

SWISS IN PITTSBURGH

Newsletter of the Swiss-American Society of Pittsburgh

Volume 28, No. 2

Fall 2019

Greetings everyone! Hope you are all doing well as we head into the final weeks of 2019. We look forward to seeing many of you at the **Christmas Luncheon on Saturday, December 7**, at the Teutonia Männerchor in Pittsburgh. The Christmas Luncheon also serves as our annual general meeting and election of officers for 2019. Please make plans to attend, and respond by sending in your registration form, which is included at the end of this newsletter.

The **Nationality Rooms Holiday Open House** at the University of Pittsburgh Cathedral of Learning will take place on **Sunday, December 8**. The Schweizer Männerchor Helvetia (Swiss Singers) will be performing at 2:00 and at 3:00, and we will again be serving fondue and chocolate at the Open House this year. We really need our members to participate (in folk wear if possible) and preferably bring homemade traditional Swiss baked goods or foods to sell at the event. Please contact Walter Schaller (wschaller2@gmail.com / 412-298-0520) for more information, and to advise if you are able to participate.

Notice of Annual Meeting of General Assembly

The 2019 annual meeting of the General Assembly of the Swiss-American Society of Pittsburgh will be held in conjunction with the Christmas Luncheon at Teutonia on December 7, 2019. The General Assembly will elect directors and officers for 2020.

Call for Volunteers - SASP Board Officers and Directors

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 2020. Any and all help is greatly appreciated. Please contact Lyndall Hugller (lynbeth@msn.com or 412-480-1660) if you would be interested in serving on the SASP board in 2020. Thank you!

Coming Events – Save the Date!

| | |
|----------------|--|
| December 7 | SASP Christmas Luncheon @ Teutonia Männerchor (11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.) |
| December 8 | Nationality Rooms Holiday Open House (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.) @ University of Pittsburgh Cathedral of Learning |
| December 15 | Sami Klaus Party @ Teutonia Männerchor (11:00 a.m.) |
| March 1, 2020 | Fasnacht Party @ Hofbrauhaus – details to come! |
| August 1, 2020 | Swiss National Day Picnic @ North Park Fire Barn |

Lebendige Traditionen / Tradition vivantes / Tradizioni viventi / Tradiziuns vivas

Sechseläuten

On the third Monday in April, the guilds of Zurich don their historical costumes and wear them proudly in a procession through the town. They assemble at the Sechseläuteplatz square at Bellevue where, at six o'clock, the "Böögg" is lit. Representing winter, the "Böögg" is a snowman figure made of wood and material and packed with explosives. It sits on a burning pyre encircled by galloping horses while the air is filled with the sound of the Sechseläuten march. The quicker the Böögg loses its head, the quicker the end of winter will come. Later in the evening the members of the guilds and their guests enjoy a meal in the guild houses before visiting neighboring guilds.

Sechseläuten is closely related to the guilds, which were established in the 14th century. In the 19th century the guilds lost their political power, but they continued as private associations. An early procession, albeit with a carnival feel, took place in 1837. The children's procession, which now takes place on the Sunday before Sechseläuten, first took place in 1862. The Central Committee of Zurich Guilds has organized Sechseläuten and the burning of the Böögg since 1893, and today the event attracts tens of thousands of spectators. In recent years, the embers of the pyre have been used for unofficial barbecues.



The guilds in their procession down the Limmatquai. © Zentralkomitee der Zünfte Zürichs, 2010



The Böögg. © Zentralkomitee der Zünfte Zürichs, 2010



The Böögg on fire. © Zentralkomitee der Zünfte Zürichs, 2010 .

For more information on the Living Traditions in Switzerland, go to www.lebendigetraditionen.ch

2019 NATIONAL DAY PICNIC

We welcomed 62 guests to our Swiss National Day Picnic on July 27 at the Richland Park Barn. Once again we had perfect weather! Schweizer Männerchor Helvetia performed a popular program of Swiss folk songs and alphorn. Thanks to all who worked to make this event possible!



2019 Steinstossenkönigin Suzanne Maddamma and Steinstossenkönig Rick Carlson

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 |
| Treasurer | Beatrice Hook | (724) 627-3049 | beahook@gmail.com |
| Recording Secy. | Jhon Smith | (412) 521-2584 | jhsst7@gmail.com |
| Membership Secy. | Rick Engel | (724) 449-3281 | engel.richard@gmail.com |
| Corresponding Secy. | (vacant) | | |
| Director (2019) | Sylvia Emmenegger-McCoy | (412) 901-7150 | sylviaem@hotmail.com |
| Director (2019) | Jim Shock | (724) 941-6316 | jrshock@icloud.com |
| Director (2020) | Robert Domenick | (412) 554-8175 | rpdomenick5@cs.com |
| Director (2020) | Koni Ostertag | (724) 898-3029 | caeasterday@consolidated.net |

SWISS-AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON REGISTRATION FORM

Date: December 7, 2019

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Place: Teutonia Männerchor, 857 Phineas Street, Pittsburgh

Price: \$25.00 per person / \$10.00 Children 12 & Under

Chef Michael Twigg (formerly executive chef at the University Club) will be creating a special menu --- salad, entrée [choice of Beef Rouladen (Swiss German: Fleischvögel) or Lemon Chicken], two sides (spätzle and mixed vegetables), and dessert. Coffee/soft drinks included; alcoholic beverage available for separate purchase. Price includes sales tax and gratuity.

The Kinderchor will be singing Christmas carols for us at 11:30. After the luncheon, we will have our annual business meeting and a Tombola to raise current use funds for the Swiss Nationality Room Scholarship.

Please return the below form by **Tuesday, December 3**, with check payable to the “Swiss-American Society of Pittsburgh”, to:

Lyndall Huggler
908 Fairview Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15238

PLEASE BRING PRIZES FOR THE TOMBOLA!

SASP CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON REGISTRATION FORM

Name

Entrée (Beef or Chicken)

| | |
|----------|-------|
| 1. _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ |
| 4. _____ | _____ |
| 5. _____ | _____ |
| 6. _____ | _____ |
| 7. _____ | _____ |
| 8. _____ | _____ |

SWISS-AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH

2020 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Please remit your membership dues for 2020 with this notice! We look forward to another year of activities that will give us the chance to connect with our Swiss heritage and culture.

Please remit your **\$15.00*** dues payment (check payable to Swiss-American Society of Pittsburgh) by **January 31, 2020**, to:

Richard Engel
SASP Membership Secretary
5713 Wesleyann Drive
Gibsonia, PA 15044-9448

* You also have the option to become a Life Member upon payment of \$300.00 (which may be paid in four annual installments of \$75.00).

Also, please let us know if you can help with: Board of Directors / Auditors / Folk Festival / Swiss National Day Picnic / Christmas Luncheon / Events Helper / Publicity / Newsletter / Website / Swiss Singers / Swiss Nationality Room / Membership Recruitment / Anything Else That Floats Your Boat! Thanks!

Enclosed are my Swiss-American Society of Pittsburgh dues (\$15.00*) for calendar year 2020.
(*optional \$300.00 for a new life membership, which may be paid \$75.00/year for 4 years)

Name: _____

Additional Family Members at this

Address: _____

address or at college (name / age):

Phone(s): _____

e-mail: _____

I am willing to help the SASP in the following ways: _____
