



Switzerland



NEWSLETTER OF THE SWISS-AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

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Spring 2001

President's Report

by Frank Gloor

By now it is well known among the Swiss-American Society of Pittsburgh members that we are in the process of establishing a Swiss Nationality Classroom in the University of Pittsburgh's Cathedral of Learning. However, it is not known to most people outside of our club. This upcoming event is not only an attempt to raise money but can serve to spread the news of what we are trying to do. Make an effort to inform your acquaintances and bring your friends to an evening of fun and entertainment. The upcoming fund raising event is an important step in the Nationality Room project. I see it as my personal responsibility to express my feelings and thoughts.

When I began thinking about this fundraiser for the Swiss Nationality classroom, the first question I asked myself was, "Why should we contribute any of our hard-earned money to this endeavor?" My answer is the following train of thought. The second generation of Swiss is or will soon be the mainstream of our Swiss-American Society. As we move forward in time, our children become part of the melting pot that we call America and as they marry into other ethnic cultures, we become more diluted. We are at a time where if we do not act, this much-needed project may

lose its momentum. Therefore, if we are to preserve the Swiss influence for the present and our future descendants, we need to have a forum to show and tell the Swiss story. Switzerland must take its rightful place among the other ethnic groups that make up the nationality classroom complex and be recognized. I look forward that someday when our children's children may be sitting in our classroom, surrounded by Swiss culture, appreciating their roots.

Swiss Nationality Room News

A spring fund-raiser dinner/dance, "Swiss Night at the Teutonia," will be held at the Teutonia Club on Saturday, May 19th, 2001. Festivities will begin with Happy Hour at 5 p.m. followed by dinner being served at 6 p.m. So come one, come all for a pleasant evening of fun and camaraderie. See page two inside and the back page for more details.

Swissair Ticket Raffle

We will be raffling off two round trip tickets to Zurich generously donated by Swissair with the proceeds to benefit the Swiss Nationality room. The tickets may be used at any time with departure from any Swissair U.S. gateway city, including Boston, New York (JFK), Washington D.C. (Dulles), and Chicago. A maximum of 1000 tickets will be sold, so your

chances of winning are excellent. The drawing will be held after the dinner on May 19th, but the winner does not have to be present to win.

Tickets are \$10.00 each or six for \$50.00. We've included six tickets with this news letter. More may be obtained by calling Charles Buenzli at 724-935-6938 (leave a message with your address and the number of tickets needed, if no one answers) or send E-mail with the same information to cwb@sgi.net. Either bring the ticket stubs to the dinner or mail them by Monday, May 14, to:

Charles Buenzli
2571 Barnwood Drive
Wexford, PA 15090

If every member sells their allocation of six tickets, the raffle will be an outstanding success!

Swiss Night at the Teutonia

It should be emphasized that the fun and camaraderie of Swiss Night at the Teutonia is not only for the members of the Swiss-American Society, but should also be enjoyed by our friends. Bring along your friends and neighbors for a good time.

Swiss night will begin at five o'clock p.m. with Happy Hour and the start of the Chinese Auction.

What is a "Chinese Auction"? This is a selective raffle where you put a ticket into a container placed in front of a valuable Swiss product that you would like to win. The Chinese auction will run for three hours, from five until eight p.m., at which time the winning ticket will be drawn for each prize. If Lady Luck is

with you, you could walk away with something that is not only unusual but also useful. Most of these items were acquired from Robert's European Imports, New Glarus, Wisconsin, who graciously gave us a reduced price.

The dinner menu features Swiss cuisine and dinner will be served starting at six o'clock p.m. After dinner you will be entertained by the Helvetia Männerchor. Following the Swiss Singers, the drawing of the Chinese Auction will take place. At eight o'clock the Teutonia Hauskappelle will perform for your listening and dancing pleasure.

At half past nine the round trip ticket for two to Switzerland, courtesy of Swissair, will be drawn and the winner announced. The Hauskappelle will continue to play until eleven o'clock.

Treasurer's Report

by Walter Schaller

We have a balance of \$5,200.76 as of February 28, 2001. Income since December 31, 2000 was \$85.60 and expenses were \$101.48.

A Bit of Virtually Unknown Pittsburgh History

by Evelyn Baker Ruffing

Colonel Henry Louis Bouquet

Few people today are aware that the Swiss were responsible for the final settlement of southwestern Pennsylvania.

Up until 1750, this region was largely uninhabited. Thick dark forests covered the landscape and even the Indians rarely traversed the region, keeping their trails and camps along the rivers and streams.

In 1750 an Indian guide, Christopher Gist, came to this area. He finally settled in Fayette County. His arrival slowly led to a steady influx of settlers from eastern Pennsylvania and Virginia. The land, however, belonged to the Indians and the attempted settlements led to brutal conflicts.

In 1719, in Rolle (Canton Vaud), Switzerland, Henry Louis Bouquet was born. He was the oldest of seven brothers. In 1736 he entered the service of Holland: in 1748 he entered the Swiss Guards and in 1754 he accepted a command in the British Army and was sent to Pennsylvania to quell the Indian uprisings. He, along with Colonel Frederick Haldiman, also Swiss, and other Swiss and German settlers, commanded the Royal Americans, who were composed of four battalions of one thousand men each.

Bouquet arrived in America in 1754 and in 1758 he cut a road from Carlisle to Fort Duquesne. He distinguished himself under General Forbes and was one of his chief advisors. More readily than any foreign officer of his day, Bouquet learned the best methods of fighting the American Indians. Few, if any, soldiers in our history have equaled him in this method of warfare.

The officers and men of this Royal American regiment had been engaged in the rough and lonely service of the frontiers and forests and when the Indian war broke out it was chiefly they who held the detached outposts of the west. By the spring of 1763, the Americans had not gotten the upper hand with the Indians and the Indians besieged Fort Pitt, which was under the command of another Swiss, Captain Simeon Ecuyer, who was wounded in the conflict.

Ecuyer managed to get a message to Bouquet, who was at Fort Ligonier. Bouquet prepared to march to Fort Pitt on August 5th with a bedraggled and exhausted army. He was met by the Indians at Bushy Run (now Harrison City) and the most decisive battle in American history began. With amazing skill and bravery, Bouquet and his little army defeated the Indians, thereby clearing the way for the march of civilization to the west. Twenty-five days later Bouquet arrived and re-captured Fort Pitt. The rest is history.

In 1765 the King of England promoted Bouquet to the rank of Brigadier General and placed him in command of the southern colonies. While in this service, Bouquet contracted yellow fever and died at Pensacola, Florida on September 2, 1765. His grave is unmarked and unknown.

Postscript: The Royal Americans disbanded after the Battle of Bushy Run. Some continued, Haldiman included, to Florida with Bouquet. Some returned to Europe: many others remained to settle the area of the Ligonier Valley, where today one can recognize the names of the descendants of these remarkable men. Also today you can find Bouquet Street in the Oakland area of Pittsburgh crossing Forbes Avenue.

Obituary

Robert K. Brown passed away on Thursday, March 29, 2001, at the age 92. He was the husband of the late Anna R. Jacob Brown. Both were long time Golden age members of our Society. We offer our sincere sympathy to Robert's family and friends.

SVIZRA SUISSE SCHWEIZ SWIZZERA

Dear members of the Swiss community and friends of Switzerland:

Please join us at the Teutonia Club when the Swiss American Society present a fund raising dinner and other events benefiting the Swiss Nationality Classroom at the University of Pittsburgh, Cathedral of Learning.

Swiss Night at the Teutonia

SATURDAY, May 19, 2001

Teutonia Männerchor Club

857 Phineas Street

North Side, Pittsburgh, PA

412-231-9491

Parking at the rear of the building

Enjoy an evening of entertainment including:

- | | |
|-----------|--------------------------------|
| 5:00 p.m. | Happy hour (cash bar) |
| | Chinese Auction begins |
| 6:00 p.m. | Dinner |
| 7:30 p.m. | The <u>Helvetia</u> Männerchor |
| 8:00 p.m. | Chinese Auction drawing |
| | Hauskapelle Band |
| | Alphorn playing |
| | Alpine Bell Ringing |
| | Chinese Auction |
| 9:30 p.m. | Drawing for Swissair tickets |

TICKETS

Adults \$25.00 (per person)

Child \$12.00 (ages 7-15)

Registration: Send enclosed registration form and check payable to Swiss American Society of Pittsburgh by Saturday, May 12th to:

Charles Buenzli
2571 Barnwood Drive
Wexford., PA 15090

SWISS NIGHT DINNER MENU

Bundner Suppe-Grisons style Soup

Zweiblewahe-Swiss Onion Pie

Choice of one

1. Schweizer Schnitzel-Swiss Style Veal Steak

2. Ombre Chevalier a la Genevoise-Geneva Style Golden Trout

3. Geschnetzeltes Kalbfleisch nach Zurcher Art-Zurich Style Sliced Veal

Served with Rosti-Swiss Style Potatoes

Apfelstrudel-Apple Strudel

RESERVATIONS

Tickets Adults \$25.00 Child \$12.00

Select 1 of the 3 choices Veal Steak Golden Trout Sliced Veal Adult Child

Name _____ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Name _____ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Name _____ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Name _____ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Name _____ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Name _____ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Total Adults Attending _____ x \$25.00 \$ _____

Total Children Attending _____ x \$12.00 \$ _____

Grand Total \$ _____

Deadline to register May 12, 2001 Make check payable to Swiss American Society of Pittsburgh.

Mail to: Charles Buenzli

2571 Barnwood Drive

Wexford, PA 15090 (724 935 6938)