



Switzerland



NEWSLETTER OF THE SWISS-AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

Volume 25, No. 2

Summer 2016

Greetings everyone! Hope you are all doing well and having a fun Summer. It is hard to believe that it is already time for the **Swiss Nationality Day Picnic, Saturday, August 6**, at the Richland Township Community Park Barn. Please make plans to attend, and respond by sending in your registration form, which is included at the end of this newsletter.

The Spring Fondue Party was held on April 10 at Teutonia Männerchor and was heartily enjoyed by 32 guests. The Tombola raised \$175 for the Swiss Nationality Room Scholarship Fund.

Hopp Schwiiz!
Lyndall Huggler

Coming Events – Save the Date!

August 6	Swiss Nationality Day Picnic @ Richland Park Barn
September 3-4	Pittsburgh Folk Festival @ Schenley Plaza, Oakland
September 10	Alliance of Germanic Societies Luncheon @ Teutonia Männerchor
December 3	SASP Christmas Luncheon @ Teutonia Männerchor
December 4	Nationality Rooms Holiday Open House @ Cathedral of Learning

Alliance of Germanic Societies Luncheon – September 10, 2016

The Swiss-American Society of Pittsburgh is a member organization of The Alliance of Germanic Societies of Pittsburgh. The Alliance will be holding its Annual Recognition Luncheon at 12:00 noon on Saturday, September 10, at Teutonia Männerchor. This year's honorees are E. Maxine Bruhns, Director of the Nationality Rooms and Intercultural Exchange Programs at the University of Pittsburgh, and the late Elmer Menhart. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$9 for children 12 and under. Tickets will be available for purchase at the Picnic, or may be obtained by contacting Lyndall Huggler or Koni Ostertag.

*Do you have a need to listen to Swiss Folk Music? Then tune in to Radio Tell –
Heimatklang der Schweiz --- www.radiotell.ch*

Swiss Nationality Room Committee (SNRC) Report

-Frederick H. Carlson, Vice-Chairman SNRC editing/reporting. Content includes contributions from Heinz W. Kunz (chairman SNRC), Philip Bottonari (Fundraising Chair of the Swiss Committee), and Lyndall Huggler (SNRC secretary and current President of the Swiss-American Society of Pittsburgh).

The SNRC held their annual meeting on Saturday, April 23 in the Swiss Room (321). Our Swiss Room committee now stands at 18 members.

The meeting was opened at 9:30 by the Chair, Dr. Heinz Kunz. A roll call was taken, and it was determined that a quorum was present. Members attending were: Dr. Heinz Kunz (President), Fred Carlson (Vice President), Nancy Carlson, Walter Schaller (Treasurer), Lyndall Huggler (Secretary), Phillip Bottonari, Annemarie Frick, Rudolf Keller, Owen Meier, Evelyn Ruffing, Arthur Erbe, Beatrice Hook, and Jim Shock. Also attending were David Downey (NRIEP Staff) and Albert Flury.

David Downey from the NRIEP staff provided input on the scholarship process and planning for cultural events. Dr. Kunz also reviewed the March 10 NRIEP Council meeting.

The first topic of the meeting was a discussion of the Swiss Room Scholarship. No applications were received for the Spring 2016 scholarship award. It was agreed that the SNRC should prepare a brochure about the scholarship. Phillip Bottonari and Fred Carlson have since collaborated on the preparation of the brochure. ***(Please see brochure in this newsletter)***. Cristina Langnese is also helping promote the Swiss scholarship to the German, French, and Italian language student communities.

David Downey also reviewed procedures and planning for cultural events that room committees may wish to present at the University. We have a few ideas.

Beatrice Hook discussed her ideas for a presentation on multilingualism in Switzerland. This event could be presented at the Swiss Room with catering in the hallway easily prepared outside the room in the niche around the corner. Evelyn Ruffing passed around the film that she thought would make for a good event --- The Shepherds Journey (*Eine Hirtenreise*). David Downey suggested the Frick Fine Arts auditorium for this event --- it seats up to 125 persons. Good films can attract a wider audience.

Beatrice and Evelyn will meet to further discuss event planning, and Beatrice has presented her Powerpoint to Maxine by email.

Fred Carlson has noted that this past April 22 marked the fourth anniversary of the dedication of the Swiss Nationality Room.

Fred Carlson made a motion to move \$5,000.00 from the agency account to the endowment account. Dr. Heinz Kunz, seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Owen Meier made a motion to have a portrait of Albert Gallatin made for the display case for a special feature section on this important Swiss. Nancy Carlson seconded the motion, and the motion passed. Fred Carlson will make the portrait, which will be similar to the portraits of Rousseau and Pestalozzi hanging on the back wall.

The Swiss are gathering holiday decorations from other cantonal traditions beyond what we currently have. Fred and Nancy Carlson will be on the decorating team, and others are welcome

to join them. We urge all members of the Swiss-American Society of Pittsburgh community to bring forward ethnic decorations from all around the 26 cantons!

Installation of the antique door handle and new lockset on the Swiss Room door has been completed by the Pitt carpenters.

Our noted woodworker, Richard Sink, who suffered a mild stroke in December, is continuing to do well. He attended a May 10 Facilities Management Review of all physical plant issues related to the Nationality Rooms. Regarding the Swiss Room, this included decisions on chair repairs and dryness affecting the ceiling molding pieces. The meeting was reported to have addressed all the issues successfully.

The Swiss National Celebration Day picnic will be held August 6 at the scenic Richland Barn site in Bakerstown, PA, beginning at 2pm. This year's picnic celebrates the 725th anniversary of self-governing independence for the Swiss nation as a democracy not governed by kings or other sovereign hereditary royals.

[We also grateful to report that Richard Sink informs us that the recent flooding in West Virginia has spared little Helvetia. Richard said he has seen the creeks near him higher only once in the past 30 years that he has lived in French Creek.]

S-ASP Treasurer's Report:

We are correcting the information printed in the last newsletter (the Operating Fund Cash actually includes the Pestalozzi Fund Cash sub-category).

Operating Fund Cash 12-31-14	\$ 10,717.30
2015 Income	\$ 3,521.00
2015 Expenses	\$ 2,495.74
Operating Fund Cash 12-31-15	\$ 11,742.56 (including Pestalozzi Fund)
Pestalozzi Fund Cash 12-31-15	\$ 3,058.00

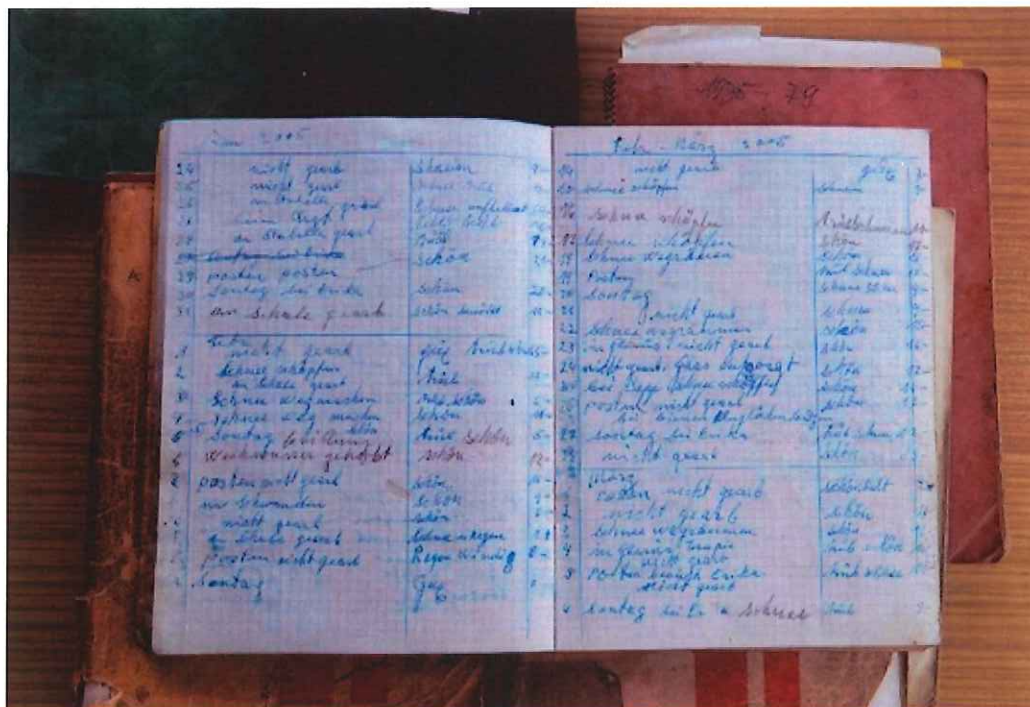
Call for Officers!

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 2017. 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 2017. Thank you!

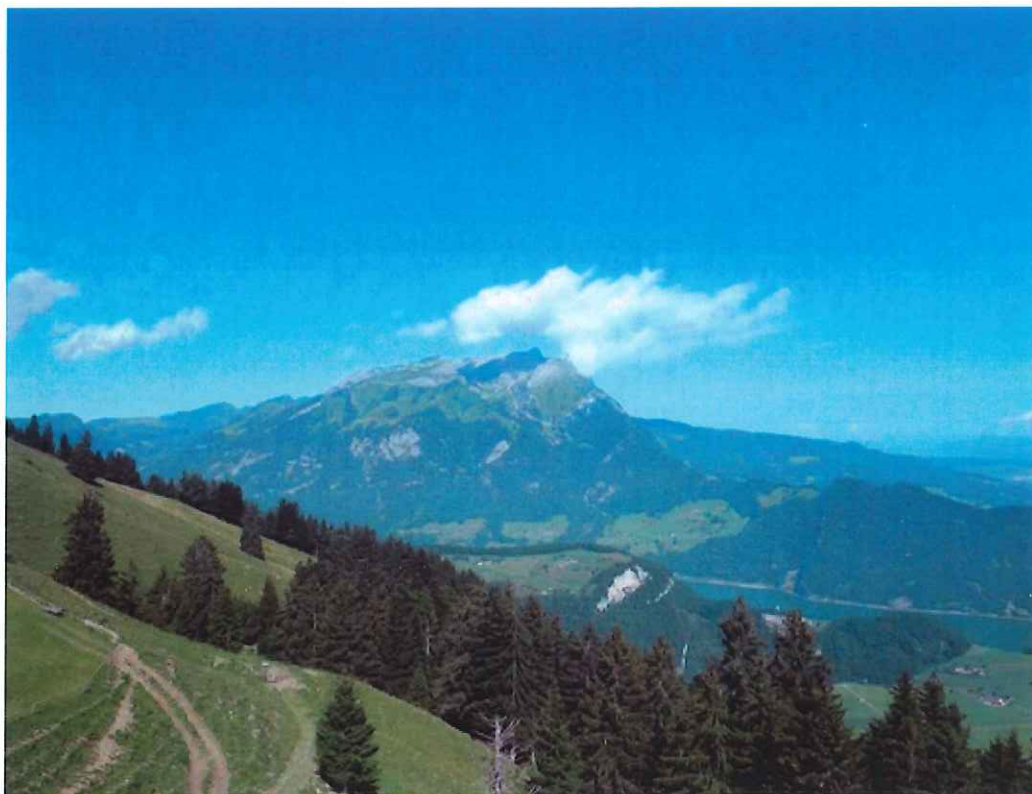
Lebendige Traditionen / Tradition vivantes / Tradizioni viventi / Tradiziuns vivas

Wetter- und Klimawissen / Le temps qu'il fait / Conoscenze climatiche e meteorologiche
Savida da l'aura e dal clima / Knowledge of the Weather and Climate

In the age of scientific weather forecasts and climate analysis, traditional farmers' proverbs have become part of folklore. Nevertheless, hardly a week goes by in which some television channel, radio station or newspaper does not quote an ancient proverb on the supposed laws governing the weather. These pearls of wisdom do of course stem from traditional knowledge and experience, but can equally be understood as literary forms of expression significantly influenced by the zeitgeist of the Romantic period. In addition to the conventional stylization of the farmers' meteorological knowledge, the practice of interpreting the weather was always popular. It arose out of the essential need to calculate and plan agricultural processes and was usually limited (literally) to the local horizons. It was written down mainly in almanacs, although this information was not always unfiltered. To this day, many residents of the Central Swiss countryside still make their own weather observations and forecasts, despite the ubiquity of weather forecasts in the media and the effectiveness of professional weather services. These forecasts are based on the environment they are familiar with, its flora, fauna and natural phenomena – red sky in the morning and evening, clouds, animal behavior and their own sensitivity to changes in the weather are all important indicators. Many also keep a weather log book close at hand so that they can update it regularly with the latest meteorological data.



A handwritten "weather book" of the kind frequently found in Central Swiss households. © Christof Hirtler, Altdorf



"Hat der Pilatus einen Hut, so bleibt das Wetter gut; trägt er einen Degen, gibt es sicher Regen." Pilatus mit Hut © Marius Risi, Engelberg

For more information on the Living Traditions in Switzerland, go to www.lebendige-traditionen.ch

Swiss-American Society of Pittsburgh Officers and Directors:

President	Lyndall Huggler	(412) 480-1660	lynbeth@msn.com
Vice President	Annemarie Frick	(412) 761-1388	africkpit@aol.com
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Recording Secy.	Jhon Smith	(412) 521-2584	jhsst7@gmail.com
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Corresponding Secy.	(vacant)		
Director (2016)	Robert Domenick	(412) 554-8175	rpdomenick5@cs.com
Director (2016)	Koni Ostertag	(724) 898-3029	caeasterday@consolidated.net
Director (2017)	Sylvia Emmenegger-McCoy	(412) 901-7150	sylviaem@hotmail.com
Director (2017)	Jim Shock	(724) 941-6316	jrshock@icloud.com



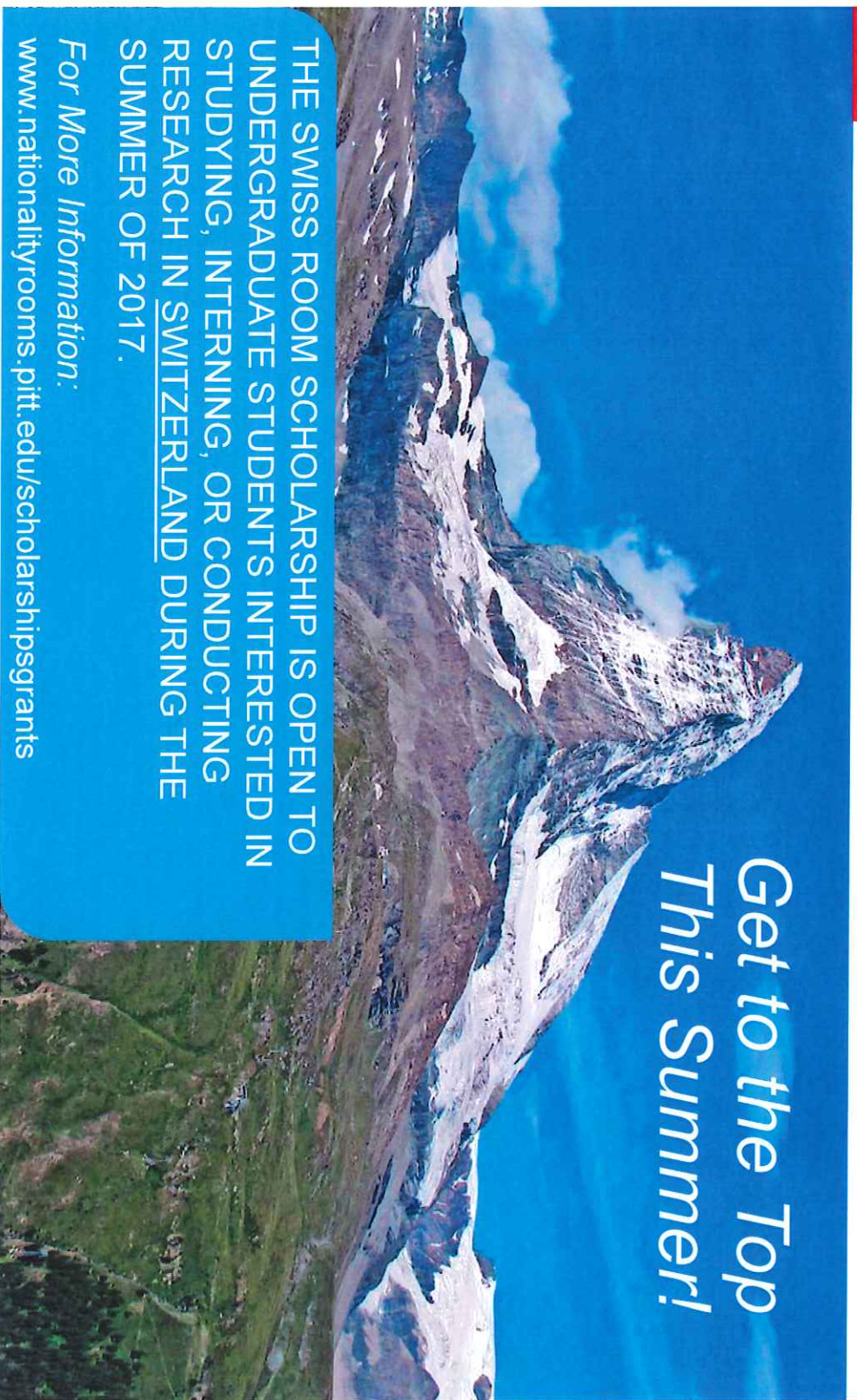
Swiss Nationality Room Scholarship

*Get to the Top
This Summer!*

THE SWISS ROOM SCHOLARSHIP IS OPEN TO UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS INTERESTED IN STUDYING, INTERNING, OR CONDUCTING RESEARCH IN SWITZERLAND DURING THE SUMMER OF 2017.

For More Information:

www.nationalityrooms.pitt.edu/scholarshipsgrants



SWISS-AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH
SWISS NATIONALITY DAY PICNIC REGISTRATION FORM

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 2016
at the Richland Park Barn in Bakerstown
2:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Schedule of Events

2:00 p.m. Social Gathering
3:00 p.m. Games & Activities
4:30 p.m. Buffet Luncheon
6:00 p.m. Tombola

Price

\$20.00 – Age 13 & over
\$10.00 – Picnic Only (without Buffet)
FREE – Children 12 & Under

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 RETURN THE BELOW REGISTRATION FORM, BY JULY 30, WITH YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO THE SWISS-AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH, to:

Lyndall Huggler
908 Fairview Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15238

If you would like to order extra packages of the Bratwurst for your personal use, please include \$15.00 for each package of four --- these are made with pork and veal by Continental Sausage of Denver, Colorado, from an old Swiss family recipe --- for pick up at the Picnic only!

SASP SWISS NATIONALITY DAY PICNIC REGISTRATION FORM

Names:

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

1. _____ \$ _____

2. _____ \$ _____

3. _____ \$ _____

4. _____ \$ _____

Bratwurst Packages (____ x \$15.00 / package) \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

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