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MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Please note change of address of editor. Please, Club Secretaries, let me have the new telephone numbers for the December issue of the Helvetia.

NEWS FROM THE CLUBS

AUCKLAND

JASS ABIG

A few more people attended our Jass evening on September 12. Three teams played very hard to each win a bag of 'Sauerkraut' made by Hans Iten. Can't quite remember who the lucky ones were but at least we know what they had for dinner next evening.

FASNACHT 1991 — GUGGEMUSIK CARNIVAL NIGHT

Who would have thought such an atmosphere could have been created for Saturday night, when the venue was just a bare community centre on Friday.

Multi-coloured cloth drapes across the ceiling with large Swiss Canton shields really gave a fantastic feeling to the whole night. Various lighting effects both static and strobic, together with smoke machines turned the dance floor into an area of flickering light patterns, a great spot for boogie-ing away with your favourite apparition in fancy dress.

As for the costumes, they just get better and better each year. Some folk really put hours and hours of work into their creation and the effect is striking to say the least.

As for the Guggemusik Band!! Well it was revealed to be just that; a Band Costume, although somewhat altered and added to and of course topped off by mop headed masks with vague staring sepulchral eyes ... quite spooky!!

As we've come to expect, the band played its own variation of tunes, some old, some new with some of the old standards going on for two or three encores.

It was a pity that the evening had to end so soon, but we can rest assured that next year we will be treated to more mayhem and entertainment, about mid-September by Guggemusik Auckland.

JASSEN

The last Jass evening was again attended by close to 20 people. To make it a little more spicy, Hans organised it as a prize Jassen. A bottle of wine, a salami and a pack of Sauerkraut was to be won. The evening went on pretty quiet with everyone full of expectation. The lucky winners in the end were: 1. Marie-Theres, 2. Osci, 3. Hans.

Marie-Theres and Osci had the same amount of points and Osci being a 'gentleman' said only, "Ladies first" and settled with the salami. Hans who donated the Sauerkraut as third prize won it himself, lucky wasn't he ... but he also being a 'gentleman' passed on his prize to number four who was ... nobody else than Hilda his wife!! Bon appetite you two.

Hans forgot to bring a Sauschwanzli for the happy loser who was ... our Vreni from Helensville.

The evening finished with the video news programme 'Swiss World' which we sometimes receive from the Embassy.

For all the time and effort put in these evenings we would like to pass on two big thanks. One to Hans Iten, the organiser and one to Osci Roggen, the Wirt from the very hospitable 'Gasthof Prost Ethnic'.

And to you folks, thanks for coming and hope to see you all again at next year's Jassen.

NEW RIFLEMASTER

After this long wait and nearly tossing away the future existense of our Kaukapakapa Shooting Range, a man came forward to manage and reorganise our shooting section and look after the restoration of the Range too. May we introduce to you ... Roy Spillmann.

COMING DATES

November 15, 6.30 pm: 700 Year Anniversary at the Alexandra Park Raceway.

November 23: Slide Show Journey through East Germany with the German Club.

November 30, 8.00 am: Working Bee 'stage one' Swiss Farm, Kaukapakapa.

December 1, 8.00 am: Working Bee 'stage two' Swiss Farm, Kaukapakapa.

December 8, 10.00 am: Samichlaus Picnic, Swiss Farm, Kaukapakapa.

December 31, 7.30 pm: Silvester Party with the German Club at Parnell Reception Lounge.

February 9, 10.00 am: Club Picnic, Swiss Farm, Kaukapakapa.

FUN SHOOTING AND HOCHULI CUP

Regardless of the few rain drops, the Fun Shooting Day was a successful Sunday to start the daylight saving time with more than 40 people and many young members at Aschi and Martha's place. Unlike last year there were only a few folks who forgot to change the clocks the day before and turned up a little later than they thought. Thirty people tried their luck and joined in the Fun Shooting and the Hochuli Cup competition. The lucky prize winners were:

Hochuli Cup: Louis Wallimann 47 points; Marie-Theres Melville-Schopfer 46 points; Edi Brandli 45 points. The lucky loser this time was a winner too. Rather than the Sauschwanzli, Edith Hess received a bunch of flowers for not damaging the target. In return for flowers too, Yvonne Buhler sadly handed over the Cup she won last year to Louis.

Fun Shooting: Edi Brandli 32 points; Heinz Matysik 25 points; Roland Gisiger 25 points; Hans Wolf 23 points; Ursula Rotach 23 points; Chris Hochuli 21 points; Syd Melville 21 points; Yvonne Bolliger 20 points. The day went on with a party-like atmosphere till dark. A big thanks to Ernst and Martha for letting us use their place.

VISITOR FROM WELLINGTON

Shortly before the announced 700 Years of Switzerland Celebrations by the Swiss Communities in New Zealand, the Swiss Embassy sent Mr P. Graf on an official visit to the Auckland Swiss Club to answer all these precious questions and queries regarding, AHV, Military, Swiss Nationality, etc. etc. There was a full house and most inquiries were about the AHV.

Below a few interesting details:

— Mr Graf said that for a full pension a man needed to pay premium for 44 years and a woman for 41 years. For every year lost the pension will be reduced by 2.2% and he also said that what's not paid is lost.

— The AHV Premium is 9% of the gross income if the income is SFr. 36,000 or more. The premium will go down as far as 4.8% for incomes less than above.

— The premium is normally based on the gross income but if one does not work and still wants to remain insured the premium depends on the existing assets. According to Mr Graf, the average premium payments vary but are roughly between 400.- to 700.-Franken per year.

— If returned to CH broke or earning less than SFr 20,000.- a year apparently one will get an extraordinary pension, (900.-/single, 1300.- double).

— The Swiss Embassy no longer handles payments from and to Swiss living abroad. One has to deal direct with the AHV Head Office in Geneva.

— out of 4500 Swiss people in New Zealand, 250 pay towards AHV and 200 receive AHV.

— The Swiss Embassy will never pass on information regarding AHV money etc, to anyone.

A few other questions re. the other topics were shot at P. Graf before the meeting got heated up by a discussion about our 700 Year Celebration and the Embassy's unexpected interference. Mr Graf, who appeared to be taken by surprise had to play a lot of his diplomatic cards. He was given a pretty firm message to take back to Wellington by the attending people. But anyway, the committee and many members would like to extend their thanks to P. Graf for his good job and are looking forward to his next (?) appearance in Auckland.

HAMILTON CLUB

JASSEN RESULTS

Fourth Card evening at Eureka - 46 Jasser: 1. Walter Zuber 4358; 2. Wally Unternahrer 4220; 3. Uli Elmiger 4141; 4. Joe Staheli 4069; 5. Bruno Arnold 4063; 6. Bert Fluhler 4047; 7. Werner Fassler 4006.

Fifth Card evening at Tirau - 48 Jasser: 1. Bert Schicker 4226; 2. Erika Bolli 4182; 3. Margaret Poppe 4119; 4. Serry Odermatt 4092; 5. Richard Wehrle 4042; 6. Bruno Arnold 4032; 7. Teres Kennel 4021; Wally Unternahrer 3976; 9. Herbert Staheli 3971.

Sixth Card evening at Eureka - 40 Jasser: 1. Adolf Risi 4192; 2. Emil Bosch 4179; 3. Fritz Haesli 4133; 4. Loui Steiner 4114; 5. Graeme Hayward 4090; 6. Roland Rufer 4088.

Final Card evening results over six nights: 1. Wally Unternahrer 20263; 2. Uli Elmiger 19984; 3. Roland Rufer 19847; 4. Teres Kennel 19814; 5. Richard Wehrle 19808; 6. Erika Bolli 19612; 7. Margaret Poppe 19566; 8. Josef Kennel 19544.

TARANAKI

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

December 7: Children's Christmas Party. Arrival of Father Christmas at 1.15 pm.

December 31: New Year's Eve Social. All welcome. Members and friends cover charge \$5.00 and a plate please. Swiss style tombola.

February 9: Annual Picnic Day at the club grounds from 10.30 am.

OBITUARIES

TED MEYER

Ted Meyer passed away on April 24 in his 87th year. He left Switzerland in 1922 for Australia where he stayed two years before coming to New Zealand where he was dairy farming all his life in the Okaiawa District. In 1933 he married Phylis Burkhart and the marriage was blessed with 12 children. Ted was a very home loving man and a very good worker. The Manaia Catholic Church was packed for his Requiem Mass.

To his wife Phylis and her family we offer our sincere sympathy.

JOE HIESTAND

Joe Hiestand of Oeo Road, Awatuna, passed away recently, less than two months after his wife Mary. He came to New Zealand with his father when he was nine years old in 1939. He married Mary Kuriger and the marriage was blessed with ten children. Joe's life interest was farming, an occupation which he carried through until six months before he died. He was always very interested in the Taranaki Swiss Club's functions.

To his family we offer our sympathy.

L.K.

WELLINGTON CLUB

SERATA TICINESE

Approximately 56 members and friends gathered around the warm fire on September 14 before they were seated to enjoy this traditional Risoto from the Italian part of Switzerland.

Our President Roland Schuetz introduced the evening by welcoming all the members and friends.

He also explained what this evening was all about, with help from Lina Sutherland and one of our guests from that part of Switzerland who were able to surprise us with a few Italian expressions and remarks.

We would like to extend our appreciation to the members of the Taranaki Club who joined us and as always they entertained us during the evening with plenty of music and laughter. There was also plenty of dancing and everyone seemed to have enjoyed themselves.

Our special thanks to Susan Ruffer and to our own Wellington Club choir for their fine and wonderful singing. We are proud to say that our choir has improved a lot over the months. You have all become professionals shall we say ... Keep it up.

Thanks to Monica Sorrenson for the tasty Cassata she prepared for dessert ... It was so nice that we would like to put in our order for the recipe.

I am sure you will all agree that it was one of the best Cassata we have tasted.

We would like to thank all those who have helped us out during the night with serving and also with the dishes.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

December 1: Christmas Party.

December 9: Children's Christmas Party.

February 3: Society Competition, Shooting.

PENFRIEND WANTED

I received a request from Switzerland for a penfriend. The lady writes as follows:
I am a young woman of 27 years, secretary, interested in languages, travel, sports, reading and outgoings.

I would be happy if you could give my letter to one of the people you know (young or elderly), who would also like to write and exchange ideas.

FRANCOISE DONZE.

Anybody interested to correspond with this lady please write direct to:

Francoise Donze,
Ch. du Vieux-College 13
1008 Prilly
SWITZERLAND.