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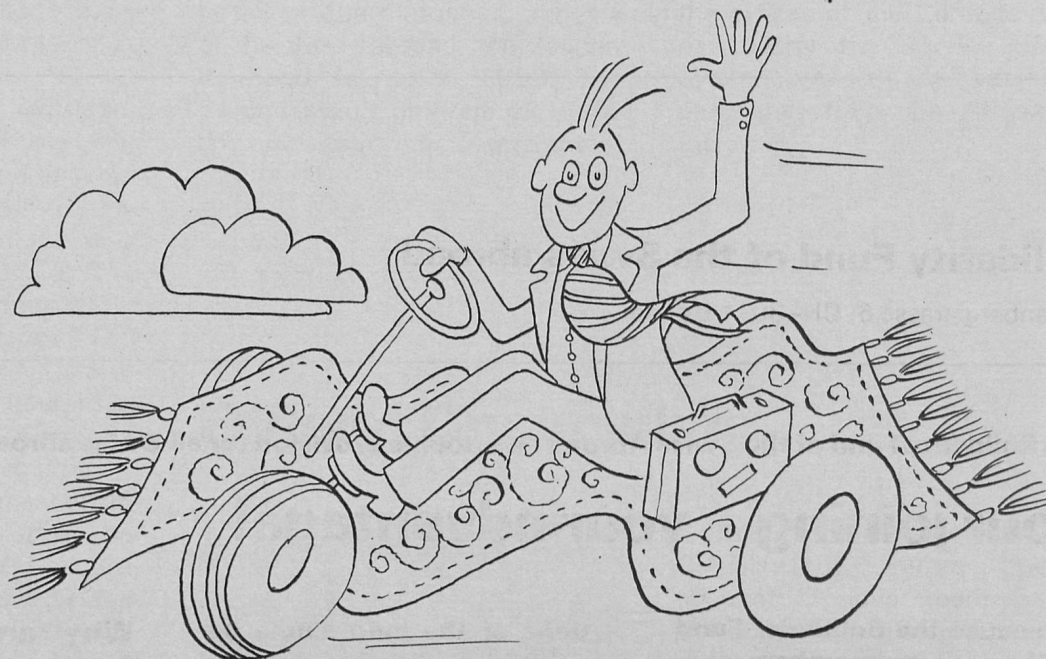
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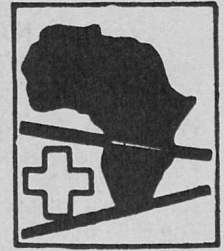


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LOCAL NEWS — SOUTHERN AFRICA 4/82



Dear Readers,

The official Representations of Switzerland in Southern Africa would like to wish all compatriots

a very happy and prosperous 1983!

Communication from the Swiss Consulate General in Johannesburg

To all members of the AHV/IV,

As the payment procedures in regard to contributions for the Federal Old Age, Survivor's and Disability Insurance are being examined by the Swiss Compensation Office in Geneva, the Swiss Consulate General is not in a position to accept payments for the **1983** contributions for the time being. The discussions should be finalized by the end of February. Further explanations and instructions will be sent to all members in due course. All members who have not yet paid for 1981 or 1982 are requested to make their payments before the end of February 1983. Please also read the most interesting report on the recent visit by Dr M Ney from the Auslandschweizer Sekretariat, Berne. From a neighbouring Country we hear that Mr H Borner has been appointed as the new Swiss Ambassador to Botswana, he is resident in Dar Es Salam.

Until the next issue with lost of news from the various Centres we remain uf wiederluege!

Your Editor

CAPE TOWN

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First of all we would like to congratulate

Mr Adolf Linder Tel. 41-1120 to his appointment as Editor of the Bulletin of the Swiss Social & Sports Club. Adolf already well-known as the researcher and editor on the History of the Swiss in Southern Africa especially for the Cape Area will as one of his first great tasks compile a souvenir Brochure on our Club on the occasion of the Diamond (60 years) **AGM which takes place on Monday 8th of March** at the Club House.

After a successful New Years Eve Party the first Club event was the **Waldfest** 29/30 January at Jonkershoek.

The Community Carnival takes place on 24 - 26 February at Maynardville, Bratwurst, Rosenkuchen, Restaurant etc, etc., have for the past years been one of the main attractions of the whole carnival.

To make it a big success also this year the help of everybody is needed, please contact your committee members now. And don't forget the Club offers you many attractions:

Jassen every first Thursday afternoon of the month.

Frauentreffe every last Wednesday of the month and of course a very big attraction: The new ladies Bar at the Club House!!

JOHANNESBURG

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The Aelplerfest and the Randburg Soccer Six-a-Side attracted literally thousands of people. Both events organised with Swiss initiative and efficiency have become well established. For the record in the Schwingen Ernst Schlaefli, Fribourg and Peter Herren, Gammen in the Hornussen came out tops. In Randburg the best footballers were Egg Super Six before

Adriatica.

Also the **Handball Club** Helvetia who always welcomes new members had a successful tournament at Halfway House. The first big event in 1983 is of course the **Guggefest on the 29th of January**. Motto "Monschter Fest" offers as usual something very special.

The AGM of the Swiss Club follows on the **4th of February**.

On the **6th of February** the GSNA will have its first Hornusser Competition and will also inaugurate "Berts Cabin" which has kindly been donated to the Group.

The **Choir** has started with a Concert on the 30th of January together with Solly Aronowksys Promenade orchestra at Roosevelt Park. New members to the Choir are always welcome. Rehearsals every Thursday evening at 8 p.m. Phone 724-9179. The Concert at the Carlton Hotel takes place 7th May.

The Swiss Closed **Golf Championships** organised by Gebi Wolf Tel. 725-2828 or 725-2242 took place on the 16th January at Crown Mines Club, why not give Gebi a ring now and give him your name for the next competition.

And seeing that we are in the middle of winter (in Switzerland that is!) what about a game of curling? Max Schmieder Tel 235605 can give you further details.

The **Swiss Rifle Club** Johannesburg will have the following competitions in the coming months:

11 Feb - AGM at the Swiss Club
26 Feb - Geneva Handicap and Obligatorisches
12 March - Kommandoschiessen
26 March - Feldschiessen
30 April - Eidg. Einzel, Ratsherrenstich, ZH & SG Schiessen.

NATAL

SWISS CLUB NATAL BOX 1220 DURBAN
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On the 21st November a Bowling Day took place at the Mandalay Hotel. This outing was enjoyed by everybody and as usual some great talents came to the fore! The Rifle Shooting will start again with a competition on the first Saturday in February. We meet at Hammarsdale. The AGM to which all Members are invited will take place probably on the 19th of March, further details will be circulated. And remember 1984 is our Jubilee Year. 30 years organized Swiss Activities in Natal, something to celebrate!

PRETORIA

SWISS EMBASSY (012) 43-7788
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Tel. E. Walliser (012) 73-4096

The Xmas Celebrations at the end of November at the St Colombans Church was attended by some 40 members and we were honoured to have the Ambassador of Switzerland Mr Bruggmann and his family as our guests and also Dr Kaiser and family.

The AGM of our club will take place on the 25th of February and all members are invited. We would be pleased to receive any suggestions you might have for the 1983 club programme.

Wysel Gyr has thanked us for the interesting meeting during his visit to S.A. An appeal has been received by the Blaasorkes die Basuin, Mr H den Boer, Tel home 45-2785 to join his real continental "Blasmusik".

He appeals to the Swiss Community and we are sure there are some hidden musical talents which could support Mr den Boer in his effort.

SOUTH WEST AFRICA

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Ja, der Redaktor ist etwas schwach in der Geographie, wenn er die Suedwest-Schweizer zum Stammtisch nach dem Canyon Hotel schicken wollte, dann sind es immerhin 500 km naemlich bis Keetmanshoop, doch eine lange Fahrt um ein Bier zu trinken!

Leider muss der Schweizer Klub Suedwestafrika den Hinschied vom Gurendungsund Ehrenmitglied Dr H W Hartmann mitteilen, der am 1. Okt. im Alter von 82 Jahren in Kaptstadt gestorben ist, ebenfalls ist Frau M Kriesing von Otjiwarongo verschieden. Am 21 Januar haben unsere Aktivitaeten mit einem Neujahrs Umtrunk im Hotel Thueringerhof begonnen, weitere Informationen ueber 1983 Aktivitaeten folgen.

ZIMBABWE

EMBASSY TEL: 70-3997
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An announcement in the press tells us that on 21 January the FC Zuerich arrives in the country for a three match tour. The Club hopes to host the visitors at a function in the Club House and it will certainly be interesting to meet the many times Swiss Soccer Champions and Cup Winners.

The AGM will take place in the middle of February and further details will be communicated by circular. Any suggestions and ideas you might have for the 1983 programme would be most welcome.

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From the above centre no special news in this issue of the Swiss Review but a message to all compatriots in their area:

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Short summary of the speech of Mr Marcel Ney, Director of the Secretariat for the Swiss Abroad, on November 2, 1982 at the Swissclub in Johannesburg.

After a short description of the functions and duties of the Secretariat for the Swiss Abroad, Mr Ney proceeded to elaborate on questions which at the time concerned most Swiss abroad.

AHV/IV

Mr Ney pointed out the importance of wives of compulsory insured husbands, to join the voluntary scheme. For this reason they should contact the competent Consulate as soon as possible. Furthermore, Mr Ney advised that wives having their own income, whose husband is already a member of the scheme are obliged to pay contributions according to their salary. An insured person who has paid contributions for at least one year is entitled to an ordinary disability pension, if he is at least 50 per cent (in case of hardship at least one third) disabled. The disabled wife of a voluntarily insured husband is therefore granted a pension only if she has ever personally paid contributions for at least one whole year. Only membership at the time of the occurrence of disability entitles a disability pension.

Medical Insurance for returning emigrants

With the Union of Swiss Insurance Companies it was possible in 1976 to come to an agreement, that returning emigrants up to the age of 70, could join most Medical Aid Societies, within six months of their return to Switzerland. Mr Ney nevertheless pointed out, that due to the substantial price increase at the Health Sector, the Medical Insurance premiums are extremely high.

Citizenship

The question of Citizenship for children of Swiss mothers and foreign fathers is to be treated at the same time as the new regulation concerning the new law of naturalization of foreigners, which may cause a certain delay.

As the National Councils Election will take place in 1983, the citizenship campaign can only be submitted to public vote at the earliest during 1984. In Switzerland the women organisations are supporting the issue that all children of Swiss mothers and foreign fathers acquire Swiss citizenship. However, the Council of Europe has a rather negative attitude towards this project as it will result in even more persons holding dual citizenship. The new law will possibly bring a new regulation regarding the acquisition of Swiss citizenship to foreign women, who marry Swiss nationals. These women will no longer automatically acquire Swiss citizenship through marriage, but only after a certain time of marriage and domicile in Switzerland. It is also being examined whether foreign men marrying Swiss women should be granted the same right.

"Ausbildungswerk" for young Swiss abroad

This organisation arranges study and apprenticeship opportunities in Switzerland for young Swiss abroad, and assists them in providing bursaries from the competent authorities.

Youth Camps for Swiss children abroad

These camps organized by the Secretariat for the Swiss abroad, are available to children of Swiss mothers and foreign fathers as well. Mr Ney ascertained that young people from South Africa seldom participate in such camps.

Solidarity Fund

Mr Ney insists that it is not only an insurance against total loss of livelihood due to political events, but the membership with this fund also provides legally the possibility to transfer money to Switzerland.

In conclusion, Mr Ney emphasized that the Secretariat for the Swiss Abroad is an independent Organisation being part of the "Neue Helvetische Gesellschaft". It draws its funds partially from contributions from the Committee of the National Day Celebrations (sale of Emblems and Postage Stamps) and partially by Government Subsidy through the Department of Foreign Affairs.

For any further information contact your nearest Swiss Consulate.

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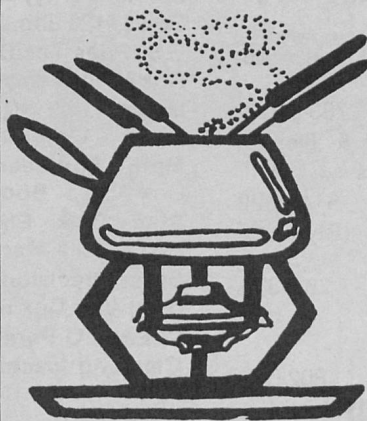
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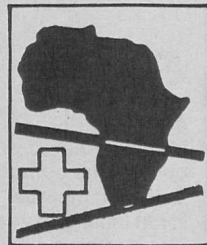
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