



# Switzerland



## NEWSLETTER OF THE SWISS-AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

### President's Message

Greetings everyone! I hope you are enjoying your summer. It is hard to believe that it is already time for the Swiss Nationality Day Picnic, which will actually be on August 1 this year! Please use the form on the last page of this newsletter to get your reservations in!

Also, we need your help to make the Nationality Day Picnic a success. There are several volunteer opportunities available. If you are willing to help, please go to <http://sasp.volunteer.com/picnic2015> to sign up for any open slots. Please contact me if you need help with the sign up --- you can contact me at [lynbeth@msn.com](mailto:lynbeth@msn.com) or 412-480-1660.

Hopp Schwiiz!  
Lyndall Huggler

### Pittsburgh Folk Festival

Jhon Smith mans the Swiss booth and demonstrates weaving at the Pittsburgh Folk Festival at the Monroeville Convention Center in May. This year's theme was "Rivers, Lakes, and Streams". The Swiss display included information on the retreat of glaciers as a result of climate change, milestones in the development of the Swiss watch and clock industry, and how to make fondue.



## Schweizer Männerchor Helvetia News

Schweizer Männerchor Helvetia of Allegheny City travelled to "Swissconsin" in June for the 41<sup>st</sup> Saengerfest of the North American Swiss Singing Alliance (NASSA). The Saengerfest took place June 18-21 in New Glarus, Wisconsin. Schweizer Männerchor Helvetia brought home a bronze medal for its performance of "Der Wein Efreut des Menschen Herz", and is looking forward to the next Saengerfest in Toledo in 2018.



*The assembled choirs from Canada and the United States for the Grand Concert at the 41<sup>st</sup> NASSA Saengerfest in New Glarus, Wisconsin.*

### **Call for Officers!**

We have a constant need for member involvement in our organization, and are currently looking to put together a slate of directors and officers for 2016. Any and all help is greatly appreciated. Please contact Lyndall Huggler if you would be interested in serving on the nominating committee or on the SASP board in 2016. Thank you!

## Lebendige Traditionen / Tradition vivantes / Tradizioni viventi / Tradiziuns vivas

### Innerrhoden Cantonal Assembly (Innerrhoder Landsgemeinde)

On the last Sunday in April, the electorate of Innerrhoden gathers to hold the Landsgemeinde, or Cantonal Assembly. A special church service takes place in the morning in which the members of the cantonal government, members of the cantonal court of justice and their guests of honor take part. At exactly 12 pm the cantonal government, cantonal court and their guests of honor start their procession from the town hall to the square in which the assembly is held. They are led by the Harmonie Appenzell band playing a slow march, and the uniforms and flags of the Rhodes cadets and the Junkers of the seven Rhodes of the canton bestow a grand and colorful charm on the event. Those in office wear their official black cloaks, with the men among them carrying weapons at their sides (swords or rapiers) and wearing hats. When the ringing bell in the nearby church tower falls silent, the current Governing Chairman ("Landammann") opens the assembly with an address. Two Governing Chairmen are then elected, after which the Chairman and the electorate take the assembly oath in a formal ceremony. Members of the cantonal government and the cantonal court are elected or re-elected, and then the assembly proceeds to the voting on the business of the day (constitutional, legal and financial motions). Members of the electorate have the right to speak for or against the proposals. The assembly closes with an official procession back to the town hall.



Appenzell Cantonal Assembly. ©Marc Hutter / Kanton Appenzell Innerrhoden, 2012

For more information on the Living Traditions in Switzerland, go to [www.lebendige-traditionen.ch](http://www.lebendige-traditionen.ch)

## Swiss Nationality Room Committee Report

Vice-President Frederick H. Carlson reporting.

The Swiss Nationality Room Committee (SNRC) grew from 9 to 17 members following an outreach to the Swiss-American Society of Pittsburgh membership at the end of 2014. Joining our Swiss Room Committee are the following new members: Robert Domenick, Annemarie Frick, Beatrice Hook, Rudolf Keller, Sylvia Emmenegger McCoy, Owen Meier, Franziska Rudolf, and Jim Shock. They join our former SNRC members all staying on: Dr. Heinz Kunz, Fred & Nancy Flury Carlson, Walter Schaller, Philip and Edith Bottonari, Jhon Smith, Lyndall Huggler, and Evelyn Ruffing.

Our new annual dues structure for SNRC membership is: \$15 individuals, \$25 family, and students free. We welcome inquiries from any serious candidates from the S-ASP or the greater Swiss community at any time! Welcome to the new members!

An Officer's Election was held by the expanded membership in February. The SNRC Officer Slate was elected unanimously: Dr. Heinz W. Kunz, Chairman/President; Fred Carlson, Vice-Chairman/VP; Lyndall Huggler, Secretary; Walter Schaller, Treasurer. Officers are in place until January 2017.

Following the new University of Pittsburgh rules, new Model By-Laws previously approved by the SNRC were signed off on by Secretary Lyndall Huggler. Chairman Dr. Kunz signed off on the new Charter Agreement. Jhon Smith and Robert Domenick represented the Swiss Room at the NRIEP Nationality Council meeting Thursday March 12.

Our 2014 year-end fundraising outreach supporting the Swiss Endowment to our Swiss Room donor base yielded \$9,096. The drive was enormously helped with an additional \$10,000 received from Mr. Samuel Isaly in mid-December. With this increase of over \$19,000, our Swiss Room Endowment Fund total has increased to \$49,200 in the last few months. We are quite literally on the doorstep to our \$50,000 Swiss Room Scholarship Endowment goal. Thanks to Sam Isaly and all our year-end donors!

The SNRC had a wonderful Holiday Decorating season led by Nancy Flury Carlson including new Swiss Christmas tree decorations created by Evelyn Ruffing. Our new tree looked great!

Swiss Room woodworker Richard Sink, Mountaineer Wood Industries, French Creek, WV, donated another Swiss *stabellen* (chair made of oak like the chairs in the Swiss Room) to the SNRC and S-ASP for auction at the Christmas luncheon. Beatrice Hook won the chair with a winning bid of \$435 with all monies going to the Endowment Fund. Thanks to Richard Sink and family for getting this beautiful item in our hands for this generous cause!

The SNRC welcomes any future ideas for hosting events of Swiss cultural content at the University of Pittsburgh. The invitation to use facilities like Posvar Hall, the Swiss Room 321, the Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, and CL 1228 on the 12<sup>th</sup> floor of the Cathedral of Learning is extended to us from the University as we have taken our place fully as a Swiss community within the Nationality Rooms and Intercultural Exchange Program, and as such, we are encouraged to plan and produce S-ASP and SNRC events in this wide range of facilities. Please bring your ideas for future events to our team!

Albert Gallatin was a Swiss immigrant who rose to prominence in American politics. He served in the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives; as Secretary of U.S. Treasury under Presidents Jefferson and Madison; on the Peace Commission which negotiated the end to the War of 1812; and later as Minister to France and Great Britain.

Today, he is interpreted by Ron Duquette. Mr. Duquette is a retired United States Army officer with an abiding interest in our nation's history.



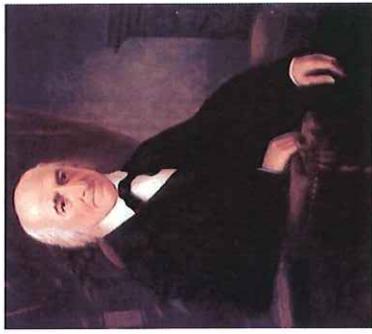
Ron Duquette as  
Albert Gallatin

Friendship Hill was Albert Gallatin's estate in Southwestern Pennsylvania. Situated high on a bluff over the Monongahela River, Friendship Hill is the residence Gallatin built so as to "live and die amongst the Monongahela Hills."

## *Schedule of events at Friendship Hill the 25th of July 2015*

*Times:* Morning: 10:30 am to Noon  
Afternoon: 1:30 pm to 3 pm

*Welcome Home Mr. Gallatin:* Mr. Gallatin is delighted to finally be home from Ghent and other European ports. He cordially invites friends and neighbors, and their families, to join him on his porch for genial conversation about his activities in Europe, the reconstruction of the Federal City, and other news that has filtered out to Western Pennsylvania. It is also a pleasure to spend a leisurely Saturday simply visiting with folks. Mr. Gallatin has requested some lemonade and light refreshments for visitors since late July even in the Monongahela Hills, can be rather warm.



*Albert Gallatin in Later Years*

There is no charge for this event. If you would like to attend please RSVP to the National Park Service, Friendship Hill National Historic Site, by calling 724-329-2501.

You are encouraged to bring a lunch with you to the event. Light refreshments will be provided courtesy of the Friendship Hill Association.

Please come out and enjoy this stimulating day of historical discussion and interpretation. This is also an opportunity to support your National Parks.



*The Monongahela River and Hills  
near Point Marion, Pennsylvania*



National Park Service  
Friendship Hill National Historic Site  
223 New Geneva Road  
Point Marion, PA 15474  
724-329-2501

**SWISS-AMERICAN SOCIETY of PITTSBURGH  
FINANCIAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 12-31-14**

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Cash Balance</u>
Operating Fund Cash 12-31-13			\$7,831.13
Annual Dues	\$525.00		
Newsletters		\$282.90	
Univ. of Pitt – Swiss Scholarship Fund	230.00	230.00	
Germanic Alliance parade ad		50.00	
Bank promotion	187.00		
Administrative expenses & bank checks		43.10	
Events:			
Teutonia – April	970.00	611.07	
Tombola to Swiss Room Scholarship	160.00	160.00	
Picnic – August	939.00	1,413.37	
Tombola to Swiss Room Scholarship	342.00	342.00	
Pro Patria Pins	185.00	200.00	
Christmas luncheon – December	969.00	1,151.07	
Tombola to Swiss Room Scholarship	280.00	280.00	
Kinderchor luncheon December 2013		113.32	
Pittsburgh Folk Fest – May		82.00	
Totals	\$4,787.00	\$4,958.83	
Year 2014 Excess of Expenses over Income			<u>-\$171.83</u>
Operating Fund Cash 12-31-14			\$7,659.30
Pestalozzi Fund Cash 12-31-13			\$3,005.00
Received with Picnic Reservations – 2014			<u>53.00</u>
Pestalozzi Fund Cash 12-31-14			\$3,058.00
Total Cash at 12-31-14			\$10,717.30

# SWISS-AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH SWISS NATIONALITY DAY PICNIC

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 2015  
at the Richland Park Barn in Bakerstown  
2:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

<u>Schedule of Events</u>	<u>Price</u>
2:00 p.m. Social Gathering	\$20.00 – Age 13 & over
3:00 p.m. Games & Activities	\$10.00 – Picnic Only (without Buffet)
4:00 p.m. Schweizer Maennerchor Performance	FREE – Children 12 & Under
4:30 p.m. Buffet Luncheon (grilled wurst & sides)	
6:00 p.m. Tombola	

## Things to Bring!

- Tombola Donations to benefit the Swiss Nationality Room Scholarship Fund
- Food to Share (not required, but we are grateful to the Buffet Luncheon participants who also bring a salad, side dish or dessert to share!)

**Directions – Route 8 to Red Belt / Bakerstown, proceed North on Heckert Road at the stop sign, then turn right at Van Velsor Drive into the Richland Township Park**

**PLEASE MAIL THE BELOW REGISTRATION FORM, BY JULY 25, WITH YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO THE SWISS-AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH, to:**

Lyndall Huggler  
908 Fairview Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15238-1730

## SASP SWISS NATIONALITY DAY PICNIC REGISTRATION FORM

Names: \_\_\_\_\_ Price (\$20 Buffet / \$10 Picnic / 12 & Under Free)

Total Enclosed: \$