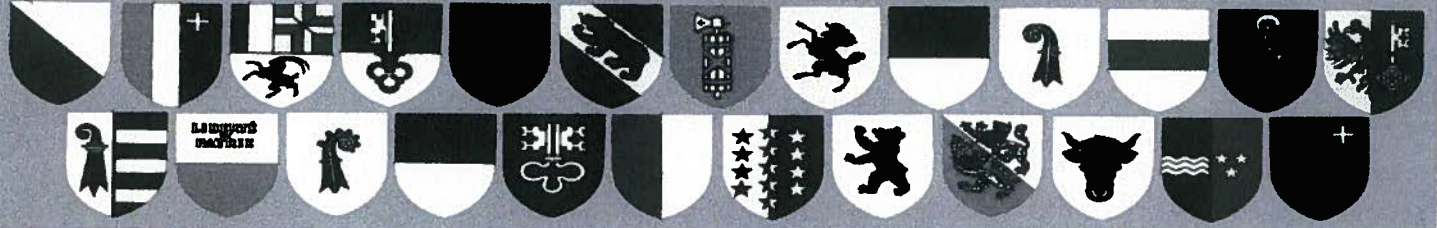


SEATTLE SWISS SOCIETY INC.



www.seattleswiss.org

March 2009

Important Dates:

March 28	Fondue Party
April 26	Jass Party
August 2	1st August Celebration
Mid. Sept.	Hike
Late Oct.	Fall Dinner
Dec. 6	Christmas Party

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PRESIDENTS' CORNER

Past President's Corner

Dear friends,
This is my last contribution to the Seattle Swiss Society's newsletter under the heading "President's Corner". But first of all, I wish to thank you for entrusting me with this important office. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve our club's membership.

I have to admit, in some ways I relish the part of not having to think about what to "editorialize" about. On the other hand it is an important aspect of communicating with you, my friends. Some of you have told me

that what I talked about was not written in a vacuum. That in itself is probably one of the more satisfying aspects of having been President of this society.

As I wrote in one of my earlier "editorials", we are a bridge between our new, adopted country, and the one we left behind. It is important to maintain those links. We are in a unique position to communicate to our friends in Switzerland what makes us Americans "tick." At the same time, we can explain to our American friends why and how the
(continued on page 2)

New President's Corner

Dear Members,
Before we go on to new things, I want to thank Peter Schiess for his leadership and commitment as our Swiss Club President for the past six years. A lot of his efforts were behind the scene and, despite frequent travels, Peter was able to get things done.

As your new president, I am inviting you to share your thoughts and ideas so that we can keep our club interesting and our friendships prospering.
(continued on page 2)

FONDUE PARTY

After our cold, rainy, and at times snowy winter, we are looking forward to the cozy comfort of our annual **Fondue Party**.

We hope you will join us for our traditional Swiss Cheese Fondue. This ever popular and fun get-together is planned for **Saturday, March 28** from 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the **Monroe Swiss Hall** in Monroe. Seating is limited so please sign up early!

Chef Roland Oberholzer has agreed once again to be in charge of preparing the fondue. The cost is \$20.00 for members and \$25 for guests.



"Fondue Isch guet and git a guet! Luune"

We ask that you bring an appetizer, salad or dessert to share.

Also please bring your fondue pots, burners, and forks (all marked with your name); without them we are unable to serve our many guests.

As you know, Kirsch is an important ingredient for a good fondue and donations will be greatly appreciated.

To sign up, complete the *Reservation Form* on page 5, and please let us know what you will bring.

Past President's Corner
(continued)

Swiss react to certain events. These dialogues are of crucial importance. If we do not maintain those links, we become a society stuck in the past and may become mostly irrelevant to newcomers from our original country.

Of course, I will continue to participate in our society and hope to see you at our various events.

Peter Schiess



New President's Corner
(continued)

Do not hesitate to contact me, or indeed any board member, and provide us with your suggestions.

I hope to see many of you at the upcoming Fondue Party. Make the trip to Monroe part of the event by carpooling and bringing your friends. That will allow you to commiserate about the economy along the way and get it out of your system so you can enjoy the party that much more.

Hans Saxer

GENERAL MEETING RECAP

The annual General Meeting of the Seattle Swiss Society was held on January 31, 2009 at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church.

There were 34 members in attendance. A new Board was proposed to the membership. For possibly the first time in the history of the Seattle Swiss Society, at least that anyone could remember, there was actually a vote to elect two very

well qualified candidates for the vice president position. Your new Board is listed below.

A traditional "Wurstsalat" was served along with wine and a selection of desserts.

The board would like to thank all of the members who helped set-up, clean-up and contributed in making this a successful meeting. Thank you.

YOUR 2009 BOARD

- President:** *Hans Saxer* 360-863-2094
- Vice President:** *Roland Oberholzer* 425-637-8750
- Treasurer:** *Patty Richert* 425-444-7672
- Secretary:** *Dick Reutimann* 206-232-7022
- Events Chair:** *Norma Vogeli* 206-297-0332
- Newsletter:** *Hanna LeMaster* 360-455-8376
- Auditors:** *Theres Fillmore*
Cindy Hutter

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2009



<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
March 28	<i>Fondue Party</i>	Monroe Swiss Hall
April 26	<i>Jass Party</i>	Ann Berger
August 2	<i>1st August Celebration</i>	Edgebrook Club
Mid September	<i>Hike</i>	Stevens Pass
Late October	<i>Fall Dinner</i>	South Seattle Community College
December 6	<i>Christmas Party</i>	Monroe Swiss Hall

JASS PARTY



April 26, 2009
1:00 p.m. to ???

This year's Jass Party will be held at the home of **Ann Berger**. Please call Hans Saxer at (360) 863-2094 no later than April 19 if you would like to participate, and to find out what you can bring and about costs.

Ann Berger
13618 NE 148th Lane
Woodinville, WA 98072
(425) 821-8212



The Engadine ski marathon passing through the upper Engadine Valley

FALL DINNER RECAP



On October 24, 2008, after one year's absence, and much to our delight, we were able once again to return to familiar surroundings for our annual "Fall Dinner", to the Alki Room at the South Seattle Community College (SSCC). After Karl Hutter's retirement in 2007, the College hired a new Chef for their Culinary Department, Robert Houot; a native of Alsace (that's about as close as one can get culinary-wise to Swiss gastronomy). The delightful evening began with our traditional "Apero" and delicious appetizers served by the helpful staff. This

was followed by an excellent 4-course dinner prepared by Chef Houot and his students. The aspiring culinary students were most attentive as they served our increasingly talkative guests. About 50 people attended this fun event and everyone agreed that we had found another outstanding Chef and that it was great to be back in the Alki Room. Many thanks to Norma Vogeli for organizing this event. She once again excelled at creating lovely table decorations using flags from the various Swiss Cantons and small flower bouquets.

CHRISTMAS PARTY RECAP

When we think of "Christmas" and "Samichlaus", this almost always conjures up images of snowy landscapes in pastoral countrysides, ringed by snow-covered trees. Our "Samichlaus" party was held, together with members of the

Monroe Swiss Club, at their Club Hall on December 7, 2008. This Swiss Hall



Grättimänner

comes pretty close to that image. Although the white landscape was not from snow but from hundreds of snow geese resting in the fields, it was still the perfect setting for our Christmas Party.

We had a great turnout as people arrived to partake in the ever popular pot luck luncheon. The traditional turkey was prepared and carved by Rene Vogt in his usual efficient manner.

The Reutimann family provided the excellent ham. This, together with the additional trimmings brought by our guests from Seattle and Monroe, created an enticing table and added to the festive

occasion. Tony Wehrle donated the Christmas tree and made sure that the Samichlaus

found our hall and arrived on time.

And what would we do without Norma Vogeli? She planned this event and made sure there were enough little presents for the children. A special thank-you to Norma and Margrit Saxer for the decorations, and to all the many helping hands that put together this festive event.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Congratulations to Patty and Jason Richert who married on October 11, 2008.

In Memory

We were saddened by the loss of family loved-ones of our Swiss Club members who passed away.

In 2008: *Philippe Goetschel's father*

In 2009: *Hanna LeMaster's mother*

We extend our deepest sympathy to their families.

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

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Tacoma Swiss Society 2009 Calendar

<u>March</u>		
20-21		Spring Crab Feed & Dance
<u>April</u>		
5		Easter Egg Hunt
18		Mannerchor Concert
<u>June</u>		
19-20		Polkafest
27		Spring Schwingfest
<u>July</u>		
26		First of August Bundesfeier
<u>August</u>		
8		Fall Schwingfest & Dance
9		Buebe Schwingfest & Dance
<u>September</u>		
26		Octoberfest
<u>November</u>		
14		Rippli Dinner/ Enzian Concert

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

Monroe Swiss Colony

For information contact: Eileen Crutcher (360) 939-2334.

Swiss Club Helvetia of NCW (Leavenworth)

<u>March</u>	Fondue Party
<u>June</u>	Annual Swiss Picnic
<u>October</u>	Fall Meeting
<u>December</u>	Samichlaus

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

 Ein Oestreicher fragt die Schweizer warum sie nun so gut skifahren.
 Schweizer: *Mer trainierid halt ou im Summer*
 Oestreicher: *Wo den and wie?*
 Schweizer: *Mit Wasserschi natuerlich, machid er das den ned?*
 Oestreicher: *So steile Seen gibts bei uns gar keine.*



Luzern

Carnival, Big Bang Monday, parades, monster concert (February 2009)



Every year, towards the end of winter, Carnival breaks out in the streets, alleyways and squares of the old town. This is a glittering outdoor party, where chaos and merriness reign and nothing is as it normally is. Strange characters in fantastic masks and costumes make their way through the alleyways, while carnival musicians (Guggenmusigen) blow their instruments in joyful cacophony and thousands of bizarrely clad people sing and dance away the winter.

DIRECTIONS TO MONROE SWISS Hall

The Monroe Swiss Hall
 18500 Tualco Road, Monroe, WA

From 1-405 North or South: (Allow 45 to 60 minutes from downtown Seattle).
 Take Woodinville/Monroe/Highway 522 Exit and follow 522 to end (in Monroe) where it meets Highway 2. Turn left at light onto Highway 2. Follow 0.6 miles to Lewis St/ Highway 203. Turn right onto Lewis St/Highway 203. Follow 1.7 miles and take a right on Tualco Road. Follow 0.7 miles to Swiss Hall.

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

