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Address by the Ambassador of Switzerland

Dear fellow citizens,



Werner Baumann

After assignments in Asia and Europe, my wife Susanna and I have been very much looking forward to coming to one of the most beautiful countries of the Americas, Canada.

It is a privilege and a pleasure to live and work in Canada. The relations between Switzerland and Canada are good and warm and both countries share the same values. Furthermore the potential of the Canadian market for Swiss business is huge and in 2005 Switzerland became

the 5th most important foreign investor in Canada. The French language, common to both countries, provides a special and important playfield for the cultural exchanges.

After only two months in Ottawa my wife Susanna and I feel very much at home in Canada. No wonder, as we participated in quite a few Swiss National Day celebrations, in Toronto, Sutton, in Ottawa and in Winchester. We very much enjoyed these memorable events which were beautifully set up and well organized by the different Swiss Clubs.

During my postings abroad I made the experience that it is very important for a Swiss diplomat to get together with the Swiss, who are living in his country of residence. You are in a way the Swiss ambassadors abroad, you represent Swiss values, Swiss traditions, Swiss culture. I am looking forward to being in regular contact with you, even though Canada is such a huge country.

Werner Baumann

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Redaktionsschluss für die nächsten Regionalseiten**

1/2007

17 novembre / November 17, 2006

Ottawa Valley Swiss Club

Golf Tournament

On June 25, Henri and Alice Graf organized the annual Golf Tournament of the Ottawa Valley Swiss Club. According to tradition, the tournament took place on the beautiful Pakenham Highlands golf course. 'Best ball' allowed players of any caliber to succeed - and everybody had fun. After the 'work' was done, the Grafs invited all players and non-players to a very enjoyable BBQ on their deck of their lovely home, directly on the golf course.

Here are the winners of this year's Tournament:

Winner of the D. Dayer Memorial Trophy

Placed equal: Nicole Widmer
Pierre Widmer
Rudi Duss

and:

Joe Hurschler
Dan Hurschler
Conrad Mineault
Jurg Roth

Longest putt (men):	Werner Sigrist
Longest putt (women):	Nicole Widmer
Closest to the hole (men):	Rene Muller
Closest to the hole (women):	Pam Hurschler
Closest to the line:	Lori Lee

Thank you to Henri and Alice Graf for organizing this event and to Jacqueline Rivas for her help.

Swiss National Day celebration in mid-town Ottawa

What a marvelous day and what beautiful grounds! In a rural setting of peace and natural beauty but only minutes from downtown Ottawa, the Billings Estate provided the ideal place to hold this year's First of August Celebration. Over 225 participants joined. The event started at 3:30 p.m. and ended only as it became dark, shortly before 10:00 p.m.



There was something for everyone: several kinds of Swiss sausages, desserts and beverages. The Montagna Singers joined us with their outstanding presentations. The O'Connor boys entertained us with their "fiddles". Klara Bruehlmann provided a full program for children. The much anticipated Tombola provided many great prizes.

During the official program, our Ambassador, His Excellency Werner Baumann addressed the assembled Swiss community, followed by the National Anthem sung by the Montagna Singers. The evening ended with a lampion parade of our young participants.

A great event for young and old(er), with activities, time to visit with friends from the Ottawa Swiss community, and simply for having fun at a beautiful setting in the middle of Ottawa.



Upcoming events

December 3, 2006	Christmas Party
January 27, 2007	Fondue Evening & Annual General Meeting

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Consul General Helfenstein's FAREWELL MESSAGE and STAFF CHANGES at the Consulate General in Vancouver

Dear Compatriots and Friends of Switzerland,

After 38 years of service in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and having already reached the age of 62, I have decided to resign from my post on September 30, 2006, and to retire in Meggen/LU and Mâcon/F. I thought this would be the right moment to engage into the next phase of our lives. It has been an interesting and fulfilling career. Yes, it is true, my wife Nicole and I have not become rich during all the years we lived in seven different countries, but we have put a good deal of experience "under our belts" and take many fine memories with us into retirement. Our Vancouver posting was as challenging as it was rewarding, and... it was the best we ever had! Since we made so many Swiss and Canadian friends and experienced so much of their warmth and hospitality, we will depart with mixed feelings from Vancouver.

I have considered it a real privilege and honour to represent Switzerland in B.C, Alberta, Yukon and the Northwest Territories. During our four-year stay in Vancouver, it was with great pleasure that I served the Swiss community and contributed to the development and strengthening of the cultural, commercial and political ties between Western Canada and Switzerland. My endeavours have been greatly facilitated by the fact that Canada and Switzerland share a long-standing history of friendship. Bilateral relations are indeed excellent. I mention only two examples: Trade between Canada and Switzerland has increased by more than 50% in the last 4 years, from CAD 2 to 3 billion in 2005. According to Statistics Canada, in 2005, Switzerland was the 5th biggest direct investor in Canada (CAD 12 billion), ahead of Japan and Germany.

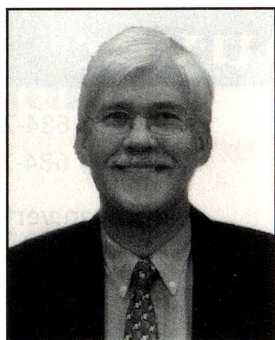
The Swiss abroad are quite often referred to as Ambassadors of Switzerland or the bridge builders and mediators between their old and new homelands. That is particularly true in Canada, where they have strongly contributed to the excellent reputation Switzerland enjoys in this country. For this, I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to all of you today! I have also often noticed with great satisfaction that the Swiss living in my consular district have found a fine balance between perfectly integrating into Canada while maintaining their Swiss heritage. Congratulations!

Now, regarding the **Staff changes** at the Consulate General: Gregor Fritsche, Deputy Head of Chancellery, arrived this July from Harare to replace Claude Voutat, who has been transferred to Lyon. Karin and Daniel Rüger, coming from Wellington, have joined us this August. They both are Consuls, Heads of Chancellery as well as Deputy Heads of Post and will replace Consul Max Künzle, who will go into retirement in November 2006. The Rüggers, having four young children, will work part-time (job-sharing 50% each). Finally, from next November and for 6 month thereafter, Vancouver will have a Consul General ad interim. His name is Armin Meile who, until recently, has served as the Consul General in Houston. At the end of April 2007, he too will retire. It is hoped that a permanent Consul General will be assigned late spring/early summer 2007. I agree that makes a lot of staff changes. But don't worry: the good ones leave and the better ones take over! I am convinced that the new team will also serve you in the best possible way.

In saying farewell to all of you, Nicole and I want to express our sincerest wishes for a most successful professional career and for happiness in your personal lives as well. We wish we could have met with more of you, and hopefully on another occasion, back in Switzerland or during one of our future trips to Canada, this will be possible.

Robert Helfenstein

Appointment of a new Honorary Consul of Switzerland in Alberta



Dr. Andreas A. Bayer

The Consulate General of Switzerland in Vancouver has the pleasure to inform you that Dr. Andreas A. Bayer has been appointed as the new Honorary Consul of Switzerland in Alberta.

Dr. Bayer was born in Schaffhausen / SH on April 7, 1952 and is a citizen of Basel / BS. He attended schools in Dachsen in the Zürcher Weinland and in Winterthur / ZH. From 1971 on he studied geology at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich (ETHZ). For his subsequent doctoral degree he did fieldwork in Central and Eastern Switzerland and worked in addition as a part-time assistant. Since 1982 he was employed as an explorationist in various positions in the oil and gas industry. His international assignments included the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Egypt and the United States (Houston). In October 1997 he moved with his family to Calgary. At present he works as a Senior Staff Geophysicist in the Foothills Exploration Department of Shell Canada Limited. Dr. Bayer and his wife Yolanda have two children.

The Consulate has been established at the following address:

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The Consulate General in Vancouver wishes Dr. Bayer much success and satisfaction in his new assignment.

Max Künzle

Acting Consul General of Switzerland
Vancouver

Swiss Canadian Mountain Range Association, Vancouver

As I write this report it's hard to believe that half the shooting season is already over and by the time you get to read this report we will probably already be thinking about Christmas! We have had some very successful shooting competitions besides the regular Club- Champion shooting dates.

The Dine and Dance at the Chalet is always a good way to celebrate Mother's Day. Everybody had a good time and enjoyed the excellent buffet dinner prepared by our friend Andreas Fopp and his crew. A big thank you goes to all the helpers for organizing the Italian theme evening.

On the May long weekend, the Eidgenössische Feldschiessen and the Feldschlössli – Stich took place, with 26 Members shooting the Feldschiessen and 23 competing in the Feldschlössli- Stich with some excellent scores:

<u>Eidg. Feldschiessen</u>		<u>Feldschloessli – Stich</u>	
1. Suter, Frank	68	1. Schurmann, Louis	70
2. Morach, Christian	67	2. Morach, Christian	68
3. Zollinger, Rene	67	3. Michals, Richard	66
4. Fairley, John	66	4. Zollinger, Rene	66
5. Schurmann, Louis	66	5. Spycher, Markus	65

Aggregate Scores

1. Schurmann, Louis	136 Pts. Max 144
2. Morach, Christian	135
3. Zollinger, Rene	133
4. Suter, Frank	132
5. Michals, Richard	129

On June 4, the 300m Mountain Range match took place. This consists of 2 positions, 30 shots each prone and kneeling, a very difficult competition but some good scores were achieved.

	<u>Prone</u>	<u>Kneeling</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Zollinger, Rene	283	243	526
2. Nichols, Dave	275	233	508
3. Seidler, Thaddeus	258	219	477
4. Morach, Christian	257	204	461
5. Marshall, Ian	262	167	429

In the afternoon all the occasional and junior shooters had a chance to show off their skills in the 50m Smallbore Volkschiessen. It was a fun team shoot for all, with no stacked teams. There were 14 teams that participated.

<u>Team</u>	<u>Total Points</u>
1. Nichols, Dave - 95 / Howells, Doris - 91	186
2. Schurmann, Roy - 94 / Schurmann, Brittney - 89	183
3. Hodel, Fritz - 91 / Garzitto, Dominic - 92	183
4. Zollinger, Rene - 99 / Schurmann, Reid - 82	181
5. Hodel, Donna - 87 / Garzitto, Gabriella - 87	176

After all this serious shooting there was still time to do some Trapp shooting before dinner.

June 18 was the Bruno Huber Shoot. This has become a very popular competition and our sincere thanks go to Bruno for sponsoring this event. Every shooter walked away with a very nice prize.

The annual Schützenfest took place on October 7 and 8.

We will end the 300m shooting season with the Sausshoot on October 22nd which of course will be followed by our traditional "Blut und Leberwurst" feast. The Outdoors Club is joining us again after their afternoon walk in the Minnekada Park. The Sausshoot is for members only but the dinner is open to all.

For more info please check out our website at www.scmra.ca

Paul and Marlies Baumann

Report from the Swiss Crossbow Association Vancouver

By the end of June almost everybody had their suitcases packed and was on the way to Switzerland for the Eidgenössische Armbrustschützenfest in Ettiswil/LU. On Sunday, July 9, most of us met in this village for the official day and the parade. It was a very hot day and we were glad we only had a short walk ahead of us to the "Festhalle" where a delicious lunch awaited us. We attached our banner to one of the tables, as is the custom, so that everybody knew that this is where the Canadians would hang out. We met many friends and acquaintances, went to the shooting tent and watched some of the elite shooters score one ten after another.

Some of us stayed in a hotel in a beautiful village called Ruswil, located about half-way between Lucerne and Ettiswil. Ettiswil and Ruswil are located in the Rottal valley which boasts to have the most farmers, 220 to be exact, for the size of the area.

Wednesday was our practice day at the Rothenburg club and we all met there around 4 pm. Some of their shooters arrived and helped us adjust their crossbows which we were able to borrow for the next day. We organized a competition amongst us to make it more interesting and listened to the advice from these seasoned shooters. They prepared a delicious dinner for us and we enjoyed a very pleasant evening in their company. The whole club had come to Vancouver in 1991 and we looked at photos and reminisced about those days.

Thursday morning found us at the assigned targets and four of us donned the heavy pants and jackets and prepared for our turn. It was a very hot day again! Sweat was running down everywhere and it was difficult to concentrate, not only because of the heat but also because of the noise from the spectators and the setup itself – 55 targets in a row! We made it through the morning, shot the required programs, and many had excellent scores which gave them a double or triple medal. In the afternoon we watched some of the Veteranen Meisterschaft and were astonished at the many high scores.

In the evening we celebrated our achievements in the Festhalle and had a great time with our many friends. On Sunday, we met in Ettiswil again, to receive the "Lorbeerkrantz" and each Sektion received a Cheese Fondue Rechaud with Caquelon. It was a great ending to another well organized Eidgenössische!

Now we are all back in Vancouver and are applying the new knowledge gained to our own shooting skills.

Shortly before we left for Switzerland we were able to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion with the Swiss Society committee and the board for our transfer to the Mountain Range. We applaud the committee and everyone involved for their concern for our future and thank them for their common sense and fairness. We are very happy that we were able to solve this transfer in a spirit of friendship.

Elisabeth Reymond

Edmonton Swiss Rifle Club

When you'll read this report, our Fullbore season will already be over but we shoot Smallbore all year round. On April 22 we started with full throttle in our Fullbore season. Fellow shooters came out to the Range and dusted off their carbines; club rifles were taken along to be used by any member or guest who doesn't own their own. Throughout the season we shot Swiss shoots such as Feldschloesslistich, SSV, Einzelwettschiessen, Calgary & Vancouver Matches, Cantonal Schuetzenfest, our own Friendship & Klondike Matches and last but not least the Feldschiessen und Obligatorisch, which was shot by over 20 Swiss and others.

Our highlight of the season is always the Annual Schuetzenfest, a 2-day event on the Labour Day weekend, with participants within Canada, sometimes from Switzerland and other parts of the world. We always nourish and foster the camaraderie with tasty lunches and dinners and a few rounds of Jass will be played at most tables.

As any other club, we would not be able to operate throughout the year without the help of our dedicated members and volunteers. Now we look forward to the A.G.M. when the awards will be given out. Who wins Smallbore? Fullbore? Overall? Will it be the same shooter as last year or will there be a surprise? We shall keep you posted...

Claudia Farner, E.S.R.C.

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in Vancouver**

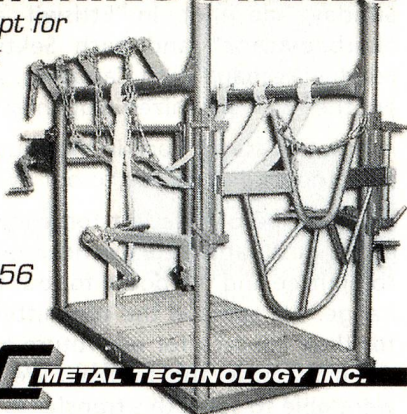
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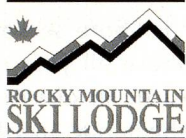
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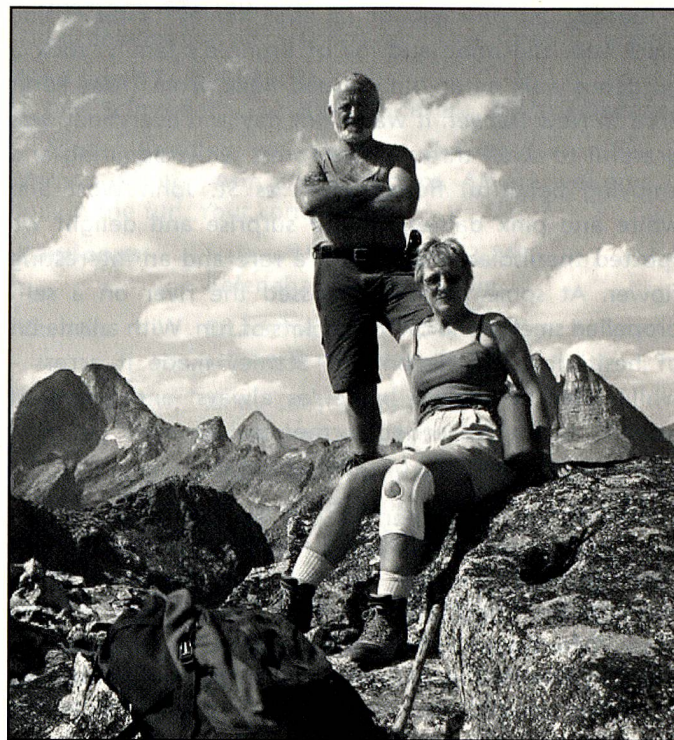
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Trip to Kootenays, August 2006

Report by Valentina Karoway

It is hard to believe, that the year has past and we are traveling up to the Kootenays once again for our annual hiking adventures. As we are coming closer and closer to this tranquil Slocan Valley with its beautiful lake and magnificent mountains, I felt an adrenaline rush going through my body in anticipation of what is in the store for us for this week. My Swiss friend, Jolanda, and I decided again to stay at Arica's Gardens B&B. On Sunday night, Henry and Shirl, our hosts and guides, and some of our Outdoors Club members got together at Henry's place for a social gathering. There, we also met with Koebi's special guest, Paul Buehler, from Erlenbach, Switzerland, who we would soon realize to be a very strong and an excellent hiker and also a very kind and gentle man.

Since everyone had not yet arrived, on Monday we decided to take an easy hike around the lake and go for a swim. As we got together mid morning, Henry and Andy, the "adventurous two", planned an exploratory hike to Robertson Basin (sounded very interesting). In an instant, I chose to go with them. 'For better or worse' they took me along. There was no path to the peak – just bushwhacking! For nearly two hours we went through nothing but prickly bush, except for animal's paths here and there. After the bush area was over, we had to climb up over the giant rocks. Scratched all over, exhausted to the max, and nearly giving up at the foot of the basin, I decided to stay behind. My two strong hiking buddies convinced me to keep going. They even helped with carrying my backpack to the top (always be grateful). The view was magnificent! From our 780 meter high-point, we could see clearly, on this sunny day the vista of Valhalla's peaks: Mt. Dag, Wolf



Henry and Valentina

Ears, Gradstein and beloved Gimli Peak. The trip down was challenging as well. We took a different route in hope of finding a shorter way to our van. Being an excellent navigator, Henry brought us to the road just a few meters away from our vehicle. Thanks a million Henry! Shortly after we started driving, we came across a meadow where we spotted a big-healthy looking Grizzly Bear. Startled by our engine noise, he dashed into the forest. What a wonderful surprise and an astonishing sight! All the injuries and scratches on my body did not matter anymore, I had no regrets (back at the B&B, I knew Jane, my hostess, would take care of my wounded body). The rest of the outdoors hikers had a much less dramatic and somewhat leisurely hike by Slocan Lake and a refreshing swim in the lake.



Lunch Break



On the Ridge

Tuesday, all fourteen of us and Stanley (a handsome black Lab, the pride and joy of Brunold's family) took a gorgeous walk on an old railroad track, from Three Forks area to New Denver. It was a hot day and everybody was grateful to stroll through the forest while admiring and enjoying beautiful flowers such as St. John Wort and white and pink daisies. To our surprise and delight we spotted the Indian- Pipe plant, a rare and an interesting flower. At some point we crossed the river on a self-propelled small cable car. It was lots of fun. With a little bit of hesitation and discomfort, Stanley made it across – while later he looked brave 'as always' and proud of himself. As we proceeded further, we observed old mine ruin remnants and bits of railroad tracks.

Wednesday was a perfect day for our major hike - *Mt. Carlyle* ! We all geared-up first thing in the morning and were ready to go. Our 'first-rate' drivers took us through the toughest and most challenging 'logging road'. When we finally got to our parking spot, Mother Nature presented us with one of her splendors, a reward for being adventurous. We came to a spectacular part of the valley, covered with chicory, purple fire weed, pink and white daisies spread throughout the beautifully green and healthy forest. Plenty of young perfectly-shaped pine trees were shooting out between the mature trees in promise to fill up the forest in a few years to come. The sounds of a creek rushing through this beautiful valley gave a sense

of heavenly splendor. We began our journey into the beautiful forest slowly gaining in elevation and being an attentive to the breath taking meadows and inhaling crystal-clear air. When we came above the tree line, we moved onto a challenging rock path. We came across the wreckage of an old mine, once ravaged by an avalanche. We saw the small sections of wooden structure and some metal kitchen household items, scattered around the rocks as a silent witness, with many stories to tell. In the midst of all that mass of rocks, we noticed a single little green tree that had found a home for itself - is that how it all begins? We came to the pass leading to Mt Carlyle on the left, another ridge to the right and the valley just ahead. While a few explored a cabin in those meadows, others stayed around the pass admiring the beautiful view and enjoying well-deserved rest. Peter, Edi and Elisabeth Von Ah (a local lady) climbed the ridge and claimed the reward by observing the beautiful panorama all around as far as the eye can see. Our most adventurous trio: Henry, Andy and Peter were up to conquer Carlyle Peak which is around 2630+ m high. They reached the top, sending loud yodels throughout the valley - the mission was complete successfully. Good job Swiss team!

Thursday, everybody took an easy day, doing different things to their liking.

Friday, was the last day for most of us up in the Kootenays. We must go to Lookout Point once more before we leave. Unfortunately, the day turned out to be not so great - showers, some sunny periods throughout that morning. No fear! With rain gear and Peter with his camouflage umbrella, we proceeded to the viewpoint 1680 m see level, 730 m from our cars. We traveled on a logging road which was in good condition for a change. Though some parts were challenging, we steadily kept going. In two hours we reached the Lemon Creak Lookout. Because of the clouds moving fast above, and mist rising from the previous shower, we only had a few sunny breaks to glance at the view around us. This beautiful mountain panorama unveiled before us bit-by-bit and section by section, as to tease and entice us to come back next year. On the way back we had a great time to converse about our past hikes and adventures. At some point I was ahead of everyone, so while I was waiting for them to catch up, I observed our group - from early fifties to early eighties years young, some of us with required knee support due to injuries or just aging 'wear and tear' yet still going strong. The love for nature, the mountains and an excitement to reach those peaks with a will to challenge our physical ability to the fullest and the years of wonderful friendships brought us all together.

Naturally every night after our hikes, we got together for meals: potluck, spaghetti night, fondue (always a great success), after meals games or just friendly chat around the table, fifteen of us in the cabin just like one family – "Henry's family!" for ten years now. Thank you again Henry, from all of us, for your generosity and hospitality from the bottom of our hearts.



Fondue Party



Dinner Party – SOC Hikers

Interior Swiss Club

I can hardly imagine fall is around the corner as I write this. The Okanagan sun is shining and the temperature is steady around 36 degrees but alas, the submission deadline is here for the winter issue!

Our annual Spring Dance, which we renamed Trachtenfest for 2006, attracted the usual sold out crowd! It was a hit from start to finish. We changed locations this year to Schubert Center in Vernon. The new venue was a great change - a beautiful hall with lots of room. People arrived and mingled until the dinner announcement was made and they hurried to their assigned tables. Dinner this year was wiener schnitzel - delicious! The service was quick, efficient and friendly. Also with the format changing this year to include more dance music, the dance floor was put to good use! It was great to see members from near and far out to enjoy the spring dance!

The August 1 celebration in Coldstream (Vernon) also attracted a full house. The beautiful Coldstream Creek Park is the perfect setting for a potluck. The playground keeps the kids busy and the shelter complete with fireplace keeps the adults happy! The salads and desserts were fantastic and the coffee donated by Rico Ronzani ended the meal perfectly. People came from near and far to enjoy a mini concert put on by the Vernon Blaskapelle, under the direction of John Doerwaldt. It was a beautiful night topped off with the longest lampion cortege we've seen in quite awhile!

Our second August 1 celebration was held in Cache Creek at the Fischers Farm. 2006 proved to be the year of the crowds. The event was very well attended! Most camped out at the site and many were seen playing soccer until it was absolutely impossible to see the ball! Young and old alike enjoy this event with great food, good camaraderie, events to keep them busy and a beautiful location. Many thanks to the Fischer family for their hospitality.

Winners in the Shooting event were:

Girls age 16 and under:

1. Andrea Zaugg 2. Julia Graf

Boys age 16 and under:

1. Matteo Romano 2. Jonah Diemand
3. Giovanni Romano

Ladies: Joanne Adamson tied with Irene Kempter and Angie Steiger

Mens: 1. Joe Zemp 2. Tony Diemand
3. Albrecht Klopfenstein

Winners in the Steinstossen event were as follows:

Girls age 10-16 (19 kg)

1. Julia Zaugg 2. Andrea Zaugg

Boys age 10-16 (19 kg)

1. Matteo Romano

Ladies age 17+ (19 kg)

1. Michele Pury 1. Rita Schilter 3. Chelsey Zaugg

Men age 17+ (36 kg)

1. Kurt Schroeder 2. Richard Cayer 3. Mike Diemand

Winter Bowling will start in October/November in Vernon, Salmon Arm and Kamloops. All are welcome to join in the fun. Your contacts are:

Kamloops: Helena Hasler (250) 372-2496
helenahasler@yahoo.com

Vernon: Rita Schilter (250) 547-6052
schilter@uniserve.com

Salmon Arm: Andy Zuest (250) 832-2833
info@viewpointmotel.bc.ca

Our Christmas Party and Fondue Plausch will be held Sunday, December 3, 2006 from 2-9 pm. Everyone is welcome! We hope to see you there!

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

Please visit our Website at 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 good health and good spirits.

Karen Cleland

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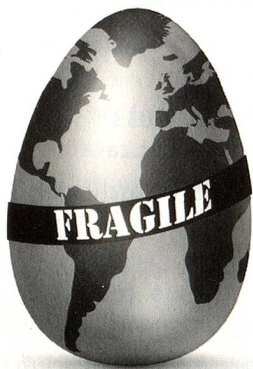
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Swiss Jass Club Montreal

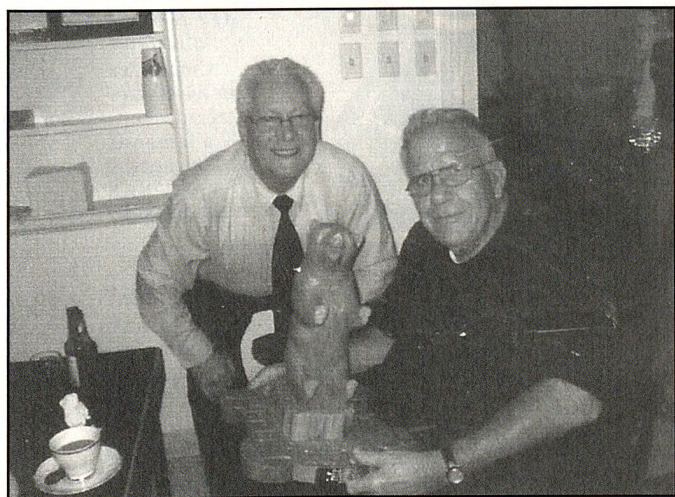
Am 26. Mai 2006 hatten wir unseren letzten Jass Abend von der 2005-2006 Saison. Wir jassen jeden letzten Freitag im Monat von September bis April, um 20 Uhr, im Haus der Heimat, Local Treffpunkt, 375 Louise Lamy Str. in Dorval.

Die Bären Trophy für den Jasser der die meisten Punkte angesammelt hat während der Saison wurde von Kurt Mueri mit 26336 Punkten gewonnen.

Am 26. Mai trafen sich die 16 Finalisten „16 Besten Jasser der Saison“ in der Residenz des Generalkonsuls, für die Jass König Trophy aus zu jassen. Am Ende des Abends, nach einem sehr guten Essen, konnten wir dem neuen Jass König – Emil Keller – gratulieren. Er hatte das beste Tagesresultat mit 3429 Punkten. Jeder Anwesende wurde auch mit einer Flasche Wein belohnt.

Kommen Sie alle, auch für Anfänger haben wir Spezialtische wo sie mit erfahrenen Jassern lernen können. Auskunft durch Paul Raess, Tel. (450) 372-8620 oder Ted Jetzer, Tel. (450) 647-6490.

Paul Raess



Saison Gewinner Kurt Mueri



Der Jass König 2006 Emil Keller



Helvetia Seniors Club

Are you interested in joining a friendly group of Swiss Seniors and their partners? We meet every 3rd Thursday of the month (except December) from noon to 3 pm for a luncheon. There are guest speakers presenting interesting topics, musical entertainment, as well as updated bulletins of activities.

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

Etes-vous intéressés à joindre un groupe amical de retraités suisses et leurs conjoints ? Nous nous rencontrons chaque 3^{ème} jeudi du mois entre 12:00 et 15:00 heures pour un déjeuner (excepté décembre). Des conférenciers invités présenteront des sujets d'intérêts particuliers, de la musique et les bulletins des prochaines activités seront distribués.

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

News from the . . .



**We help Swiss people in need in and around
Montreal & support other worthy causes**

On March 14, the newly elected president, Susanna Hane, welcomed the general assembly and the newly elected committee members. At the same time it was learned that the regular and most appreciated meeting place, namely the St. Moritz restaurant, would close its doors by the end of April. With great effort, the Swiss Women have found a new place and the regular meetings will be held at restaurant "Comme Chez Soi", on 297 Lakeshore Road in Pointe-Claire, every second Tuesday of the month.

The Club was founded more than 85 years ago to create a social network to help elderly Swiss people in need. Today the Edelweiss Swiss Women's Club has a membership of about 75 women and supports local causes such as women and children's shelters and gives support to elderly Swiss members by regular contact or special activities. The main fundraiser is the popular annual bazaar. This will be held on Saturday, November 4th.

The Swiss Women also supported the Swiss National Day celebrations held on Mount Sutton, which were held this year on July 29.

The Swiss ladies are looking forward to welcoming new members.

For further information please do contact the undersigned.

Susanna Hane, President
(450) 466-0921 susanna.hane@videotron.ca

Joanne Spirig, Vice President
(514) 694-3718 Lspirig@yahoo.com

Susanna Hane
President



News from Nova Scotia

The Swiss living in Nova Scotia celebrated August 1st again. This year we had two gatherings

One event on July 30 in Halifax at Point Pleasant Park, organized by Mrs. Hanni Taylor and Mrs Beatrice Schori. Many Swiss living in this area participated at this Picnic near Black Rock Beach in the center of Halifax, in order to celebrate our National Holiday. For the organizers it was an important date since most of the participants also attended when we had our first National Holiday 25 years ago.

The other gathering was organized on August 1 by the previous Swiss Association SCCA at 'Domaine de Grand Pre' Winery by the Host Hanspeter Stutz and his Crew of the Restaurant 'Le Caveau'. The excellent food was prepared by Swiss Chef Alex, Hanspeter Stutz's son in law. This National Day celebration was also attended by several visitors from Switzerland.

On both occasions we all had a great time.

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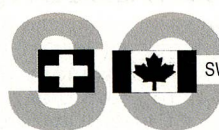
Changes at the Consulate General in Toronto

Deputy Consul General Claudio Leoncavallo and his wife, Monique, left us in June for their new destination, the Ivory Coast. Mr. Leoncavallo, who was stationed for three years in Toronto, has been appointed Deputy Head of Mission to our Embassy in Abidjan. I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to him for his engagement here, especially for his work in commercial and cultural affairs. I would also like to thank his wife, Monique, for her assistance and support and wish the Leoncavallos a happy and prosperous future.

Mr. Leoncavallo's successor, Mr. Philippe Crevoisier, arrived in Toronto at the beginning of September. He is accompanied by his wife, Vivian, and their three children. Mr. Crevoisier is no stranger to the Consulate General in Toronto, having served here as Consular Attaché from 1986 to 1989. He is looking forward to his second assignment in this great city.

And now it is my turn to say goodbye to you, dear compatriots. After 35 years of service with the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, the time has come for us to return to Switzerland to retire. Our stay in Canada has been most interesting and enjoyable. We will always have fond memories of this country. My wife, Marie-Luise, and I thank you for your trust and support and wish you and your families happiness and the very best of health.

Jean-Claude Hagmann
Consul General



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Mrs Lori Sexton, Innisfil (Ontario)

correct answers (10):

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 1st, 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?

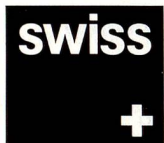
- ☐ Swiss News
☐ Swiss Journal
☒ Swiss Magazine

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

$$12 \times 91 \div 4 + 1867 - 234 = 1906$$

Participants: 682 / correct answers: 359

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LETTE WHITTAKER



No correspondence will be entered into except with the selected winner.



Contacts of interest for the Toronto area

Swiss Club Toronto:

Erika Tièche, President (416) 424-4661, erika@tieche.com

Denise Frassini, Membership. (905) 821-2392, frassini@rogers.com

Swiss Rifle Club: Theodor Iten • (905) 815-1269

Canadian-Swiss Cultural Assoc.: Sonja Evans-Good • (416) 922-7532

Council of Swiss Abroad: René Wälti • (416) 630-8049 • renewalti@yahoo.ca

Canadysli Toronto: Arno Sigrist • (416) 493-8025 • arno.s@sympatico.ca

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Erika Tièche

Farewell to Mr. & Mrs. Hagmann

In the month of September, Mr. Jean-Claude Hagmann, our Consul General, left Toronto to start his retirement in Switzerland. We were very sorry to see Mr. and Mrs. Hagmann leave as they have been a great support to the Swiss Club Toronto.

During his lengthy diplomatic service, Mr. Hagmann's posts included Paris, Islamabad, London, Yaoundé, Budapest, Addis Abeba, San Francisco, Teheran (head of Foreign Interest Section), Bern (assistant to the Deputy Secretary General) and in Dubai (Consul General) prior to coming to Toronto.

Since November 16, 2003 (from warm Dubai into the cold of Canada) Mr. Hagmann has been Consul General, with jurisdiction over the Provinces of Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Mr. & Mrs. Hagmann have been good friend to our club. We thank them for all the work, effort and support they

have given us. The Swiss Club Toronto wishes them many happy years in their new home back in Switzerland.

Sincerely,
Erika Tièche



Mr. & Mrs. Hagmann, & Mrs. Tièche

Swiss National Day Celebration

Our 1st of August celebrations took place at the Country Heritage Park in Milton on Sunday, July 23. Despite some rain, we had a great turn-out of compatriots from Greater Toronto. To help us celebrate 100 years of diplomatic presence in Toronto, we were honored by the presence of our ambassador Dr. Werner Baumann and our Consul General Mr. Jean-Claude Hagmann and their wives. The Spittel Band from Stans provided foot-tapping music and

Adrian from Trident Catering had us enjoying delicious Swiss food. Suzi Hubler, as in previous years, occupied the kids with fun games and interesting crafts. And to round off a perfect day, one of our members won the highly priced trip for two to Switzerland, (the winning price of a contest organized by the consulate in Toronto) and the Tombola which netted numerous fabulous prizes

Everybody had a wonderful day, a day when we could meet and greet friends and have the opportunity to reflect on our heritage.

Heidy Lawrance
Editor Tell Tal



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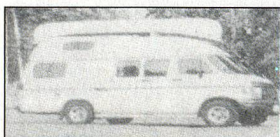
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Swiss National Day Celebration (cont'd.)

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We look forward to our continuing relationship.

Yours very truly,
Erika Tièche
President Swiss Club Toronto



Invitation to the 34th Jass Season The Swiss Club Toronto 2006-2007



Once again fall has arrived, and it's time to start playing cards again. We are scheduled to play at the WESTIN PRINCE HOTEL (Sakura Room), 900 York Mills Rd. on the following dates:

- November 4, 2006** All Players
January 6, 2007 All Players
January 28, 2007 Make-Up for Players who missed one evening. This event is also the annual Sau- Jass and is open to all Jass Players of the Swiss Club as well as Jassers from everywhere including players who prefer French playing cards. The Location of this event will be announced before the end of November.
February 10, 2007 All Players
February 24, 2007 Championship evening for the Players ranking 1 to 8 for the first three evenings of the season. The location of this event will be announced in due course.
March 3, 2007 "Handicap Partner Jass" – All Players
April 14, 2007 Awards Night, Dinner & Dance – All Players and Guests – Buffet Dinner at the Prince Hotel.

The starting time for the regular games located at the Westin Prince Hotel is 7:00 pm. Please be on time.

Better still, join us at the PATEO RESTAURANT in the PRINCE HOTEL for a small or large dinner. This is a good time to chat and update yourselves on your friends news and events.

I would like to thank Chef Herzig for supporting the Jass Section.

Please contact Albert Lenz for further details and to sign up. Call (905) 513-1825 or e-mail at

albert.lenz@honeywell.com

Please ask your friends to participate. Newcomers are always welcome!

The purpose of the Jass Section is to create a happy environment and to keep up friendships between people who like to play the Swiss game of Jass.

It is most important that people who arrive to play cards can actually do so. Please always let me know or find a replacement for you, should you be prevented from attending at a specific date.

P.S. SOCIAL JASS

There will be space available for people who want to play some other types of card games or Jass without fee or commitment. Drinks and food is on you! For beginners or pros, it's up to you what, or how long you like to play. French and German cards are available. You are welcome to participate at our other Jass events such as the lottery draw or dinner at the PATEO Restaurant.

Albert Lenz
Chairman Jass Section

Wine Tasting Tour



On October 1, 2006 the Swiss Cultural Association and the Swiss Club Toronto went on a Wine Tasting Tour. We visited the Konzelmann Winery in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Lunch was at the Queenston Heights Restaurant in Queenston.

The final destination was Oakville, where we visited a "Make your own wine outlet". Everyone had a great time.

Rita Aebi
Director of Entertainment

Men's Section



On Thursday, November 16th, at 7:00 PM, we will have the yearly "SWISS MOVIE EVENING", at the Fairview Library. As usual, this is a joint event of the Men's and Women's Sections of the Swiss Club Toronto, where we will show a Swiss German movie (video).

The library is located at Fairview Mall Drive, just east off Don Mills Rd., (north of Sheppard Ave.), in North York. As in past years, the Ladies will supply Cakes and Coffee, and the Men's Section will look after all the "Electronics" !

Please note: This event is open to all Swiss Club members, but you are also always welcome to join either the Women's or the Men's Section as well.

Arno Sigrist - Men's Section
arno.s@sympatico.ca - (416) 493-8025

SANTA IS COMING



Date: Sunday December 10, 2006, 3:00 PM
Location: Leisure Complex – Party Room
 95 Thorncliffe Park Drive, Toronto

Bring the children to welcome Santa coming from the woods with his heavy sack.

Santa likes to hear songs, poems or something played with an instrument (a piano is available). Santa will have a little surprise for all the kids.

Cost: \$ 10.00 per person / **Free** for children.

This includes "Gerstensuppe", sandwiches, sweets, cold and hot refreshments and more by catering service Jürg Roth.

Please register at the latest by December 05, 2006 (age and name of kids) by:

Rita Aebi
88 Burton Grove
King City, Ontario L7B 1C6
(905) 833-0190
rita.a@sympatico.ca



Swiss Carnival Band (Guggemusig) 31st Anniversary in 2007

We are a Swiss Style Fasnachts Clique in Toronto and we are always looking for new members and players, with (or without) instruments. Our annual Band practices start again in mid November and are held on Saturday mornings. We will again rehearse some old and learn some new tunes, for the upcoming Carnival starting in Toronto on February 24, 2007.

If you would like to have some fun while playing music, and at other times, please, give one of us a call or an e-mail, we will look forward to hearing from you !

Markus (Megge) Schmucki (905) 815-0546
markus99@sympatico.ca

Heiri Schurmann (416) 445-4609
heirimilly46@sympatico.ca

Martin Zuber (416) 248-5383
zuberdin@sympatico.ca

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

Swiss Club Saskatoon

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

Centennial for the Zunti Family

One of Saskatchewan's pioneer families is celebrating the centennial of the arrival of two ancestors in Canada. It was only one year after Saskatchewan became a province, in spring 1906, when two brothers with the last name of Zuenti (later anglicised to "Zunti") set out from the

Swiss village of Eschenbach in the canton of Lucerne to take up a homestead in Luseland, Saskatchewan. The men were soon joined by Swiss brides. Together with their industrious wives, the brothers applied talent, intelligence and tenacity to become successful and highly respected farmers.

The two Zunti families combined had no less than 29 children. Equally astonishing is that many of these children, who are now in their seventies and eighties, can still speak Swiss German, sing German songs and they have not forgotten how to play the game of Jass. They learned these skills during their childhood from their parents on the remote Saskatchewan farm. The families are an inspiration to all Swiss immigrants.

The Swiss Club Saskatoon prides itself for counting many of the Zunti descendants as active club members. We salute them and we are conveying to the entire Zunti family our sincere congratulations to their 100th anniversary in Saskatchewan!

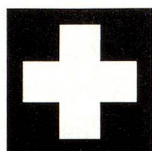
Other Happenings on the Prairies

We are looking back to a great June Picnic on the lovely acreage of Elisabeth and Kaspar Wirz near Pike Lake. The weather had been very wet before and even on the morning of the picnic the skies still looked grey and angry. Everyone knew the terrain would be soggy and therefore only the very bravehearted dared to take the trip over gravel roads. These people, however, got rewarded with the most beautiful sunshine in the afternoon. Frolicking children chased frogs around a pond and the grown-ups watched the hummingbirds. Lively conversation was taking place everywhere. It was truly a good day.

The celebration of the Swiss Federal Day was held on Saturday, July 29 at the gorgeously decorated farm of Roesli and Georg Nievergelt near Hepburn. We listened to the church bells of Hombrechtikon, ZH, before we heard the speech to the Swiss Abroad by the Swiss Federal President Moritz Leuenberger. Everyone had a good time, especially the children who, as city-dwelling kids, enjoyed exploring all the interesting things a dairy farm can offer, from watching cute calves to examining the "fascinating" manure disposal site.

We are looking forward to our Annual Luncheon and Meeting on October 1. This is a popular event every year. Details can be found in our Fall Newsletter.

Louise Grassmann



Swiss Club of Manitoba News

This summer we, once again, held our traditional picnics at three different locales. Attendance was excellent, except in the West - where we would like to see more participation! These picnics are always a happy get-together and this should not be lost! Thank you to all the host families.

August 1 has come and gone. The Eastern Celebration held at the River Ranch was a success, thanks to the Whitemouth Swiss showing up in full force! Ursula Dölger and Alex Mannhart played the Schwyzerörgeli and everybody enjoyed and it felt like back home, thank to you both, we really appreciate it!

Participation in shooting contest was quite good. We would like to express a big "Thank you" to all the sponsors for the generous prizes that were donated. Here are the winners - congratulations:

- | | |
|---------------|-----------|
| 1. Blair Lion | 31 points |
| 2. Adolf Gut | 29 points |
| 3. Adolf Gut | 28 points |

We had a total 22 winners, bravo!

Last but not least thanks to Urs & Hanna Schlup for hosting the event and sponsoring a spicy pork chop to celebrate their 2 x 60 birthdays! Congratulations! All the Best for the next 120 years!

The western celebration was held at the Vallotton Farm and we thank Marie for hosting the event. I hope they had as much fun as we had. A slight disappointment was the sale of the August 1 pins. I would like to remind everyone, the money raised from the sale of these pins goes to municipalities and towns. Over the past few weeks, we heard in the news how Canada struggled to get Canadians out of Lebanon. Now, if a Swiss gets in a situation where rescue becomes necessary, it is your municipality or town that has to foot the bill. With purchasing a pin, we show our support and solidarity!

In closing I would like to thank everyone for showing and renewing interest in our club.

Your President
Ueli Messerli

Please mark your calendar with our winter events!

Christmas-Party For Young & Old: Sunday, December 10, 2006, 13:00
Kleefeld Recreation Centre,
Contact Jakob Fehr
Tel: (204) 424-9745

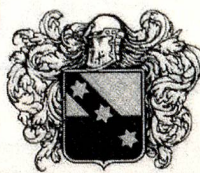
Fondue-Party Winnipeg: Sunday, January 14, 2007, 12:00
Woodhaven Community Club,
contact Anne Boyd
Tel: (204) 831-1635. **Will only take place pending participation!**

Fondue-Party Westman: Sunday, January 28, 2007, 12:00
Lion's Manor in the "Lion's Den,"
35, Victoria Ave., Brandon
contact Bruce & Frieda Taylor,
Tel: (204) 728-4832

Fondue-Party, East: Sunday, February 2007, 12:00
Catholic Church, Anola,
contact Ueli Messerli
Tel: (204) 268-2190

Annual General Meeting: Sunday, March 4, 2007, 12:00
Headingley Community Centre,
Portage Ave
5353. Headingley, contact Ueli Messerli,
Tel: (204) 268-2190

Join the club and participate!



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