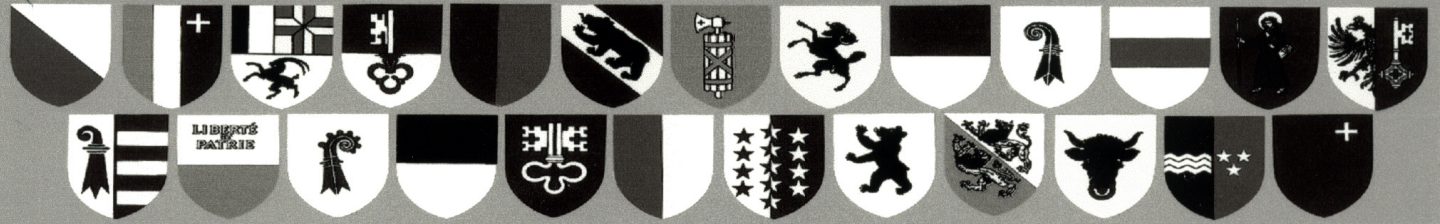


SEATTLE SWISS SOCIETY INC.



www.seattleswiss.org - seattleswissclub@gmail.com

July 2012

Important Dates:

July 29	1st August Picnic Bellevue
Sept 8-9	Hike Stevens Pass
Late Oct.	Fall Dinner SSCC
December	Christmas Party Monroe

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear friends,

We started the year with two very successful events. Our annual **Fondue Party** was one of the best attended - over 80 people and two **Alphorn** players. This made it a truly Swiss event. Our **Jass Party** set a record with 28 players. Wow, what a party! Please keep it up.

We still have some books available that you may

borrow. I will bring them along to the upcoming picnic. So far the **Book Exchange** has not been a roaring success. Only three books have been borrowed to date.

Currently just one of the available eight books is loaned out. I hope the pace will pick up, otherwise

That is all I have to say for now. I prefer to talk with you in person, so I hope to see you all at the **First of August** picnic where our new **Alphorn** friends will play again.



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1ST OF AUGUST CELEBRATION

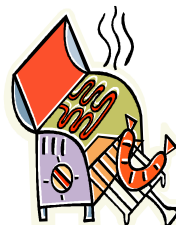
To celebrate the Swiss National Day, please join us on **Sunday, July 29** at the **Edgebrook Swim & Tennis Club** for our traditional, annual Swiss Picnic. The fun starts at **2:00 p.m.**

The Swiss character of our picnic will be greatly enhanced by the performance of the **Cascade Alphorns**. Evelyn Zeller and Nels Magelssen will have just come back from Switzerland with new Swiss melodies in their backpack.

This is also a great place to bring your children.

Fun games are planned and they can also enjoy the pool. To help us prepare, please let us know the ages of the children by calling Patty Richert at 425-444-7672.

Please bring your own wine and beer as we are not allowed to sell it at the Club. The Swiss Club will provide lemonade, ice water and coffee.



Bratwurst and/or Cervelat, each with a Mütschli (bun), Nussgipfel and Napoleons will be available at nominal cost.

Please bring your favorite summer salad or side dish to share.

The number of tables and chairs is limited, so to enjoy a comfortable place you might want to bring your own picnic table and chairs.

We will have access to the Club pool for a fee of \$4.00 per person. If you plan to take a dip, be sure to bring your bathing suit and towel.

Edgebrook Swim & Tennis Club
13454 SE Newport Way
Bellevue

Directions on page 4

YOUR 2012 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>Margret Aebersold</i>	425-353-0788
Newsletter:	<i>Hanna LeMaster</i>	360-455-8376
Auditors:	<i>Rick Bützberger</i>	
	<i>Jon Boyce</i>	



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2012



<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
July 29	<i>1st August Picnic</i>	Edgebrook Club
Sept 8/9	<i>Hike</i>	Stevens Pass
Late Oct.	<i>Fall Dinner</i>	South Seattle Community College
December	<i>Christmas Party</i>	Monroe Swiss Hall

The history of William Tell

The People of Switzerland were not always free and happy as they are today. Many years ago a proud tyrant, whose name was Hermann Gessler, ruled over them, and made their lot a bitter one indeed.



One day this tyrant set up a tall pole in the public square of Altdorf, and put his own cap on the top of it and gave orders that every man should bow down before it. But there was one man, named William Tell, who would not do this. He stood up straight with folded arms, and laughed at the swinging cap.

When Gessler heard of this, he was very angry. So he made up his mind to punish the bold man. William Tell was a famous hunter. No one in all the land could shoot with bow and arrow so well as he. Gessler knew this, and so he thought of a cruel plan to make the hunter's own skill bring him to grief. He ordered that William Tell's little boy Walter should be made to stand up in the public square with an apple on his head and then ordered William Tell to shoot the apple with one of his arrows.

William Tell begged the tyrant not to have him make this test of his skill. Will you make me kill my boy?" he said. "Say no more," said Herrmann Gessler. "You must hit the apple with your one arrow. If you fail, my soldiers shall kill the boy before your eyes."

William Tell fitted the arrow to his crossbow. He took aim, and let it fly. The boy stood firm and still. The arrow struck the apple fairly in the center, and carried it away. As William Tell was turning away from the place, an arrow which he had hidden under his coat dropped to the ground. "Fellow!" cried Gessler, "what mean you with this second arrow?" "Tyrant!" was Tell's proud answer, "this arrow was for your heart if I had hurt my child." There is an old story that, not long after this, William Tell did shoot the tyrant Gessler with one of his arrows, and thus he set his country Switzerland free.

FALL HIKE

Are you ready to enjoy the Cascade Mountains? The weekend of **September 8/9** is the date to keep open!



What can you expect?

- Two days of moderate hiking in our great back-country
- Camaraderie and socializing
- Enjoying great meals together
- Playing games in the evening or just relaxing and visiting with friends
- Overnight stay at the cabin at Stevens Pass

Even if you are not into hiking, you can still join the fun at the cabin. You will likely find somebody to join you for a short stroll in the mountains or a Sunday visit to Leavenworth.

A sign up sheet will be available at the 1st of August picnic.

If you are interested, please let us know at the picnic, or contact Hans Saxer at 360-863-2094.

Details will be mailed in August to all interested parties.



FONDUE PARTY RECAP

Our annual Fondue Party was held on March 24th at the Monroe Swiss Hall. 85 people enjoyed a delicious fondue and bread, prepared by Roland Oberholzer and assisted by Jason Richert. Young apprentice Chrisof Roesler-O'Driscoll also helped out in the kitchen and dining room.



Fabulous appetizers and desserts, prepared by our guests, were shared with the group. We also enjoyed a special and wonderful *alphorn* performance by **Evelyn Zeller** and **Nels Magelssen**. Afterwards

they allowed anyone who wanted to try this traditional instrument to give it a go. Some were very talented, while others sounded more like a mountain goat that had slipped from a cliff!

The Seattle Swiss Society would like to thank the Monroe Swiss Hall for making this facility available to us again, to our chairperson, Margret Aebersold, who did a wonderful job preparing for this event, and to all those who helped make this event special. A great time was enjoyed by all.



JASS PARTY RECAP

On April 22nd we assembled at the home of Bob and Evelyn Reutimann to crown our new Jass champion.



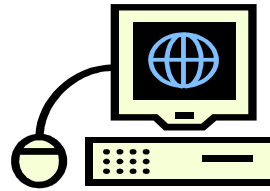
We had 28 players, a record number. This year several of the newcomers participated after taking Jass lessons at Patty and Jason Richert's home over the last couple of years.

We decided that instead of having separate beginner tables, we would mix up the whole group. Certainly

there were some weaknesses visible, but overall the up and coming players fit in quite well. We played four rounds of **Schieber**, mixing up the parties each time. While it was mostly serious play, the laughter and joking indicated that Jass is also an opportunity to socialize and to enjoy each other's company.

After the games we settled down to a nice meal and a glass of wine. Thanks to all who contributed appetizers, desserts or a bottle of wine, and to Philippe Goetschel for the bottle of kirsch. We are most grateful to our generous hosts Bob and Evelyn who made us all feel welcome. With 28 players they had their

E-MAIL NEWSLETTER



You are probably aware that we have started to send out the newsletter per e-mail. The members that do not have e-mail are still getting the printed version.

The advantage to the members is that the newsletter cannot get lost between old newspapers and you can always find it on our web site.

The advantages to the club are obvious; it is less expensive and there is no folding and labeling involved.

In addition there are sometimes notices from third parties that we can pass on quickly. For instance a couple of Swiss dancers were in town recently and a Swiss student was looking for a host family. Before using e-mail there really was no practical way to pass this information on to you.

If you do not have e-mail, we recommend that you ask a member-friend with e-mail to pass along the messages that might be of interest to you.



JASS LESSONS

Interested in Jass Lessons?

Please contact Patty or Jason Richert at (425) 444-7672.

If there is enough interest, lessons may be available again this fall.

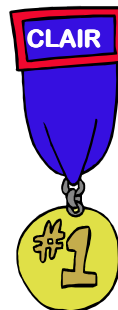
Beginners, Intermediate and the Pros welcome.



hands full to set up all the tables for the play and to prepare the food and refreshments.

We all know that Jass really is a man's game. However the results seemed to indicate otherwise.

The new champion is **Clair Wehrle**. Her grand prize was the standard piece of Gruyère and the bottle of kirsch. In second place was **Cindy Hutter**, and finally in the bronze position **Robert Grossrieder**, the savior of the men's honor.



DIRECTIONS TO EDGEBROOK SWIM & TENNIS CLUB

13454 SE Newport Way
Bellevue, WA 98006
(425) 746-2786



From I-90 or 520, take I-405 South to Coal Creek Parkway Exit.
Take the **COAL CREEK PKY SE** exit
Bear Left on **COAL CREEK PKY SE**
Continue on **COAL CREEK PKY SE/SE COAL CREEK PKY**
Turn Left on **FACTORIA BLVD SE**
Turn Right on **SE 43RD ST/SE NEWPORT WAY**
Continue on **SE NEWPORT WAY**
At the light at **ALLEN ROAD**, turn left

Tacoma Swiss Society 2012 Calendar

<u>July</u>	29	First of August Bundesfeier
<u>August</u>	11	Schwingfest & Dance
	12	Buebe Schwingfest & Dance
<u>September</u>	29	Oktoberfest
<u>November</u>	10	Rippli Dinner/ Enzian Concert

For information call the Tacoma Swiss Society -
Joe & Louise Hospenthal at (253) 896-2593

Monroe Swiss Colony 2012 Calendar

Monthly Meeting & Potluck Luncheon - 1st Sunday

<u>July/August</u>	no meetings
October 13	Swiss Dance & Bratwurst Dinner

For information contact: Lonn or Laurie Turner
(360) 793-0387

Swiss Club Helvetia of NCW (Leavenworth)

For information contact Martin & Heidi Stoller
(509)782-5808.

POSTFINANCE UPDATE

As an Auslandschweizer it has been possible to open a **Postfinance E-Finance** account (Sparkonto) in Switzerland but not an E-Trading account. With a special form that I negotiated with Postfinance in Bern earlier this year, Swiss citizens were supposed to be able to get their identity certified with a Swiss passport by a local US notary public. Successful implementation has been spotty, depending on which customer service representative processed the application. Sometimes it was approved and other times not. An article in the Tages-Anzeiger in mid-June now suggests that Postfinance wants to get out of the business of opening such accounts by the end of 2012. If you want to try at your own risk, feel free to request the special form from Philippe Goetschel at seattle@honrep.ch.

Philippe Goetschel

Honorary Consul
Consulate of Switzerland

6920 94th Avenue SE
Mercer Island, WA 98040
206-228-8110 Phone
206-236-8420 Fax



seattle@honrep.ch
www.swissemb.org

Do you have a new e-mail address?

Please let us know by sending an e-mail to **seattleswissclub@gmail.com**, or by contacting one of our board members. Thank you!

Annual Dues are Due

Your Swiss Club depends on your support.

If you have not already paid your annual dues, please contact a board member about what to do.

Thank you!

Gruyères - Castle and Small Town



A picture-perfect medieval town on a small hill with a castle and three totally different museums: In Gruyères, 800-

year-old regional history and culture meet Oscar-winning aliens and Buddhist sculptures.

The historical town of Gruyères, Greyerz in German, has preserved its Medieval character up until today. The old comital residence lies on a hill above the river Saane. The castle, which dates back to the 13th century, is today a museum depicting 800 years of regional architecture, history and culture.

The museum of H. R. Giger is to be found in the nearby small castle of St. Germain. This museum showcases the fantastical art of the Oscar-winner and "Alien" creator. The Tibet museum (opened in 2009) with over 300 Buddhist sculptures, pictures and ritual works from various Himalayan regions, is located in the midst of the traffic-free town.

The town also has a charm all of its own thanks to its superb gastronomy and its modern show dairy.

Fall Dinner

By now our Fall Dinner in late October at the South Seattle Community Center has become a tradition. Details and reservation form will follow in our next newsletter.

From the Publisher's Desk . .

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, Hanna LeMaster, at lemaster22@gmail.com or (360) 455-8376

For more information on our Club and to see pictures of past events, please check out our website at: www.seattleswiss.org

You Know You are Swiss When...

you complain if your bus/train/tram is more than 5 minutes late. Make that 1 minute

you've ever been confused with a Swede

you laugh when Americans believe that Swiss Miss is a Swiss product, but then have no clue that Nestlé and Rolex ARE

you get frustrated if you go grocery shopping abroad and there aren't at least 10 different kinds of chocolate and 15 kinds of cheese available

you have learned three to four languages and think this is completely normal

you have ever been asked - upon stating your nationality - whether you live in the mountains and whether you can yodel

you can pronounce "Chuchichäschtli" and you know what it means

to you, skis are like the extensions of your feet, because you've skied since you could walk

you are amused when people ask you what language is spoken in your home country and/or you have to explain that "Swiss" is not a language, that there are four national languages and none of them is called "Swiss"!

your country has six different public television channels in three different languages - and you don't think this is unusual

you were legally allowed to drink beer and wine at the age of sixteen

you walked to kindergarten without supervision, wearing a large orange triangle around your neck

when being asked to explain how certain things work in your country, you have to use the phrase "it differs for each canton,so..."

you think that driving somewhere for four hours is a hell of a long time

you know what Betty Bossi books and products are and have bought one

you are in a non-European country and can hear people talking Swiss German and just go up and strike up a conversation with a complete stranger

