google has built where the trail bisects its campus.

JASS RECAP

2015 Jass Championship was held this Spring at Tony and Martha Ruegg's home. The usual diehards played a few wonderful rounds of their beloved game, and in the end Tony won the trophy. A great time of Jass playing, followed by some good eats was had by all who attended. Thank you to the Ruegg's for opening their home for this yearly tradition.

RACLETTE RECAP

The club decided to have a new event last February and it was very successful. About 20 members joined in a fun evening of Raclette at Patty Richert's home. Once the logistics of where to plug in the Raclette makers without blowing a fuse was figured out, we had an enjoyable evening of Raclette fixings for all to enjoy.

LINKS & STUFF

Seattle German resources: www.seattleaufdeutsch.com

From 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.org

Monroe Swiss Colony

monroeswisscolony@yahoo.com

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

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

Seattle Swiss Society

Online Membership Application

Now accepting



Philippe Goetschel

Honorary Consul

Consulate of Switzerland

6920 94th Avenue SE
Mercer Island, WA 98040
206 395 4812

seattle@honrep.ch



www.swissemb.org

YOUR 2015 BOARD

President	<i>Roland Oberholzer</i>	425-889-2411
VP & Newsletter	<i>Rick Bützberger</i>	747-444-1098
Treasurer	<i>Patty Richert</i>	425-444-7672
Secretary	<i>Dick Reutimann</i>	206-232-7022
Events Chair	<i>Doris Oberholzer</i>	425-353-0788
Auditors	<i>Jan Palmer</i>	<i>Debbie Amondoli</i>

AUSLÄNDER CORRESPONDENCE

Samantha Oberholzer

I love traveling through Switzerland by train. Which is a good thing as I recently committed myself to a two hour commute in the mornings and evenings when I switched jobs from Biel to Lucerne. It's a time-sucker, I'll admit that, but I find it enjoyable because it gives me the opportunity to do things that I don't usually make time for: reading, writing, daydreaming, just to name a few. I do my best thinking on the train and there are only a couple things I find more inspiring than looking out the window and watching Switzerland's stunning landscapes zoom by. Another thing long train rides are good for is making connections.

Last week I was looking for a seat in the very full restaurant wagon (it's the best place to sit if you need to get work done, or if you want a beer on the way home from a long hike) and a small group of retired men waved me down and insisted that I sit with them. I emphasized the fact that I needed to get work done and I didn't want to interrupt them but they said, in Swiss German, "It's not every day that we get to sit with such a beautiful lady." Oh, well, shoot. When you put it like that I guess there's no reason for me not to send off those last work emails and drink an iced tea with you gentlemen.

So, my work colleague and I sat with these men as we rode from Lucerne to Olten. They made jokes, asked questions, told stories, recounted their day and, as old men will do, they flirted. And when it was time for me to get off they thanked me for taking a chance and sitting with them. It's rare that people connect with strangers, they said, and they found it refreshing from a young person.

I got off that train feeling giddy from the spontaneity of the encounter and I thought about how "American" it was. From my experience, and from what I've heard from other expats, the Swiss keep more to themselves and their close friends while Americans are loud, direct and super friendly to the point of ridiculousness – what some Swiss would call "superficial". I just love when my two cultures come together – an American moment in a very Swiss setting.

Some people say I'm outgoing. I guess I am, but I just love opportunities to meet new people. I suppose I have my personality to thank for my constant talking to strangers. But I think a big thank you should go out to SBB for setting the scene.

About the correspondent

Samantha Oberholzer is an expatriate living in Nidau and working as a copywriter in Lucerne. When she's not riding the train she enjoys other typical Swiss things like schoggi, schwingfescht, and chäs. She blogs about her adventures at www.cup-of-culture.com.

Masthead color courtesy of Brenda Sexton and associates at Sexton Communications LLC.
253.315.2338 | Brenda.Sexton@comcast.net

BUNDESFEIER RECAP

The Swiss Independence Day celebration was held at the Edgebrook Club in Bellevue on Sunday, August 2nd. We had a good turnout and it was great to see a number of young families in attendance. We enjoyed a beautiful afternoon socializing and eating grilled sausages and delicious pastries. We were treated to a wonderful Alphorn performance by Cascade Alphorns musicians Evelyn Zeller and Nels Magelssen. The Seattle Swiss Society would like to thank everyone who volunteered to help make this a very successful celebration. Special thanks to Cascade Alphorns and to Margret Aebersold and her assistant Hanspeter for planning and coordinating the Swiss Independence Day celebration.

Seattle Swiss Facebook Photos

https://www.facebook.com/SeattleSwissSociety/photos_stream

From 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 Bützberger buetzli@gmail.com 747-444-1098

FALL DINNER RESERVATION FORM - OCTOBER 24, 2015 (Due October 19)

Number of members _____ x \$48.00 = _____

Number of non-members or guests _____ x \$58.00 = _____

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 Pl SE
Bellevue, WA 98006
(425) 444-7672



SEATTLE SWISS SOCIETY
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