Dear Readers across Canada and in Switzerland,

During a recent trip to Panamá, the Honorary Consul of Switzerland, Mr. Nils Petterson and his wife Patricia were so kind to meet with me over dinner at the local Swiss Restaurant. Over a delicious meal of fresh trucha I learned of the approx. 600 Swiss living in Panamá, the country’s double digit growth rates in past years and the recent election of a new President. Panamá City is a surprising metropolis with an impressive high rise skyline. When the Consul learned that I had plans to visit El Valle de Anton, the largest populated crater in the world, he invited me to join the active members of the Club Suizo who happened to hold their annual fondue meeting during my visit there. In lush surroundings of swaying palm trees and an entry way lined with tropical flowers, I was greeted by warm smiles and a large Swiss flag at the door. Inside, the room had been decorated with strings of colorful Swiss flags and cow bells, and the mini St. Galler sausages served with the chilled white wine were first rate. Second generation Swiss-Panamanian President Yvonne (far left) introduced me to the membership in rapid Spanish and flawless Schwiizerdütsch, but English and French were spoken throughout the evening just as easily. It was a lively and fun event with the heads of each table being called to the kitchen to prepare the fondue for their table themselves. The evening ended with a Panamanian style Jass. The rules of the game were Swiss all right, but this was clearly a community event with onlookers commenting, advising and teaching the game or having a general discussion with the players in several languages and with much laughter. Swiss adaptation at its best. Thank you for a fun evening, Club Suizo de Panamá!

Please allow me to introduce you to a dedicated Swiss Review Reader: Mrs. Frieda Rosa Hug, who turned 104 years young in March of 2014! Mrs. Hug was 38 when she immigrated with husband Walter and two teenage daughters in 1948, having sold a small farm in Nesselbach, Kt. Aargau, and quitting her job at a hat factory in Wöhlen in order to take possession of the family’s new dairy farm in Mitchell, ON. At age 58 Frieda moved to London, ON, to be closer to her daughters. She worked as a Cook at a Lodge and cared for students at a fraternity, cooking, shopping and looking after them until she turned 75. As Frieda had purchased some rental properties over the years, she managed and acted as a landlord until her 92nd birthday. Thereafter, she gave up her own home and lived with her two daughters and their families, alternating every two weeks until January 2014, when she decided to move into a nursing home where she celebrated her 104th birthday this March, surrounded by family and friends.

Frieda has seven grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren. Her granddaughter Susan Lynch reports that her grandmother always has a smile for everyone and enjoys reading in English and German, knitting and watching TV. Our most sincere congratulations from the Swiss Review community to you, dear Mrs. Hug! And much enjoyment with your extensive family this summer to you, and all Swiss Review Readers!

Silvia Schoch, Editor
Victoria Victoria Swiss Society

As a sixty member active club, we don’t own any premises but hold our events at different venues throughout the city. This year, we struck an agreement with the local Norwegian Club (which already share their premises with the local Swedish and Danish communities), to run four of our events out of their club house. We are opening up these events to the members of the other clubs and are looking forward to an enriching time together!

S U M M E R A N D F A L L 2 0 1 4 E V E N T S

June 22: 7th Annual Bocce Tournament & Picnic, Mt. Douglas Park. Assembly 12:00 noon at the end of the main parking lot, followed by BBQ (please bring your own food). Spectators welcome; children’s games arranged.

July 16: Annual Mini Cruise with buffet lunch from Victoria to Vancouver and back, (no stay over in Vancouver), returning with the 11:00 am ferry from Swartz Bay

August 9: Swiss National Day Celebration, BBQ and Potluck, Centennial Park, Central Saanich

September 25: Art/Hobby Show at Norway House

October 23: Raclette/Fondue Swiss Folklore Evening, Norway H.

November 27: AGM and Games Night at Norway House

December 6: Christmas Dinner at St. Aiden’s Church.

Every third Wednesday of the month there is a Ladies Luncheon and we hold regular Jass evenings between September and June. New members and inquiries from anyone interested in Swiss culture always welcome.

Silvia Schoch, Vice President
silv.schoch@gmail.com (250) 385-7844

Vancouver Swiss Canadian Mountain Range Association 1964 – 2014

The outdoor shooting season is well under way at this time of the year, also the Wednesday afternoon shooting becomes very popular, including the delicious and reasonable suppers which follow after the intense practice. We are also planning and organizing for the August 1st celebration which will be held on July 26th and we hope for a great turn out and lots of sunshine. The 50th Anniversary festivities will start on October 3rd with a two-day shooting competition between the Swiss Visitors and S.C.M.R.A. Sunday afternoon, October 5th will be the official Ceremony with dinner to follow. The Crossbow section is also celebrating 50 years of existence.

SUMMER AND FALL 2014 EVENTS

July 26: National Day Celebration
August 10th: Championship all Ranges
August 24: Championship all Ranges - Trap
Sept. 7: Last Day Club Championship 300m – Trap Cheese shoot
September 20: Workparty
September 21: Consul Cup
October 3-5: Anniversary Celebration
October 11 and 12: Schützenfest
October 26: Saushoot
November 1: Workparty
November 2: Jass Tournament
December 6: Santa Claus Party

Anyone who likes good company in beautiful Chalet surroundings is welcome to join us on any of the scheduled events. Please check our website for more details and pictures: www.scmra.ca

Marlies Baumann, Membership Secretary (604) 298-3021

www.TourismGolden.com/ch 1.800.622.GOLD
As the host of the past Sängerfest 2011 in Vancouver, the Swiss Society of Vancouver is happy to inform all potential “Schlachtenbummler” in Canada that the final preparations in Tacoma, Washington are going well. It will be the largest Swiss Cultural event in North-America in 2014. The website of this 28th Sängerfest of the USSSPC contains all necessary information for singers and non-singers and most importantly also for children who would like to join the ‘Kinderchörli’ in Tacoma. The final four-day schedule can also be downloaded from the website including online registration for tickets, Singer, Non-Singer and Kinderchörli badges as well as hotel rooms. Do not miss this fantastic event in Tacoma which the Swiss Society of Vancouver can enjoy this year as a participating society. Non-singer badges cost $280; accommodation and admission for the Grand Concert have to be paid separately. We wish Tacoma all the best with the last preparations! www.swiss-sangerfest-tacoma-2014.org Tel.: 253-678-4924

2014 Sängerfest rehearsal with Kurt McKee. Photo: Ted Nodwell

Rolf A. Brülhart, Past-President of the USSSPC and Sängervater
rbrulhart@hotmail.com

We practice every Monday night from 7:30pm – 9:00pm at the Ramsay Community Hall, 1136 – 8th Street SE, Calgary. After practice we meet for a social. We currently have 13 female members with room for growth. If you are interested, you are welcome to drop in at one of our practices, or just contact one of our members. As a new member you will gain:

• New friendships
• Re-connect with your Swiss heritage
• Great exercise
• Opportunity to wear your Tracht (if you don’t own one, we will supply you with one)
• A weekly night out with the girls
• Lots of laughs and a good time!

Check our website www.swiss-dance-group-alpenroseli.ca You will find our newsletter by clicking on the “newsletter” link. The newsletter is updated quarterly.

Vreni Schmid, President
president@swiss-dance-group-alpenroseli.ca

Our Jass tournament was held on Sunday April 27th and produced two Jass Meisters: Rosa Nievergelt and Elisabeth Wirz. Congratulations to those two ladies!

Elisabeth Ellinger, President
president@swiss-clubsaskatoon@hotmail.com

In 1874, a group of Swiss men founded our Society to enjoy friendship and comradeship. Today, one hundred and forty years later, our aim remains unchanged. All Swiss Citizens of voting age (men and women) are welcome to become Active Members. We meet four to five times per year on the first Tuesday of the month and have special events on Friday or Saturday at different restaurants in the Montreal region. We welcome all members, their guests and friends at our meetings which include a hearty meal, followed by guest speakers, discussions, Jass or films. Every Monday night we play 10-pin bowling from September until April. For further information, please contact:

Carl H. Diehl, President, 514-696-3876, randolinas@gmail.com

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HOCKEY IN SWITZERLAND

If you are a hockey player and eligible for a SWISS PASSPORT contact:

INTERNATIONAL SPORTS MANAGEMENT

All ages welcome.

Int’l Sports Management (ISM)
10255 Cote de Liesse Road
Dorval, Québec, Canada H9P 1A3
Phone: 514-631 4266
Fax: 514-636 0365
E-mail: d.mccann@mccannequipment.ca

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Golden  Celebration of Swiss Mountain Guides at Golden Mountain Festival

Nestled between three mountain ranges and two rivers in the Canadian Rocky Mountains lies Golden, BC, a small community, rich in Swiss history. Known for an abundance of mountain adventure activities, the town owes this trait to the Swiss Mountain Guides. On May 17 and 18, Golden celebrated this piece of history with the Golden Mountain Festival; a two-day festival dedicated to the heritage of Swiss Guides in Golden.

Attendees had lots of opportunity to learn about, and meet, some of the iconic Swiss Guides. A documentary highlighting the Swiss Guide’s adventure through the Rocky Mountains played while others chose to take a guided tour through one of the famous Swiss Guide Houses at the Edelweiss Village. A photo exhibit allowed a personal look into history through an exhibit of private photos from Syd Feuz, an iconic second generation Swiss Guide born in Golden. Other activities included the blowing of the traditional Swiss Alphorn and a Farmer’s Market full of vendors in national Swiss dress with traditional treats. Restaurants in the community embraced the history with Swiss-inspired specials for people to enjoy. The Golden Mountain Festival left both tourists and locals with a feeling of nostalgia and a new respect for the people who made this community Golden. For more information and images from the Festival visit www.goldenfest.ca.

Faith Dusevic


The Swiss Club Toronto cordially invites you and your friends to a fun filled afternoon with great entertainment, Swiss food, refreshments, our famous Nussgipfel, wagon rides, and much more. Take your family to make new friends and renew old acquaintances. Meet Swiss artists and enjoy their work, and don’t forget our famous raffle.

12:00 noon – The Park Opens. Visit some of the thirty heritage buildings. Taste great Swiss food, coffee and Nussgipfel. Beer, wine and soft drinks are also available.

1:30 pm – Start of the Official Celebration and Entertainment until 4:30 pm, followed by our famous raffle draw.

Directions from Toronto: Country Heritage Park is located at 8560 Tremaine Road, West of Milton. Take 401 West to Highway 25 exit. Go north to the third traffic light. Turn left onto Side Road 5/Regional Road 9. After three kilometers turn left onto Tremaine Road (hidden intersection). Go over the 401 bridge and the Park is immediately on the right. For Country Heritage Park information go to www.countryheritagepark.com, for more event information please visit our website at www.swissclubtoronto.ca.

Sascha Frassini, President
sascha.frassini@swissclubtoronto.ca

Toronto  Swiss Club Toronto
Gym Section: Canoe Trip August 2 – 4

Are you interested in a canoe trip? Don’t worry, even if you have never been in a canoe before!

This year once again, the Gym Section of the Swiss Club Toronto is organizing a canoe trip to Algonquin Park on the long weekend August 2nd to August 4th. We leave very early on Saturday morning and rent canoes before we enter the park. We start out on Magnetawan Lake and have our eye set on a smaller lake.

To get there, we will paddle five to six hours and carry canoes and camping gear over a few short portages. Once there, we look for a nice campsite and set up camp for the two nights over the long weekend. On Sunday, everyone is free to enjoy, relax or explore; soak up some sun or soak in the water; do a little tour with the canoe or enjoy some hiking. On Monday, the real world is already calling again and we will be back in Toronto by early evening. This is also a great event to invite or offer to your visitors from abroad, to let them enjoy something different in our Canadian wilderness. The cost per person will be approximately $80 to $90. Space is limited, so it will be first come, first served. For more information please get in touch with me.

Walter Brunner, President
(905) 508-8014, walter.brunner@sympatico.ca
Montreal Matterhorn Swiss Club

For a spring or summer outing, we plan to have a walk at Cooper Marsh in Lancaster, ON, followed by a visit to a large dairy farm in nearby Bainsville. This was a popular event a few years ago, and we are sure that it will be well-attended again. As in the past, Matterhorn members will help out at 1st of August celebrations at Mont Sutton. Many volunteers are needed, so we will be counting on many of you to give a few hours of your time to contribute toward a successful Swiss National Day. More information will follow, and please help out where you can.

Our annual summer picnic will once again be held in mid-August at the Pfister residence on Ile Cadieux. New members are welcome, and according to our bylaws, please attend two events before becoming a member.

June 22: Annual Golf Tournament
July 27: Swiss National Holiday celebration at Billings Estate
November 8: Montagna Singers “Metzgete”

Arno Sigrist, Chairman
(416) 493-8025, arno.s@sympatico.ca

On Saturday, June 21st, starting at 1:00 pm, we will have our annual Family BBQ at the Egger Dairy Farm in Milton. Walter and Trudi are again looking forward to having us at their beautiful place.

This event is open to all Swiss Club Members. Note: In the event of rain we will be indoors in the new barn, so come in any weather. We will supply sausages with buns, potato salad and condiments, as well as coffee. Please bring your own drinks of any kind. There are usually various donated desserts available, thanks in advance to the many donors! If possible, please bring your own lawn chairs and since we expect nice weather, don’t forget your sunscreen!

How to get there: go west on Hwy 401 to Hwy 25. Go south to Steeles Avenue, turn right (west) for 4.3 km to 5244 Steeles Avenue where you will see a large pond on the left (south) side of the road with white swans (unless they’re hiding). We will try to place a Swiss flag at the entrance to the farm.

Walter Spirig, President
(514) 694-3718

Ottawa Ottawa Valley Swiss Club

Spring is finally here. I hope you all survived the long harsh winter well.

The first event this year, organized by Luc Andre, was an outing on cross-country skis and snow shoes in the Gatineau Park, ending with a fondue. People attending had a great time. The OVSC Annual General Meeting was held February 7th, 2014. Our Ambassador, Mr. Ulrich Lehner, briefed us on the major events affecting Switzerland and the Swiss abroad and the state of relations with Canada. The present Board of Directors was re-elected by acclamation. A slide show of influential Swiss and Swiss Artists at home and abroad complimented the evening. Kati Lyon-Villiger surprised us with a quiz on Mr. Lehner’s speech and Swiss history that was well received.

A heartfelt thank you to Asta and Chris who were in charge of the children’s games last year. As they are leaving soon for Toronto, the OVSC Board is looking forward to hearing from some enthusiastic folks who would like to help us organize that delightful task again this year. For a list of events, news and updates, or to contact the Ottawa Valley Swiss Club, please visit our website www.ottawavalleySwissclub.ca.

Helen Natterer, President
Walter Spirig, President
(514) 694-3718

Arno Sigrist, Chairman
(416) 493-8025, arno.s@sympatico.ca

Montréal Lamicale Suisse des Laurentides

Bonjour à tous: C’est enfin la belle saison, donc le 22 juin 2014 le premier méchoui de la saison, c’est un rendez-vous sur la terrasse couverte ou sous la pergola. Hello to all: It is finally getting warm, thus on June 22nd, 2014, we are meeting for the first barbecue of the year, either on the pergola or the covered terrace. Grüezi Mitenand: Es ist soweit: die Tage sind wärmer und so treffen wir uns zum ersten Grill am 22. Juni, 2014. Pour réserver et info/For reservations and info/Für Reservationen und Informationen: amicale@lheritage.com, (450) 226-2218.

Salutations, L’Ami Gérard Herrmann
President
Notice to All Swiss Citizens residing in the Toronto Area

Since the recent introduction of the “Biometric Passport”, passport requests must be made in person in order to allow the recording of necessary biometric data which includes: a photograph of the applicant’s face and a scan of two fingerprints.

The Consulate General in Montreal is pleased to inform you of the upcoming visit to Toronto of two Consular Officers during the week of October 6th, 2014.

Equipped with a “mobile biometric passport station”, this visit will enable the Consular staff to record the required biometric data of those living in the Toronto area. If you would like to take advantage of the opportunity of having your biometric data recorded in Toronto, please complete an application for a new passport via the following website: www.schweizerpass.ch. Please follow the procedure for Swiss nationals living abroad and indicate under “remarks” that you request that your biometric data be recorded in Toronto.

Requests for appointments in Toronto will be accepted until August 15th 2014. Holders of Swiss passports which expire within the next 12 months will be given priority.

Once the receipt of your application for a new passport is confirmed, detailed information of your appointment for biometric data will follow. (Date/time, exact location, required documents etc.). Should you require additional information or consular assistance, please visit this Representation’s official website at: www.eda.admin.ch/montreal or to send a mail to: mon.vertretung@eda.admin.ch.

The Consulate General of Switzerland in Montreal.

Mrs. Kathy Utigard - New Honorary Consul of Switzerland in Toronto

Appointment of Mrs. Kathy Utigard as Honorary Consul of Switzerland in Toronto. Mrs. Kathy Utigard was appointed Honorary Consul of Switzerland in Toronto on June 1st, 2014. Reporting to the Consul General of Switzerland in Montreal, her duties will include the representation of the Consulate General at various political, cultural, scientific, economic and commercial related events. Mrs. Utigard will maintain and develop the network of numerous contacts linked to Switzerland. Also, in collaboration with the Consulate General, she will provide support to Swiss nationals in situations of emergency. Our Honorary Consul will not be responsible for consular issues nor will she be responsible for administrative matters. Swiss citizens requiring consular assistance are asked to contact the Consulate General in Montreal directly.

Mrs. Utigard has occupied several positions in various fields during her 30 years in Canada. Her past includes occupations with the Swiss Canadian Chamber of Commerce (Ontario), Switzerland Tourism, the Canadian travel industry as well as with a few private businesses. Employed by the Consulate General of Switzerland in Toronto, until its closure last April 30th, Mrs Utigard remains an active member of various professional, cultural and Swiss associations.

Message from the Ambassador of Switzerland to Canada - Message de l’Ambassadeur de Suisse au Canada

After a little less than three years spent in Canada, it is time for my wife and me to move on and return to Europe. My new responsibilities will take me to Paris as head of the Swiss Delegation to the OECD. Living in Canada where I spent some of my childhood-years was a real privilege and I thoroughly enjoyed my time in this wonderful country. Though our stay will be a little shorter than anticipated, we have had numerous opportunities to crisscross this immense land and meet many of you, members of the Swiss community living in Canada. A community which is both proud of its origins and traditions and well integrated in its new homeland. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the warm welcome that you have always extended to us when our paths crossed. Though Switzerland and Canada differ in many ways—just consider size and natural resources—many of you have chosen to settle in Canada because it is a land of opportunities. The ties between the two countries are strong, particularly when you consider trade and investments, and during my time in Ottawa, I have tried with my colleagues at the Embassy and in the General Consulates to broaden them to other areas such a research, academia and professional training.

In leaving Canada, I would like to reiterate to you my gratitude for the kindness that you have always extended to my wife and me and introduce my successor, Ambassador Beat Nobs, who will arrive in Ottawa beginning of September. With my best wishes, Ulrich Lehner, Ambassador

Après un peu moins de trois ans passés au Canada, il est temps pour mon épouse et moi-même de poursuivre notre chemin et de retourner en Europe. Mes nouvelles responsabilités me mèneront à Paris où je reprendrai la direction de la Délegation suisse près l’OCDE. Vivre au Canada, où j’ai passé quelques-unes de mes années d’enfance, fut un réel privilège et j’ai beaucoup apprécié mon séjour dans le magnifique pays. Bien que celui-ci soit un peu plus court que prévu, nous avons eu de nombreuses occasions de silloner cet immense pays et de rencontrer beaucoup d’entre vous, membre de la communauté suisse du Canada. Une communauté qui est à la fois fière de ses origines et de ses traditions et bien intégrée dans son nouveau pays. Je souhaite saisir cette occasion pour vous remercier du chaleureux accueil que vous nous avez réservé à chaque fois que nos chemins se sont croisés.

Bien que la Suisse et le Canada diffèrent dans de nombreux domaines—considérez simplement la taille et les ressources naturelles—vous êtes nombreux à avoir choisi de vous installer au Canada, un pays d’opportunités. Les liens entre les deux pays sont forts, particulièrement dans le domaine du commerce et des investissements ; et durant mon séjour à Ottawa, j’ai cherché, avec mes collègues de l’ambassade et des consulats généraux, à les élargir à d’autres domaines tels que la recherche, le monde académique et la formation professionnelle.

En quittant le Canada, je voudrais vous remercier toute ma gratitude pour la gentillesse que vous avez toujours témoignée à l’égard de mon épouse et de moi-même et vous présenter mon successeur, l’Ambassadeur Beat Nobs, qui arrivera à Ottawa début septembre. Avec mes meilleurs vœux, Ulrich Lehner, Ambassadeur
Danielle von Känel – Executive Chef Par Excellence

After completing his Chef’s training at the Casino in Bern, Daniel wanted to go to New Zealand. But his parents, insisting on a part of the world with some family connection and the fact that the South African Government paid for his flight, won out. In the summer of 1971, 21 year old Daniel flew to Johannesburg and into the midst of apartheid. Daniel remembers, chuckling: “Internet was non-existent in those days and I knew very little about the place. I certainly didn’t realize I was going from summer to winter!” Learning and adapting quickly after arriving in shorts in the middle of a snow-storm became a hallmark for Daniel, who soon moved up the ladder and to the Heerengracht Hotel in Cape Town.

There was no TV in South Africa; no shopping, hiking or entertainment, and everything was segregated. Many Sundays were spent with European co-workers, enjoying the gorgeous landscape. After the friends had worked for some time in South Africa, Daniel’s German Cold-Kitchen Chef challenged the group to move to Canada. Each of the four friends accepted and the last to arrive was to buy a case of Champagne for the others. Unbeknownst to them all, their German friend had already applied for a visa to Canada!

Daniel followed through and arrived in a wintry Toronto with temperatures of minus 22 degrees. At his first job as Sous Chef at the Granite Club he met his future wife, a native from–where else: New Zealand! Kate had been born and raised down-under but moved with her mother to Canada some years earlier.

Kathleen von Känel’s face lights up as she laughs, charmed at the memory: “Pastry was my passion and the department wasn’t walled off from the general kitchen at the Granite Club. So, one day – I was rolling my baguettes as usual – in walks this one who cooks, except for special occasions, when they complement each other as always, in life and at work: husband and wife; Chef Extraordinaire and Pastry Chef. You’ll win either way if you have the privilege of being invited to dinner at the von Känels!”

Daniel retired in 2000 after 15 years of outstanding service under three Governors General and with a treasure trove of memories! For example: at the occasion of a State Dinner during the Commonwealth Games in Victoria in 1994, Daniel went to examine whether everything was ready in the dining room for the dinner he and his kitchen crew had created. The Royal party, together with the Prime Minister, the Lieutenant Governor, the BC Premier and many other dignitaries, was assembled in the adjoining green room. They were just about to walk into the dining room, when in through the front doors flew a bat. Quick-thinking Daniel threw the closest waiter a serving towel and directed him to shoo the untimely bat into the east stairway and out the window. The plan was executed as masterminded just as the doors opened and HRH Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip entered the successfully de-batted hallway. Daniel had avoided an international incident! The story was told to Queen Elizabeth and the waiter was offered a position at Buckingham Palace! Daniel, received his laurels in recognition of his outstanding culinary service and was honoured in personal audiences by numerous Royalty and Dignitaries; HRH Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip presented him with a pair of cufflinks. Other audiences were with Princess Alexandra and Lady Mountbatten, Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, President Weizäcker, and many more. While serving at Government House, Daniel passed the exams for the coveted “Canadian Chef de Cuisine” designation, the highest qualification for a Chef in Canada. He also became experienced in chocolate-making to the delight of the special guests at Government House.

Of course, I had to ask. Today, at home, Kate is usually the one who cooks, except for special occasions, when they complement each other as always, in life and at work: husband and wife; Chef Extraordinaire and Pastry Chef. You’ll win either way if you have the privilege of being invited to dinner at the von Känels! (Daniel and Kate are members of the Victoria Swiss Society.)

Silvia Schoch

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