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# LOCAL NEWS SOUTH AFRICA

## EMBASSY OF SWITZERLAND IN PRETORIA.

The Embassy in Pretoria has pleasure in announcing the arrival of Dr. Rolf Bodenmüller, 2nd Secretary, and his family. Dr. Bodenmüller replaces Dr. Hanspeter Strauch, who has left the country to take up a new assignment.

Please note that in the course of December, 1977 the Embassy's Office telephone numbers will change as follows:

(012) 74 77 88  
(012) 74 77 89

The Consulate General of Switzerland in Rio de Janeiro wishes us to give the following:

### **IMPORTANT ADVICE**

to Swiss citizens intending to travel from South Africa to Brazil in order to settle there or as a tourist:

While it is relatively easy to obtain a residence permit from the Brazilian Embassy allowing the immigrant to work in Brazil, it is not easy to get out of the country again, should you for any reason want to do so, as some compatriots found out at their expense. Within 15 days after arrival, immigrants with residence permits MUST report to the police. Those who do not find convenient work or are

disappointed with the conditions in general, can then leave only by paying a deposit of appr. 2000 Swiss francs (appr. R700) or else by applying for a definite departure permit. The procedure for the latter is very laborious, and those who never worked in Brazil are not in a position to provide the necessary document. It is therefore imperative that all compatriots intending to emigrate to Brazil ask the Brazilian Embassy for information on every detail before leaving South Africa.

Tourists who intend to continue to the United States of America from Brazil should apply for a tourist visa at the US Embassy in South Africa, as it will not be possible for them to obtain it in Brazil.

### **Bericht aus Johannesburg.**

Mitte September haben sich im Schweizer Club Johannesburg wieder einmal über 100 Jassfreunde getroffen, um an der 6. Jassmeisterschaft in Johannesburg teilzunehmen. Dies als Abschluss einer ausgedehnten Saison mit Preisjassen als Vorübung. Der Final der 16 Besten wird gegen Ende Oktober ausgetragen wobei auch diesmal jedem Finalisten wieder Preise winken, abgesehen von den ersten drei Sonderpreisen, welche vor allem die Reiseleidigen beglücken werden.

Bis zum Erscheinen dieser Revue wird auch das 4. Sportsfest hinter uns liegen, und sich hoffentlich auch in kommenden Jahren ebensolcher Beliebtheit erfreuen wie bis anhin.

Damit kommen auch die letzten grösseren diesjährigen Aktivitäten, welche durch die Muttergesellschaft organisiert wurden, zu einem Abschluss und bald darauf kann wieder Bilanz gezogen werden.

1977 war für den Schweizerclub in Johannesburg ein weiteres Jahr der Konsolidierung im Rückblick auf die massiven Investitionen, die zwischen-

### **Swiss Society Helvetia, Johannesburg.**

It seems to be rather early talking about X-mas. Yet time is flying past and before noticing, we will enter 1978. As last year, we are calling on our

#### **SENIOR CITIZENS**

to again participate at our X-mas party for the "over-55". for which we have set aside,

**WEDNESDAY, 30TH NOVEMBER, 77  
(18.30h)**

This invitation again extends to all Swiss irrespective of whether they are members of our Club or not. Therefore make use of this opportunity to once more meet old friends at our Club. If you should have a transport problem to get to the Club let us know. We might be able to overcome this problem. The Swiss Male Choir will again bring to us, songs from far away Switzerland.

Should you follow this free invitation do not hesitate to inform our Club secretary between 9a.m. and noon (except on Tuesdays) at the following number: 805-3152. We look forward to hearing from you.

**SWISS SOCIETY HELVETIA**

*F. Ernst – Chairman.*

1970 und 1973 gestätigt wurden. Obwohl die gesetzten Ziele erreicht wurden oder bis zum Jahresende noch erreicht werden, bleiben nach wie vor eine Reihe von Projekten unbearbeitet. Es ist in diesem Zusammenhang deshalb umso bedauerlicher, dass die Rückwanderung von Schweizern sowie der spärliche Zuwachs von Immigranten auch unseren Club nicht verschont hat. Unser Ziel, 1977 die Mitgliederzahl auf 1000 zu erhöhen (was gleichzeitig auch die Höchstzahl für die Facilitäten bedeuten würde) mussten wir bereits Mitte des Jahres als "Wunschdenken" begraben. Aus diesem Grunde wird die Gesamtzahl per Ende Dezember 1977 sogar geringer sein, als im Vorjahr.

Wir würden uns deshalb umso mehr freuen, wenn sich dadurch auch weitere Schweizer in und um Johannesburg angesprochen fühlen würden, um unserem Club beizutreten. Für Auskünfte jeglicher Art steht Ihnen jederzeit unsere Sekretärin zur Verfügung.

**SWISS SOCIETY HELVETIA.**

*F. Ernst / Chairman.*

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# SWISS CLUB NATAL

## Eidgenossen in Mariannahill und Umgebung.

Wer den Schilderwald der Nationalstrasse 3 bei Pinetown vor Augen hat, erinnert sich auch an den Hinweis "MARIANNHILL." Dieses Mariannahill ist eine einzigartige Ansammlung von Kirchen, Schulen, Werkstätten, Spital und Farm. Eher übersehen wird dabei der eigentliche Kern dieses Missions-Zentrums, das ehemalige Trappisten Kloster "Mariannahill", das "Monastery", das bald einmal 100 Jahre alt sein wird.

Gründer ist der Vorarlberger Abt Franz Pfanner von Langen bei Bregenz. Im Jahre 1882, als Pinetown kaum ein Dutzend Häuser zählte, kaufte er für seine Trappisten Mönche, die ein Missionsbischof nach Süd-Afrika gerufen hatte, diese Farm und begann mit dem Klosterbau. Das Ganze wurde aber weniger zu einem Zentrum der Zurückgezogenheit, wie es sich für Trappisten geziemt hatte, sondern vielmehr zum Ausgangspunkt eines weitverzweigten Missionswerkes bis in die Transkei und nach Rhodesien, und dies bereits vor der Jahrhundertwende. Die schweigsamen und beschaulichen Trappistenmönche verwandelten sich ab 1909 in die heutige, aktive Missionskongregation von Mariannahill, die auch in der Schweiz vertreten ist und zwar in Altdorf, Brig und Freiburg.

Mariannahill ist auch heute noch eine Reise, und viele Südafrikaner wissen, dass es hier nicht nur

gutes Brot zu kaufen, sondern auch allerhand zu sehen gibt. Etwas, das sich im Schweizer-Klub von Natal noch kaum herumgesprochen hat, ist unter anderem der spezielle, deutsch-sprachige, katholische Gottesdienst, der an jedem ersten und dritten Samstag des Monats gehalten wird, und zwar abends um 17,30 Uhr in der Klosterkirche. Schon seit einiger Zeit schätzen deutsche Familien von Durban, Pinetown und Umgebung, diese Gelegenheit zum seelischen "Auftanken" in der Muttersprache. Schweizerinnen und Schweizer sind aber ebenso herzlich eingeladen und werden dabei den einen oder anderen Schweizer Mariannahiller kennen lernen, z.B. der bischöflichen Sekretär und Kanzler, P. Thomas Schlegel aus Flums, der für diesen Gottesdienst sorgt. Schweizer sind auch der gegenwärtige Superior des Klosters, P. Fridolin Zueger und der Regional-Obere, der Provinzial P. Damian Weber, sowie der Verfasser dieses Schreibens: P. Lukas Mettler, Mariannahill.

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### Liste von Schweizer Mariannahiller Missionaren.

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P. Dominic Muhein, Maryhelp-Mission, Ixopo.

P. Edwin Dorfner, Monastery Mariannahill.  
P. Columban Hässig, Creighton.  
P. Lukas Mettler, Monastery, Mariannahill.  
P. Thomas Schlegel, Bishop's House Mariannahill.  
P. Damian Weber, Monastery, Mariannahill.  
P. Franz Xaver Wettstein, St. Gertrude's Mission.  
P. Alois Schneider, Emaus Mission, Umzimkulu.  
P. Georg Brunner, Ngqeleni, Transkei.  
P. Marcel Dischl, Umtata, Transkei.  
P. Bernard Dreier, Port St. John's, Transkei.  
P. Urs Fischer, Umtata, Transkei.  
P. Peter Grand, Qumbu, Transkei.  
P. Sigisbert Holenstein, Elliotdale, Transkei.  
P. Hugo Kunz, Landsend Mission, Umtata, Transkei.  
P. Michael Riedener, Umtata, Transkei.  
P. Andreas Roesli, Cwele Mission, Ngqeleni, Transkei.  
P. Clemens Truttman, Marialinden Mission, Matatiele.  
Bro. Anicet Bütler, Reichenau Mission, Bulwer  
Bro. Alfons Schärli, Monastery, Mariannahill.  
Bro. Alarich Meier, Umtata, Transkei.  
Bro. Erich Schürpf, Umtata, Transkei.  
Bro. Otmar Trittenbass, Umtata, Transkei.  
Bro. Georg Von Aarburg, Mariazell, Mission, Matatiele.  
P. Kilian Frei, Luveve, Rhodesia.  
P. Benno Hotz, Empandeni, Rhodesia.  
Bishop Heinrich Karlen, Bulawayo, Rhodesia.  
P. Amadeus Kuonen, Bulawayo, Rhodesia.

# Cape Town Calling

## Short Review of Activities at the Swiss Social and Sports Club since July, 1977.

The rifle club held its annual Absenden at the Arthurs Seat Hotel on July 2nd. Not only was the evening most enjoyable with excellent Bernerplatte and swinging music, but in addition a terrific Tombola ensured that just about everyone went home with a prize.

Undoubtedly, the highlight of 1977 was the Liquor Licence Inauguration on Saturday 16th July. Some two hundred and fifty members packed into the clubhouse to enjoy the free aperitifs while they listened to the Mayor, Alderman John Tyers, officially open the pub in light-hearted and humorous vein. Thereafter an excellent meal of Geschnetzeltes Spaetzli, Salad followed by Apple tart, Cream and Coffee was enjoyed by all. Talk and dancing kept this party going till the early hours.

The first of August was celebrated at four separate functions this year. Firstly on Sunday 31st July, hundreds of members enjoyed the warm sunshine at a braai next to the Green Point Clubhouse. Secondly, our traditional midday business luncheon on the National Day itself, came up to its usual high standard, and after coffee, participants were able to listen to Bundespraesident Furgler's message on tape. Thirdly, the National Day Dinner Dance on the same evening was well-attended and for the first time in years, informality was the keynote. There were no guests of honour and no main table and very few speeches. President Peter Muller welcomed everybody and in a few short words, stressed the contemporary relevance of commemorating the National Day. Thereafter, the evening was devoted to dancing and at 11.00 p.m., the winning ticket in the "Trip for two to Switzerland" competition was drawn. This year's lucky couple are our past President Jo Giezendanner and his wife Odette. We wish them happy travels! Fourthly some of our younger members who did not wish to attend the Dinner Dance, organised an impromptu dance-party at the Clubhouse. This turned out to be highly successful, so much so that at

1,30a.m. most couples on their way home from the Dance turned into the clubhouse for a nightcap, there were still people dancing through the night.

On 6th August, the Club was invited to attend a film show at Kine 1, at which the features were Le Corbusier and the Montreal Olympics. All who attended, enjoyed these excellent productions.

Quarter to five on Wednesday 31st August, saw our new Consul, Mr. Walter Altenburger his wife and daughter arrive in the Mother City. A representative delegation of Swiss Club members were at the airport to meet them.

The popular Sauschiessen organised by the rifle club was held in poor weather on September 10th. In spite of the weather, 77 shots turned up to fire almost 2000 rounds at the unusual "piggy" target used on this occasion.

During September too, what was previously an unco-ordinated sporadic activity - Hiking-, took on a more regular organised form. As an experiment, a planned hike from Constantia Nek along the contour path to Kirstenbosch was organised. Some 40 persons turned up for the two hour walk, and the general consensus afterwards was that this should become a more frequent event.

Lastly on September 24th, the first Cantonal Evening, a "Bundner Abend" was held at the Clubhouse. It was the Club's first opportunity of welcoming the new Consul and his family into our midst, and some two hundred members enjoyed this outstanding function till the early hours.

### Cape Personality - Club Licensee - WALTER SPEISSEGGER

Walter Speissegger came to South Africa as a young man in his mid twenties in 1938. He intended to stay a while, perfect his English and then move on to Australia and New Zealand before eventually returning to take over his father's

painting business in Hauptwil, Thurgau.

But the war intervened and changed his plans, and in 1942 together with his life-long partner the late Alfred Schneider, they formed a successful painting business "Schneider Decorators" which for many years was the major firm for all the large painting contracts in the Western Cape.

Walter was always a staunch Swiss Club supporter as was his partner Alfred Schneider, but it was only after they sold their business and retired in 1965, that both really got involved actively with the club.

In 1968, the Club acquired on long lease, a sizeable portion of the Green Point Common. Immediately a Finance/Building Committee was formed, and Walter was one of its first members. Money raised was never sufficient for a clubhouse, the plans of which partner Alfred had prepared, but nevertheless four all-weather tennis courts and a floodlit football field were constructed under Walter's careful direction and guidance.

In 1975, a more aggressive - Building Committee took office, and immediately consulted Walter regarding their plans for a more modest clubhouse. He backed the idea fully and was one of the Building Committee's most active members resulting in the clubhouse being completed in the record time of nine weeks.

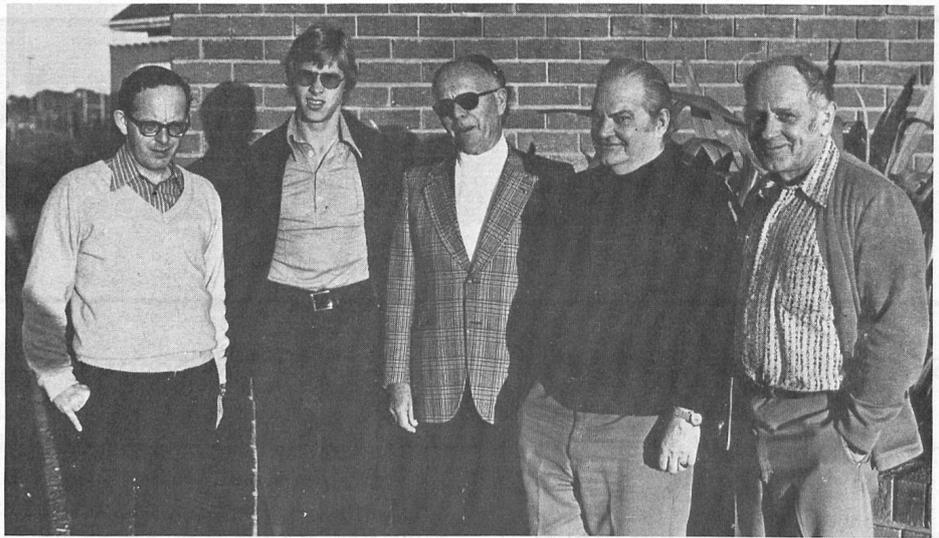
Subsequently, Walter assisted in piloting the Liquor Licence application through the various stages, and when the committee had to choose a licensee, their choice was unanimous and automatic -

Walter Speissegger.

Today, Walter although officially retired, is busier than ever. To-

gether with Ivy his wife, and Anita the youngest daughter, the Speisseggers live in a spacious apartment in their own apartment block situated right on Cape Town's Clifton Beach.

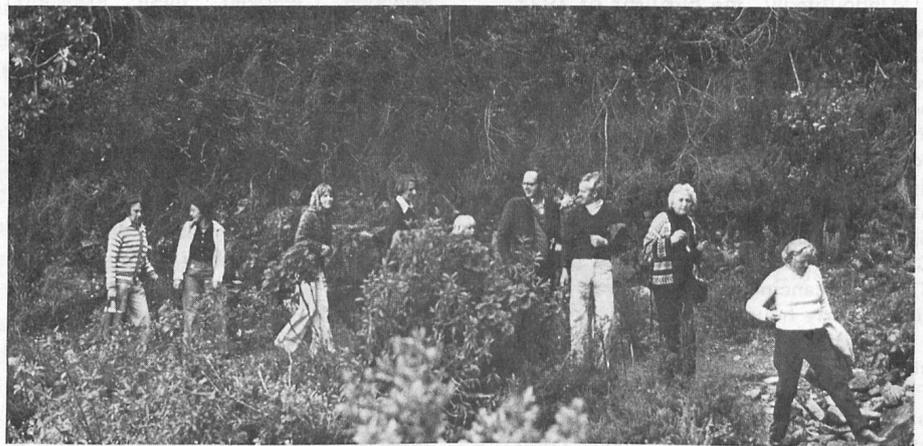
Daily Walter attends to his diverse business interest, and in addition finds time to plan, organise and control all the club activities at Green Point. The Club is indeed fortunate to have had such staunch supporters such as Walter and his late partner Alfred.



The members of the Clubhouse Committee on the day of the Liquor Licence Inauguration – From left to right:-  
Bob Buser (Treasurer) Felix Zumstein (Duties) Walter Speissegger - (Licensee) Hector Dettling (Beverages) & Werner Dintheer (Catering).



The Club Licensee, Walter Speissegger, in front of the entrance to the Clubhouse.



Members of the Swiss Social and Sports Club walking along the Table Mountain Contour Path on one of the popular hikes.

**Licensed now, so open virtually daily.**

Since the Swiss Social and Sports Club received its licence on 16th July, the Club is open virtually daily as follows:

- Tuesday 6p.m. - 11.oop.m.
- Wednesdays 6p.m. - 11.00p.m.
- Thursdays 6p.m. - 11.oop.m.
- Fridays 4p.m. - 11.oop.m.
- Saturdays 11a.m. - 11.oop.m.
- Sundays 11a.m. - 10 oop.m.

The winelist consists of some 16 white red and rose wines, all specially selected for their excellence of character and bouquet, while also bearing in mind the cost factor. Prices range from R1,20 to R2,70 per bottle. Most local and imported liqueurs are stocked and the Club special has undoubtedly become the Dettling Pear William Liqueur.

On the catering side, standard stock items include Cheese tarts, Landjaeger, Burenschublig, and Fleischkaese, while each weekend different dishes are specially prepared for the hungry ones.

Other than the Club caretaker and his family, all the bar and kitchen duties are undertaken by members themselves on a roster system.

To plan, organise and control all these diverse activities in the clubhouse, a special sub-committee called the clubhouse Committee was formed. It consists of 5 key men together with the Club President, and meetings are held as frequently as necessary. In this way, the Club has already purchased a sound system, frigidaire, deep-freeze and bain-maire since the licence has become operational.

We extend a hearty welcome to any Swiss Review reader to join us whenever they are in Cape Town. Either come to the Clubhouse direct, or phone us at:-  
Clubhouse 44-8405

Secretary 44-1673 (Home)  
Mrs. Wildschek 43-5917 (Office)  
or write to us at:  
Swiss Social and Sports Club  
P.O. Box 2279,  
CAPE TOWN, 80000.