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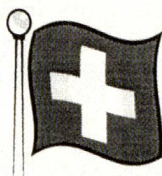
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Délai de rédaction du prochain numéro

Redaktionsschluss für die nächsten Regionalseiten

5/2006

18 août / August 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2006



# Ottawa Valley Swiss Club

## Upcoming events:

- June 25, 2006**      **Golf Tournament:**  
Pakenham Highlands Golf Club.  
Start: 10:15 a.m.;  
4:00 p.m. BBQ
- July 30, 2006**      **1st of August Celebration:**  
Billings Estate,  
2100 Cabot Street,  
Ottawa. Start: 3:30 p.m.  
end 10:00 p.m.
- October 1, 2006**      **Car Rally**
- December 3, 2006**      **Christmas party**
- January 27, 2007**      **Fondue evening &  
Annual General Meeting**

For more information visit  
[www.ottawavalleyswissclub.ca](http://www.ottawavalleyswissclub.ca)

or

contact us through [info@ottawavalleyswissclub.ca](mailto:info@ottawavalleyswissclub.ca)

## Annual General Meeting and Fondue Evening

Club members and friends met on February 17th over an enjoyable Swiss Fondue, topped up with a Zuger Kirsch Torte and a variety of deserts. The guest of honour was the Swiss Ambassador, His Excellency Anton Thalmann. He announced his upcoming posting back to Bern and provided a review on his time as Ambassador in Canada.

During the AGM, the following Board members were elected: Thierry Giordano, Claude-Alain Burdet, Janet Burdet, Michel Tadros, Philippe Praz (Embassy Liaison) and Jost am Rhyn (President). Robert Weitzmann stepped down from the Board and the Club would like to thank

him for his very much appreciated contribution, in particular for the coordination of the 1st of August events during the past two years.



Participants at the AGM & Fondue Evening

## Theatre Evening

The Swiss Theater Group Toronto presented on April 1st the comedy "Die Goldige Cherezestander". More than 90 spectators came to enjoy this Swiss German theatre play. The nine actors under the direction of Walter Brunner provided three hours of fun entertainment. Following our tradition, spectators enjoyed not only the comedy but as well sausages, potato salad and large sized "Nussgipfels". Thank you to Philippe Praz for coordinating this evening and to the Board members for their help.

*Jost am Rhyn*

President



Toronto Theater Group



# Montréal

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## News from the . . .



On March 14th the newly elected president, Susanna Hane, welcomed the new committee members for 2006: Alice Hermann, Doris Dargis, Priska Meier, Jeannette Meli and Eveline Hauri. Vice President Joanne Spirig and long-standing Treasurer Eveline Décary-Hafner were also acknowledged for their support in recent years.

Unfortunately, the Swiss Women have to look for a new meeting place as the Restaurant St. Moritz is closing its doors on April 23rd. Members of the Club wish to express their great appreciation to the owners, Christiane and Anton Koch for the incredible hospitality they extended to the Swiss Women's Club Edelweiss over the years. With great effort, the Swiss Women have found a new meeting place.



Christiane and Anton Koch, Restaurant St. Moritz

Starting on Tuesday, May 9th, meetings will now take place at the following location:

### "Comme Chez Soi"

297, Lakeshore Road  
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The room is located upstairs and the meeting will start at 7:30 p.m. A variety of meals are offered at the restaurant, starting at 5:30 p.m. for the ladies who wish to enjoy dinner before the meeting starts. Yours truly is inviting everyone to come to this charming restaurant and new members are always welcome!

The annual bazaar is scheduled for Saturday, November 4th, a very special date to mark in everyone's calendar. This event will also take place at Restaurant "Comme Chez Soi".

We look forward to seeing you at the regular monthly meetings.

**Susanna Hane**  
President

**Joanne Spirig**  
Vice President

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## Helvetia Seniors Club

We meet for a luncheon from noon to 3 pm every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month (except July and August). Please come and join our 63 member group of Swiss seniors. You will be in pleasant company and also be informed about special events.

For more information call: Bruno (514) 481-2928 or Hans (514) 932-9707

Venez vous joindre à notre déjeuner chaque 3<sup>ème</sup> jeudi du mois entre 12:00 et 15:00 heures (excepté juillet et août). Vous serez en agréable compagnie avec des compatriotes et serez informés des activités actuelles de notre club qui compte 63 membres.

Pour plus d'informations: Bruno (514) 481-2928 ou Hans (514) 932-9707

## Matterhorn Club

The SWISS MATTERHORN CLUB, in existence for over 50 Years, held its Annual General Meeting on April 22nd in Beaconsfield at the West Island Tennis Club. After acceptance of the Minutes of the 2005 AGM our Jürg Hollinger, in a moving farewell address mentioned many highlights of his nine years at the helm of the club, thanked the Committee who worked with him for so many years.

Not all will remain as Raymond Pfister, Secretary and Bruno Meli, Vice-President, will be pursuing other activities...

He mentioned specifically and reminded us of the MATTERHORN CLUB website (which he created and will maintain) for ALL COMING EVENTS!

[www.matterhornclub.com](http://www.matterhornclub.com)

The Treasurer's report by Heinz Zurfluh was again recommended for acceptance by Henry Oppliger, our Auditor. Bruno Meli presented a Swiss watch to Henry

Oppliger for his efforts towards the success of the 1st of August celebration 2005 in Sutton.

Bruno Meli, in his capacity as Election President thanked Jürg Hollinger, Heinz Zurfluh, Peter Frei, George Frenette and Raymond Pfister and their spouses for their work.

The new committee was formed: Herbert Stoll, President; Jürg Hollinger, Vice-President; George Frenette, Secretary; Heinz Zurfluh, Treasurer; and Peter Frei; Member at large.

The new President thanked the past committee for all they have done !!!

A very pleasant AGM concluded with the presentation of Jürg and Myrtha Hollinger's film of their last visit to South-America.

NB: Two of our members are very active in the Federation of Swiss Societies of Eastern Canada, Bruno Meli as Vice-President and George Frenette as representative of the Matterhorn Club. George will coordinate the participation of our members in the 1. August celebration.

**Herbert Stoll**  
President

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# Toronto

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**Please note that this contest is only open to residents of Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Nunavut.**

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1. What is the website of Switzerland Tourism?

- ☐ MySwitzerland.com  
☐ Switzerland-tourism.com  
☐ Swisstourism.com

2. How many 4 Star Hotels does Best Western have in Switzerland?

- ☐ 24 ☐ 32 ☐ 40

3. What is the name of the all-in-one ticket for unlimited travel on the entire Swiss Travel System?

- ☐ Swiss All-in-one Ticket  
☐ Swiss Travel Pass  
☐ Swiss Pass or Swiss Flexi Pass

4. How many Swiss were registered at the Consulate General in Toronto on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006?

- ☐ 16'030 ☐ 8'303 ☐ 12'515

5. How many national languages does Switzerland have?

- ☐ 5 ☐ 3 ☐ 4

6. What is the name of the biggest lake that is entirely in Switzerland?

- ☐ Lake Neuchatel  
☐ Lake Geneva  
☐ Lake Constance

7. How many Airbus A340-300s does SWISS operate?

- ☐ 9 ☐ 3 ☐ 18

8. What is the geometric shape of the SWISS logo?

- ☐ round  
☐ square  
☐ oval

9. What is the title of the SWISS onboard magazine?

- ☐ Swiss News  
☐ Swiss Journal  
☐ Swiss Magazine

10. In addition, entrants must also correctly answer, unaided, the following skill-testing question:

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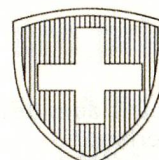


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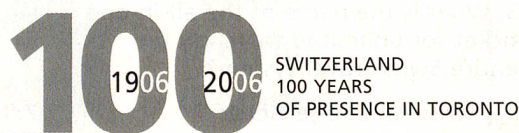


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## 100 YEARS

2006 is not only a special year for the Consulate General of Switzerland to celebrate, but it is also a milestone in the life of two citizens born in Switzerland 100 years ago.



Mrs. Bertha Modlich-Streuli  
born on May 30, 1906 in Küssnacht ZH  
residing in Toronto ON

and



Mrs. Martina (Martha) Bonomi-Rüegg  
born on October 25, 1906 in St. Gallenkappel SG  
residing in St. Catharines ON

are in good health, enjoy life and like participating in Swiss events. The Consulate General and the Swiss Canadian Community are pleased to wish Mrs. Bertha Modlich and Mrs. Martina Bonomi the very best for their future.

*Jean-Claude Hagmann, Consul General*

## SWISS CLUB TORONTO AGM 2006

The Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Club Toronto was held on February 24, 2006 at the Holiday Inn, King Street West, Toronto.

Club President Erika Tièche opened the meeting by welcoming and thanking Consul-General Jean-Claude Hagmann and his wife Marie-Louise Hagmann, as well as Consul Claudio Leoncavallo and his wife Monique Leoncavallo for their on-going support. Acknowledged was also René Walti, the representative at the Council of the Swiss abroad. A special welcome was extended to the longtime member of the Club, Albert Kehrli, who of the last 50 years only missed 1 AGM. A good sign of the clubs continuum was to see the Schloo family bring their baby to the meeting.

A minute of silence was observed for members and friends who passed away in 2005. Otto Marbach, past president from 1971-1975, and Ruedi Möschberger, long-time treasurer of the Club.

Erika thanked the present members of the board and introduced and welcomed Katrin Scheinemann (newly arrived in Canada) as the incoming secretary, and Edith Schudel (well

experienced accountant) as the new treasurer. Recognition went to Elisabeth Walder for her outstanding service and dedication especially to the Women Section of the Club.

The most exiting news, is the creation of a brand new, dynamic and easy accessible web-site:

[www.swissclubtoronto.ca](http://www.swissclubtoronto.ca)

It will be the perfect link for the Swiss community to check out planned club activities and eventually even download the TellTale (Swiss Club News letter) rather than having them sent out.

In addition to the many yearly events such as the ever popular Theater, the delectable Fondue and Raclette evenings, the palate pleasing Niagara Wine Tour, and most importantly the National Day Celebration, that brought visitors from far and wide with lots of young children enjoying the many activities. The extensive tombola table was some sight to see. For the coming year the Swiss Club Toronto has added a fun filled Car Rally and a monthly Social/Games evening.

In closing the well attended AGM, Erika Tièche thanked all the participants for their interest in the Clubs activities.

## SWISS CLUB SASKATOON

13 Webb Crescent, Saskatoon, SK S7H 3L5  
Phone: (306) 373-0745  
e-mail: [swissclubsaskatoon@shaw.ca](mailto:swissclubsaskatoon@shaw.ca)

### Letter from the Prairies

I don't have the historical facts to back this up but I'd say the game of Jass can only have been invented by a nation that existed without a monarchy for a long, long time. Just think of it: a farmer ("Trumpf Puur") gets to rank higher than a king, and as if that wasn't enough, a king, or for that matter a queen, can turn into a buck ("Bock"). Top that!

We have new Jassmeisters, they are Walter Zunti and Leo Eilinger. Congratulations to these seasoned Jass players! Each of them won the trophy several times before.

The tournament took place on April 1st, at the home of Elisabeth Eilinger. Many who had planned to come were prevented from doing so by torrential rain that set in right before the event. Those who managed to come had an enjoyable time. It was a hard-fought tournament. Yet, the food was excellent (great pizza!) and, of course, the company was just perfect. Great thanks to the gracious host, Elisabeth Eilinger.

As I am writing, the harbingers of spring are all around me. The geese are back, the prairie crocus are awakening and two pairs of robins are establishing their nesting site in the back yard. At the same time, every householder is trying to divert the water run-off from accumulated heaps of snow away from the house. Saskatoon had an unusual amount of snow this past winter, almost one meter, and most of it came down during the month of March.

Now, our thoughts jump ahead to summer. We are invited for the annual June Picnic onto the acreage of Elisabeth and Kaspar Wirz, near Pake Lake. The date will be announced in the June newsletter.

Don't forget our First-of-August celebration, this year to be held on Saturday, July 29th. As in so many past years, it will take place on the farm of Roesli and Georg Nievergelt in Hepburn. The Nievergelt's yard is always most pleasantly prepared for our celebration. One is sitting surrounded by trees and bushes and an abundance of flowers. Everything is adorned with colorful flags and other Swiss decorations. A cheerful setting! There will be sausages and buns for everyone and the weather will be just perfect (or so is my forecast). Our summer newsletter will show more details.

*Louise Grassmann*



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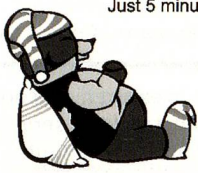
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# Vancouver

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Opening hours:

Monday to Friday – from 09:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

## Vancouver Swiss Society Report

At our February business meeting, our executive for the year was established, where our energetic and popular president, Hausi Müller, was confirmed in his position.

A full slate of activities for the year has been planned and by the time this edition comes out, we will have experienced a game night, introduction to painting session, spring hikes and walks, our yearly jass tournament and our annual picnic/car rally.

### Still to come:

#### July 14-16, 2006

Qualicum Bay Lodge weekend. Fun and sun in the water or along the trails or country markets, with communal barbecue and sing-song in the evening.

#### July 29 or Aug 5, 2006, 3 p.m.

We are still unsure of the date and still waiting for confirmation from Central Saanich parks board. Swiss National Day celebration at Centennial Park, Central Saanich. The usual popular format of fun games accessible to all ages and a Swiss/Canadian quiz. Prizes are secret but doubtless there will be an outsized Toblerone in there somewhere!

#### September 15, 2006

Swiss members' Business Show. This is designed to showcase those of our advertisers who are able to participate, and is also open to those of our members who want to talk about their own businesses.

#### October 13, 2006

Dance night: a mix of folk dance and fun dances.

#### November 3, 2006

The club's elections night, with light entertainment.

The last 3 events are all at St Philip's church at 7.30 p.m.

#### Ongoing:

- Bowling at Town and Country Lanes continues, the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. (except July and August) followed by snacks at Moxie's.
- Jass, second Wednesday of the month at Darlene Burnell's, 7.30 sharp.
- Ladies' luncheons every third Wednesday of the month.

For information about any of the society's activities, please call either

Hausi Muller, President, at 250 477-5786 or

Anne Friedinger, Secretary, at 250 721-1793

Info also from our editor at sohmi@ii.ca

#### In Memoriam

It is with great regret that our Society announces the loss of one of our most active and long-standing members. Claire Champod-Grambart passed away peacefully at home on January 19, 2006, surrounded by her husband Günter, and other family members.

Claire was an ardent Swiss from Geneva and a vigorous supporter of our Victoria Swiss Society, in turn President, Treasurer, Newsletter editor and long-time Director. She was outstanding in all these roles. We will all deeply miss her abilities, great spirit and sense of humour.

## Interior Swiss Club

We were thrilled to welcome Theatergruppe Heimatstil again this year. The venue was fantastic (Armstrong Centennial Theater) and the play ("De Verruckti Theodor") was a real hit! We are glad that they make a stop in Vernon and we hope to see them again!



Our 2006 AGM was held in Armstrong on April 9th. There were 17 members in attendance and the meeting was short and productive. Meeting minutes can be found on our website and will be published in the next ISC Newsletter. The board was elected by acclamation and is as follows:

President:	Lilly Senn
Vice President:	Rico Ronzani
Secretary:	Karen Cleland
Treasurer/Membership:	Elisabeth Reymond
Directors:	Helena Hasler, Rita Schilter, Margret Graf, Heidi Gadmer and Kurt Zwingli
Auditors:	Jenny Doerwaldt and Trudy Feller

A big thank you to retiring board members Andy Zuest and Matt Boos and a warm welcome to Kurt Zwingli (Webmaster/Director) and Rico Ronzani (Vice President).

Our 3rd Annual Bowling Tournament was held on March 26. The turnout was fantastic, the bowling was fun, the prizes were outstanding and the lunch was delicious. A truly successful event. Thanks to our team leaders Andy Zuest, Rita Schilter and Helena Hasler for all of their organizational help and a big thank you to all who donated prizes for this event.

#### 1st Place Winners were:

Ueli Boss (Mens), Rita Schilter (Ladies), Monica Graf (Juniors), Kevin Schilter (Children)

Pictures and all of the scores can be found on our website.

#### We will again have 2 events celebrating the 1st of August.

The camping weekend at the Fischer Farm in Cache Creek will be August 5-7. The club will be selling sausages and Nussgipfel. The highly anticipated shooting event will surely draw the usual large crowd!

On Tuesday, August 1st there will be a gathering at Coldstream Creek Park starting at 6 pm. This is a potluck event so bring your favorite dish and join us in the fun!

I look forward to reporting on our Trachtenfest (Spring Dance-April 22) for next time.

For membership information, please contact Elisabeth Reymond at 250-549-1148 or ereymond@rhhb-grischun.ca.

Please visit our Website at [www.interiorswissclub.ca](http://www.interiorswissclub.ca) for up to date information and great pictures of our past events!

Further club information and event tickets can be obtained from our President Lilly Senn at 250-549-3711 or senn@telus.net

On behalf of the Interior Swiss Club, I wish you all a safe and sunny summer.

*Karen Cleland*

## Swiss Outdoor Club

### Spring Skiing Week in Sunpeaks

Report by Elizabeth Pfenniger

On March 27-30, 2006, twenty-two enthusiastic Swiss Outdoor Club members from the Vancouver and Lower Fraser Valley area attended the fourth annual Spring Skiing Week at Sunpeaks Resort, near Kamloops, BC. This mixed group, both in age and ability, had one goal in mind – to experience spring skiing at its best.

Skiing started at 9:00 a.m. sharp for the Sunburst Express lift. Those who felt like "training for the Olympics", joined Andy and Edi. Others took their time down the slopes, savoring at every turn, the scent of pine trees, the breathtaking scenery and fabulous weather. It seemed as if we had the mountain all to ourselves – no crowds – no line-ups. And to top that up, the snow conditions were perfect.



Werner with Vreni, Jeanette and Veronica



Enchanted Forest



Our most senior member, Koebi at 83 years of age, is the poster picture of vitality. With a look of devilish glee, he led many members down the "Bushwacker" run, which is clearly marked "For Experts Only"! At picture taking time on top of the ski lift, when we didn't line up on command, Ursi threatened us with the benefits of last night's hearty bean soup. We laughed a lot and had lots of fun throughout the entire week.

Evenings were spent at the Cahilty Lodge's outdoor hot tub soothing aching and aging muscles, followed by dinner in cozy restaurants in SunPeaks Village. The positive atmosphere and camaraderie among us made this trip a most memorable and enjoyable experience.

*Pictures are courtesy of Andy Huser*



Cahilty Lodge



The Swiss Skiers on Mt. Morissey



Having Fun

## Hike to Mt. Gardner, April 23, 2006

Report by Valentina Karoway

On our first long-awaited hike of the season, Mother Nature granted us with the sunniest and the warmest spring day yet. With great excitement and anticipation, all eighteen of us, including four guests from Peru, gathered on this Sunday morning at Horseshoe Bay. While we were waiting for our ferry, we could not help but notice our surroundings which immediately captivated us by its prodigious view. In the distance before us, there stood three green humps emerging from the sea - our destination, Bowen Islands. Blotches of early-morning mist, produced by warm sun and cold water, rose above the Islands giving a mythical appearance, luring us to explore them. All around, as far as we could see, stood our gracefully tall and majestically beautiful British Columbian mountains. Their white peaks were shimmering and sparkling in rays of sunshine so gentle and mild at this time of year. The time came to board the ferry. As we were gliding through the water on our small ferry, hearing grand "whooshing" sounds, the birds were hurriedly flying out of our way. After a 20 minutes ride we got off the ferry at Snug Cove and proceeded with our hike. For about half an hour our group had an easy walk through a beautiful forest to the Killarney Lake. A few of us decided to stick around and explore the beauty of the lake, but the rest proceeded to reach the top of Mt Gardner with yodeling sounds through the woods. On our slow and steady walk to the top (4 hours to conquer the peak), we admired the splendor of



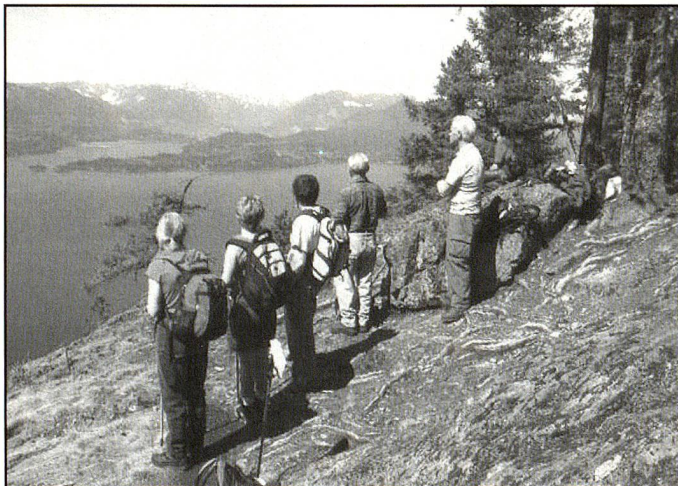
The conquerors





Ferry leaving Snug Cove

the forest, with its thick Hemlock, beautiful Silver Spruce and magnificent Douglas Fir trees. Some of them standing tall for hundreds of years, other decayed, some new 'baby' trees shooting up everywhere, but all the while, Mother Nature taking her course. I was awed with a little cedar sucker splitting its way through an old giant trunk tree, gathering nourishment for its growth, while trying to reach the sun. Oh my, it is already time for our first, resting point on a cliff overlooking English Bay. As we had our short break we viewed the small ships and yachts gliding through the waters below and eagles flying over us looking for their prey. On we go, all eight of us, to reach the peak - 660 meters high. Hooray - we made it to the top - Mt. Gardner! All that work paid off - what a gorgeous



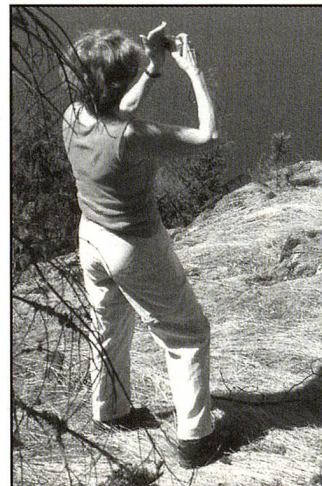
View of Howe Sound



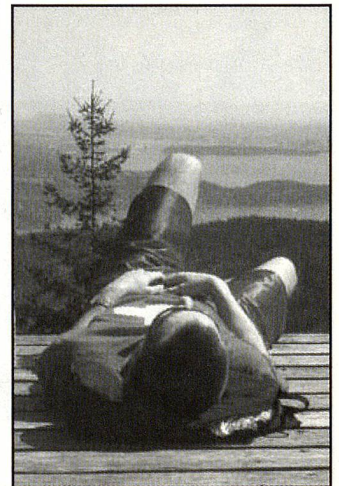
Brian the scout

panorama! Wow! Looking down onto the beautifully sun-sparkled waters and green curved mountains for as far as I could see, it took my breath away!

Now it was time for lunch to refuel our bodies and of course time for our photos. While Joe and Jolanda applied their photo talents, the rest of us enjoyed the sunshine and the beauty Mother Nature had to offer. As all hikers know, after reaching the top, we must go down. Oh wait, there was another photogenic point that was worth stopping for; an outcropping affording an uninhibited view of the Squamish Inlet. We had to take a few minutes to enjoy the view on this perfectly sunny day. Brian, our scout, gracefully posed for some great shots. Then, steady we went again down through the woods and finally through a long stretch of gravel road back to Killarney Lake. We knew we had reached the lake when we came across that same patch of smelly skunk cabbage plants that we had encountered on the way in. It was too early in the season for the sweet honey fragrance of the forest flowers to surround us, so I guess, we had to settle for a little "stinkiness" to fill our senses. Another half an hour and we were back in Snug Cove. After this challenging hike, we were ready to relax and reward ourselves with a cold drink while waiting for the ferry to take us back to Horseshoe Bay. It was time to say goodbye to our wonderful friends and take with us the memories of this day.



Jolanda at work



Brian Hauser in recovery



# Swiss Canadian Mountain Range Association, Vancouver

For the first time ever, our annual dinner and Absenden had to be postponed at the last minute due to a power outage at the Clubhouse. Fortunately, two weeks later we were able to make up for it and celebrated our Medal Shooters. The evening started with an excellent meal prepared by Andreas Fopp and his crew. Congratulations to all the 26 shooters who completed the Club Championship. Here are some of the 2005 Club Championship results, the highest possible score being 657 points:

## STANDARD- RIFLE

1. Zollinger, Rene	619 Points
2. Brugger, Rene	615
3. Morach, Christian	604
4. Durant, William	597
5. Ernst, Ruedi	596
6. Ott, Paul	407 DNF
7. Verrall, Gordon	326 DNF

## SERVICE- RIFLE

1. Nichols, Dave	613 Points
2. Schurmann, Roy	611
3. Hirsig, Gerhard	596
4. Best, Robert	593
5. Spycher, Markus	592
6. Seidler, Thaddeus	577
7. Suter, Frank Jun.	575

The Annual General Meeting went very well. It seems that the members are happy with the work of the Executive. Max Kunzle is taking over the Pistol Section and the balance of the Executive remains the same as last year. Thank you everybody for a job well done.

## In the 10 Meter Section:

9 Shooters finished the Club Championship.

1. Casanova, Patrick	Total	1353 Points
2. Morach, Christian		1350
3. Hodel, Fritz		1337
4. Seidler, Thaddeus		1329
5. Best, Robert		1265
6. Spycher, Markus		1127
7. Ernst, Ruedi		1096
8. Jeffreys, David		1067
9. Casanova, Daniel		815

February 26th and 27th was the annual 10 meter Schuetzenfest. We could have used a few more participants, but everyone had a good time. We all enjoyed the delicious dinner prepared by Rene Zollinger and his helpers.

## 10 Meter Schuetzenfest – Active

	Cat.	Rifle	Pistol	Xbow	Total
1. Morach, Christian	A	163	168	163	494
2. Seidler, Thaddeus	A	163	167	156	486
3. Casanova, Patrick	A	169	151	156	476
4. Spycher, Markus	A	159	152	120	431

## 10 Meter Schuetzenfest – Non Active

	Cat.	Rifle	Pistol	Xbow	Total
1. Hodel, Fritz	N	161	175	0	336
2. Madliger, Peter	N	98	148	0	246
3. Humbel, Walter	N	104	132	0	236
4. Kunzle, Max	N	0	148	0	148

## 10 Meter Schuetzenfest – Ladies

	Cat.	Rifle	Pistol	Xbow	Total
1. Baumann, Marlies	L	89	75	0	164
2. Kunzle, Simone	L	86	68	0	154
3. Spycher, Christiane	L	81	66	0	147

## 10 Meter Schuetzenfest – Juniors

	Cat.	Rifle	Pistol	Xbow	Total
1. Jeffreys, David	J	84	97	0	181
2. Suter, Frank	J	76	68	0	144
3. Casanova, Daniel	J	83	58	0	141
4. Madliger, Kevin	J	55	59	0	114

March 26<sup>th</sup> was our first 300m shoot for the season and 39 members took part in the annual safety session.

## Some important dates to remember:

- July 2.** 50m & 300m Club Championship
- July 16.** 50m & 300m Club Championship
- July 29.** National Day Celebration at the Chalet
- Aug.13.** 50m & 300m Club Championship
- Aug. 27.** 50m & 300m Club Championship
- Sept. 11.** 50m & 300m last date for Club Championship Trap- "Cheese Shoot"
- Sept.15-17.** Visit from the Munchenstein, CH. Schuetzen
- Sept. 24.** 300m Consul Cup
- Oct. 7-8.** Schuetzenfest
- Oct. 22.** Saushoot- last shoot of the season

Lunch is always provided on the above dates for a very reasonable price. Why not come and visit us and there might even be time for a "Jass" or just a friendly sit together.

For more detailed news check us out at our Website:

[www.scmra.ca](http://www.scmra.ca)

*Marlies and Paul Baumann*



# Edmonton Swiss Men's Choir

## SOUTH AMERICAN TRIP 2006

(by David Leigh)

It's a long way to South America and when you travel Chile, Argentina and Uruguay on a bus, it feels like a very long trip. That is what the Edmonton Swiss Men's Choir did from March 11th to April 3<sup>rd</sup>. During that time the choir, under the direction of Elizabeth Anderson gave eleven formal concerts, concentrating on Swiss ethnic music, Canadian repertoire and even some songs in Ukrainian. Some of these concerts were in small communities and some were in major centers like Valparaiso, Santiago, Mendoza, Rosario, Nueva Helvecia, Montevideo and Buenos Aires. We felt like great ambassadors for Edmonton, for Alberta, for Canada and of course for Switzerland. In each of the places that we sang there was a sizeable community of Swiss abroad, mostly 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> generation Swiss. They appreciated the visit from us Canadian Swiss and they loved the taste of Swiss ethnic music that we offered.

In turn, choir members loved the exposure to the different cultures in the countries that we visited. Visits to wineries showed us the best that the vintners offered. A trip to an estancia that concentrated on the breeding and raising of Chilean Rodeo Horses gave us an insight into the history and practice of animal husbandry and the training of this unique breed of horse. The Parilla showed us a different method of barbequing that produces tender and tasty beef even from the less expensive cuts of meat. There was a spectacular trip through the Andes, ending in Mendoza, a desert city getting the water by way of two canals originally built by the natives and predating the Spanish colonization.

When we took the road to Villa Union we discovered that about sixty kilometers was unpaved and at one point had to ford a stream where the bridge was out. Not a problem as we had two very good drivers and a good bus. Usually on a trip like this it is the people and activities that are remembered. On the way to La Rioja we stopped at a UN heritage site, a dry river bed called Talampaya. Like the Hoodoos near Drumheller but much more spectacular and quite a record of hieroglyphics (petroglyphs).

The trip had everything. We even stayed as guests of the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Spirit at their retreat house in Esperanza. After Argentina, it was on to Uruguay which looks a lot like Alberta, has wonderful people and very appreciative audiences. Back to Argentina and a premier league soccer game in Buenos Aires as well as our concerts. One of the highlights was attendance at a tango exhibition. Another was a side trip to Iguacu Falls on the Brazilian border. They are perhaps not as powerful as Niagara but are esthetically very enchanting.

## SCHOLARSHIPS BY SEMA

Next on the agenda for the choir was the attendance at the scholarship presentation by SEMA (Swiss Ethnic Music Association) to three students of Choral conducting. The winners are: the U of A's Brendan Lord (\$8000) under the mentorship of Dr. Debra Cairns, Concordia's Kelsey Mueller (\$4000) under the mentorship of Dr. John Hooper and Augustana College's Iain Gillis (\$3000) under the mentorship of Dr. Milton Schlosser. Mr. Arden Rytz, President of SEMA presented the Awards to the recipients under the applause of the Edmonton Swiss Mens Choir. SEMA has for a number of years provided bursaries and scholarships for Choral conducting students in Northern Alberta. Many of the recipients are now conducting choirs throughout Alberta and are teaching choral at all levels, from elementary schools to Universities.

## NASSA (North American Swiss Singing Alliance) Festival

In June the choir will travel to Toledo, Ohio to take part in NASSA Saengerfest 2006, a singing competition held every three years. It is a chance to renew old acquaintances and to see what improvements have been made by Swiss ethnic choirs in North America. In 2003 the Edmonton Swiss Men's Choir brought home two gold medals; one for men's choir and one for yodel choirs. It is again a chance for us to show that not only is Edmonton an outstanding place to live, it is indeed a city of champions.

For further information, please contact Hans Voegeli, President at Tel 464 -1266 or contact our Secretary Peter Thut at [secretary@esmc.ab.ca](mailto:secretary@esmc.ab.ca).

### New Executive for 2006:

<b>President:</b>	Hans Voegeli	(780) 464-1266
<b>Vice President:</b>	Peter Johner	(780) 902-4147
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Paul Ehrler	(780) 464-3355
<b>Secretary:</b>	Peter Thut	(780) 456-6391
	<a href="mailto:secretary@esmc.ca">secretary@esmc.ca</a>	

### Directors:

Roland Allenbach, David Leigh, John Neilson.  
Alternate: Hermann Knupp

### Mailing address:

Edmonton Swiss Men's Choir  
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Edmonton, Alberta  
T6E 0E6