



# Switzerland



NEWSLETTER OF THE SWISS-AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

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## President's Report

by Frank Gloor

### Past, Present and Future

Four years ago when I answered Fred Carlson's query to be a nominee for the Swiss American Society of Pittsburgh board, I didn't realize that it would be such a personally rewarding experience. My main thought at the time was that being a member of any organization carries with it the responsibility and obligation to see that it does well, even if it just means coming to the activities. However by participating at a higher level you come in contact with and get to know and grow with a lot of wonderfully talented people.

Our SAS constitution states that the President's term is for two years. This was a wise decision by the writers for it keeps us thinking "outside the box" and coming up with fresh ideas. As we move from the past years and on to the future, the nature of our Swiss Club has changed. When the main wave of immigrants came to America they were drawn together for many reasons. They felt comfortable being with their fellow countrymen. There was a desire to preserve everything associated with the Swiss lifestyle. They wanted their children to marry into the same culture. Today, most of us at some point become

interested in our roots. We want to know more about ourselves, who we are and the area from which we came, etc. What better way is there then to associate with people from your parents' and grandparents' homeland? I believe that the future of our club lies in a study of the past and with knowledge of the present we can together move on to higher plateaus.

### Christmas Luncheon

The annual Pittsburgh Swiss Christmas Luncheon will be held at Wright's Seafood Inn, 1837 Washington Street, Heidelberg, PA. The time is noon on Saturday, December 8, 2001. The format will be lunch followed by a business meeting which will include the results of the 2002 SAS board member election. This year the three member nominating committee was made up of Bruce Kuenzi, Ernie Gubser and Roseann Habegger. After the business meeting a tombola will take place, so bring your gift for the tombola.

### Swiss Nationality Room News

by Fred Carlson/Co-Chairman of Swiss Nationality Room Committee

The Swiss Nationality Room Committee met on October 15 at the Braun Conference Room in the Cathedral of Learning at the University of Pittsburgh. The agenda was full and the meeting was

very productive. We had a look back on a year where the Swiss Room brochure has made an impact in our outreach and fund raising, and we looked forward to another level of corporate and endowment funding outreach led by a number of strategies and including new input from interested Swiss. Let me briefly recap the meeting and progress for our Swiss community, and thank one and all who have contributed in any way to our continued progress.

### **The Composition of the Committee**

We were heartened by the attendance at this meeting. The Committee currently includes Chairman Heinz W. Kunz, Ph.D., Honorary Consul of Switzerland, Co-chair Fred Carlson and Nancy Flury Carlson, Treasurer Walter Schaller, Catherine Hebert, Evelyn Ruffing, Pat Heer, and Edythe Bottonari. All members except Edythe were able to attend this meeting. Charles Buenzli, secretary of the Swiss-American Society of Pittsburgh, has made his enthusiasm for helping with fund raising strategies known to the Committee and we will be working through some of Charles' suggestions with his advice in 2002. We also had a guest, Swiss Albert Tannler, Executive Director of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, who made some good suggestions to the process of finding the right and most efficient architectural and interior design services. We thank members Alex Bally, Margrit Wyler, and Fran Hoffmann Reichel for their former service since they have moved away from the area.

### **The Room Design**

The room design has been described in the brochure in general ways. This meeting included discussion of various ways to acquire or make a kachelhofen. We

were introduced to the names of US-based craftsmen that could help in the woodworking, furniture building, and glass and tile crafting. The decision was made to carve the cantonal symbols on the back of the classroom chairs, since these symbols represent so much of the meaning of the local culture. The four original cantons could be represented in discrete ways in the leaded glass windows, which were to be kept simple as the 18th century style dictated. A map circa 1700 of the 13 cantons at the time will be installed in a wall case. Fred Carlson is working on a color room rendering to aid in fund raising efforts and publicity for the project. Park Rankin, Senior Manager of Architecture for the University Planning, Design, and Construction Department, presented information on room requirements that are necessary for all University room upgrades.

### **Publicity for the Project**

Catherine Hebert has written an article to be circulated to Swiss-American and Swiss publications, especially to be featured in the Regional News in Swiss Review Magazine. Dr. Kunz will be keeping the project visible among the diplomatic corps and the registered Swiss in his western PA consular area, and begin work with outreach to Swiss companies with American locales, with information from his contacts with the embassy. All local Swiss are urged to be spokesmen for the project and feel free to contact the committee (Co-chair Carlson has more brochures and will be happy to send brochures to contacts you suggest) with any and all leads you may have for donors.

### **Current Fund raising Status**

The Treasurer, Walter Schaller, reported that we have passed the \$26,000 mark in

our accounts. The Nationality Rooms Director, Maxine Bruhns, is pleased with the support from the local Swiss community. There are requests to build rooms for other countries from wealthy people who want to fund it themselves and Maxine reports that they are told "No, you need to have a community in Pittsburgh." It is obvious to her that the Swiss of Western PA are behind this effort 100%. We will be multiplying our efforts in 2002 to enlist more of our talented committee members to coordinate new fund raising work to major endowments, Swiss companies here and abroad, and other corporate sources in Pittsburgh. Mailings, phone calls, and personal visits will all be included in this strategy. Another spring Swiss event hosted by the Swiss-American Society of Pittsburgh will be announced shortly to keep the project visible locally to our Swiss community and friends.

#### **December 2 Open House at the Cathedral of Learning.**

The Swiss Room Committee and members of the Swiss American Society of Pittsburgh will be included in the December 2 Holiday Open House selling fund raising items and publicizing our

project. Contact Walter Schaller 412.821.7334 if you would like to help. This is a Sunday event between noon and 4pm and the Helvetia Mannerchor will be performing.

Feel free to contact any member of the Committee for information on our progress. We are all looking forward to a vigorous and productive 2002!

#### **Quartet Sine Nomine of Lausanne Concert**

Please support the Pittsburgh Chamber Music Society's upcoming presentation of the Quartet Sine Nomine of Lausanne, Monday, January 28, 2002. Information on tickets and the location of the concert can be obtained by calling Executive Director Natalie Forbes at 412.624.4129.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

*by Walter Schaller*

We have a balance of \$5,054.63 as of August 31, 2001. Income since May 31, 2001 was \$1,119.02. Expenses were \$4,242.18 including a \$3,000 donation to the Swiss Nationality Room Fund.

### **Sami Klaus Party**

**Saturday, December 15, 2001 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**  
**Teutonia Mannerchor**

The Swiss-American Society will again hold its annual Sami Klaus Party in conjunction with the Teutonia Kinderchor. Pizza and soft drinks will be provided for the children and are included in the registration fee. A sandwich buffet will be provided for the adults, funded by a donation jar. The traditional treat bags and visit from Sami Klaus are planned. The cost is \$5.00 per Family. Please register on the enclosed form and mail by Monday, November 26, 2001.

## Annual Swiss Christmas Luncheon

When: Saturday, December 8, 2001

Where: Wright's Seafood Inn  
1837 Washington Street  
Heidelberg, PA  
412.923.1225

Schedule: Noon Cash bar and plated lunch

After Lunch Business Meeting followed by a Tombola

Menu: Choice of three entrees:

Baked Veal Parmesan  
Baked Stuffed Sole Almondine  
Baked Stuffed Pork Chop with Baked Apples

Entrees includes Soup, Tossed Salad with House Dressing, Roasted Rosemary Potatoes, Vegetable Medley (broccoli, cauliflower and carrots), Rolls and Butter, and Pecan Ball with Hot Fudge Sauce for desert.

Cost: \$17.00 per person

What to Bring: Tombola donations

Registration: Send enclosed registration form and check payable to Swiss American Society of Pittsburgh by Monday, November 26, 2001 to:

Charles Buenzli  
2571 Barnwood Drive  
Wexford., PA 15090



### Don't forget to vote!



It is time to vote for next year's Board and Officers. Even if you cannot attend the Christmas Luncheon or the Sami Klaus Party, please fill out the Ballot section of the registration form and return it by Monday, November 26, 2001 to Charles Buenzli.



SWISS-AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH  
2002 Ballot and Christmas Party Registration Form

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**2001 Ballot**

Office	Nominated by the Committee	Write in
President	<input type="checkbox"/> Koni Ostertag	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/> Bruce Egli	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Treasurer	<input type="checkbox"/> Walter Schaller	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Charles Buenzli	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Membership Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Lizann Maddamma	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Board Member #1	<input type="checkbox"/> Anne Marie Frick	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Board Member #2	<input type="checkbox"/> Frank Gloor	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Board Member #3	<input type="checkbox"/> Edward Kappeler	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Board Member #4	<input type="checkbox"/> Jhon Smith	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Auditor #1	<input type="checkbox"/> Fred Carlson	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Auditor #2	<input type="checkbox"/> Joan Gloor	<input type="checkbox"/> _____

## Christmas Luncheon Registration

Total attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$17.00 per person

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Sami Klaus Party Registration

Number of children attending \_\_\_\_\_

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— 10 —

Registration fee is \$5.00 per family

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

### **2002 Membership Dues**

\$10.00 per family

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED**

\$

Mail by Monday, November 26, 2001 to:

Charles Buenzli

2571 Barnwood Drive

Wexford, PA 15090

Recently, the Swiss Room Committee learned of a new service from the University of Pittsburgh that allows us to process credit card contributions to the Swiss Nationality Room Committee at no service charge to our fund. At this time of year-end generosity we wanted to extend this convenience to the members of the Swiss-American Society of Pittsburgh.  
If you are moved to contribute to our tax-deductible Building Fund, simply fill out this coupon and send to:  
Frederick H. Carlson/Co-Chairman Swiss Nationality Room Committee ¥118 Monticello Drive ¥ Monroeville PA 15146.

**Yes! I wish to contribute to the Swiss Nationality Room Fund.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Gift:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please direct my gift/pledge to Swiss Nationality Room Fund.

Payment options

Check: Payable to **Swiss Nationality Room Fund**

Credit Card:  Visa  Mastercard

Account # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you in advance for your generous contribution toward this tribute to Swiss heritage and educational excellence.**

Nationality Rooms Program/Swiss Room Account: 09.01031.4400.95927.000000.00000.00000