

Latvian, Swiss Exemplify Festival

Dramatic Coach, Iron Forger Have Work At Mosque Show

By CONNIE KIENZLE

If the annual Folk Festival is as entertaining as its contributors are dissimilar, then the event Thursday through Sunday at Syria Mosque should be a family fiesta.

Typical of the diversified personalities whose work will be seen are Alfreds

Straumanis, a Latvian drama teacher at Pittsburgh Playhouse, and Hans Leuenberger, a Swiss iron-forger who has created much of the ornamental iron, brass, aluminum and bronze decoration in the City for many years.

Began In 1940

Mr. Straumanis, who began his training in 1940 in Latvian theaters, has lived here for only two years. Mr. Leuenberger came to Pittsburgh from Bern in 1924. Attorney Gen. Walter E. Alessandroni will be guest of honor at a luncheon of the Allegheny County Italian Republican Committee Wednesday.

The affair will be held at noon in the Monongahela Room of the Penn-Sheraton Hotel with Vincent S. Rovitto, former GOP candidate for mayor, presiding.

Mr. Alessandroni is the organization choice for lieutenant-governor in a contest men took over the Latvian army, in which Mr. Straumanis was an officer.

Theater In Exile

Before the war he had sung for four years in operettas. When the fighting stopped, he went to Germany and established a Latvian theater "in exile," using Latvian actors who had been

(one in business and the other in drama) by going to night school.

A few days ago, Mr. Straumanis submitted a thesis on drama at Carnegie Institute of Technology, where he expects to receive his doctoral degree this year.

Headed Elsewhere

But the actor-director, whose conversation indicates his dissatisfaction with theater in Pittsburgh is considered, post will be Peter J. Butch Jr., Peter Soldo and Theodore Zilch.

Candidates for three trustee positions include John Shoemaker, Jesse Lykons, Carl Carfagno and Karl Nemmer.

Balloting will take place from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. at union headquarters, 2227 Jane St., South Side.

\$1312 is offered in to



Hans Leuenberger displays handiwork at home.

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THE H



Merry Christmas
Happy New Year



Swiss Festival Committee
Rene Nigg Consul
Honorary Chairman
Florence Gerber
Chairman

Editor
Pittsburgh Press
34 Blvd. of Allies
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15222

Dear Sir:

Please publish the following news item:

Swiss Independence Day Picnic Slated

The Swiss-American Society of Pittsburgh will celebrate their Independence Day (Augustfier) with a basket picnic on Monday August 1, 1966 at Rose Grove, North Park from 3:00 P.M. to 11:00 P.M.

Various games and sport events will take place followed by an address by Mr. Rene Nigg, Swiss Consular. Dancing follows.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. E. Kuenzi, Secretary

With The Swiss Of Pittsburgh

A steady snowfall, below freezing temperatures, and icy roads didn't keep many Pittsburgh Swiss from attending the annual dinner-dance, sponsored by the Swiss-American Society of Pittsburgh, Penna. on Saturday evening, January 29th. The weather did not dampen the spirits of those attending and despite the "snowy" Swiss atmosphere and setting, 90 persons of the 96 that made reservations attended the gala affair at Cranberry Hall, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Sam Gerber. Mr. Gerber is a son of a prominent pioneer Swiss immigrant who lived in the West View area for many years.

President **Walter Heer** greeted the members and guests. A short business meeting was held. The Nomination and Election Committee reported to the membership the results of the election. The officers elected for the year are as follows:

President: **Walter Heer**; First Vice-President: **Harry Jacob**; Second Vice-President: **Paul Debrunner**; Recording Secretary: **Mrs. Trudy Kuenzi**; Membership Secretary: **Mrs. Florence Gerber Cappe**; Treasurer: **Frank Fischer**;

Trustees: Messrs **Walter Krumich**, **Werner Schneider**, **Charles Hauser**; Board of Directors: **Charles N. Erb**, **Hans Funkhauser**, **Robert Luenberger**, **Rene Nigg**, **Edward Smuts**; Auditors: Messrs **Leo Marxer**, **Hans Reinmann**.

The president announced that the Swiss group would participate in the **Folk Festival**, an annual Pittsburgh cultural event sponsored by **Robert Morris Junior College**.

Music for dancing was provided by the **Melody Mixers**, a local orchestra. In addition, **Mr. Conrad Ostertag** played several Swiss numbers on his accordion to the delight of the audience. During the dance intermission a **Tombola** was held. A number of the members contributed prizes for the raffle. A large group of beautiful prizes consisting of pastries, baked meats and poultry were donated by members (Messrs. **Frank Fischer**, **Walter Muntwyler** and **Emil Hollmuller**). The latter prizes caused considerable excitement during the drawing.

The refreshments were served by **Frank Fischer** and his committee during the course of the evening.

February 4, 1966

The meeting of the Swiss American Society of Pittsburgh was called to order by President Walter Heer at the home of Mr. Frank Fisher.

The following members were present:

Mr. & Mrs. Walter Heer

Mr. Harry Jacob

Mrs. E. Kuenzi

Mr. Frank Fisher

Mrs. Florence Cappe

Mr. & Mrs. C. Hauser

Mr. Charles Erb

Mr. John Fankhauser

The minutes were read and approved.

There was an extensive discussion on the Folk Festival due to Frank Fisher resigning as Food Chairman and the Program not being settled. Marie Hauser took over Chairmanship of the Food.

A report on the dinner was given by Chuck Erb as follows:

90 Dinners were paid - 65 members are paid which includes Mr. Henzie, honorary member. \$128 in dues were collected. \$113 was collected from the Tombela. The total bills were not all totaled at this time but there will be an approximate profit of about \$72.00

The newly elected officers are: Mr. Walter Heer, President, Mr. Harry Jacob, First Vice President, Mr. Paul Debbunner, Second Vice President, Mrs. E. Kuenzi, Secretary, Mr. Frank Fisher, Treasurer, Mrs. Florence Cappe, Membership Secretary, Mr. Leo Marxer and Mr.

Hans Reinmann, Auditor~~y~~, Mr. Werner Schneider, Mr. Charles Hauser and Mr. Walter Krummick, Trustees, Mr. John Fankhauser, Charles Erb, Rene Nigg, Ed Smuts and Robert Leuenberger, Board of Directors.

The meeting was adjourned by Marie Hauser and seconded by Delly Heer.

Respectfully sub^mitted,

Trudy Kuenzi
Secretary

February 11, 1966

The meeting of the Swiss American Society of Pittsburgh was called to order by President Walter Heer at the home of Mrs. Florence Cappe.

Due to the absence of the Secretary, the minutes were taken by Walter Heer. Members present were:

Mr. & Mrs. Walter Heer

Mr. Harry Jacob

Mrs. Florence Cappe

Mr. Charles Erb

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Hauser

Mr. Jordanoff was present to help organize the program for the Folk Festival. The Tamburitzans will dance and arrange the program. Mr. Karl Wegman will yodel. The Swiss are to furnish costumes.

Harry Jacob will look into the matter of letterhead stationary and envelopes. He will see Mr. Orbach about this.

Dues were talked about and pverdues to be collected on price of the dinner.

Charles Erb sent note to the newspaper.

There will be a meeting at Robert Morris School for the festival February 25th, 1966.

Respectfully submitted,

Rudy Kuenzi
Secretary



Chocolat Tobler

AMERICAN CORPORATION

15 East 48th Street
New York, New York 10017

Plaza 5-9445-6
Cable address: CHOCTAC

March 18, 1966

Mr. Harry W. Jacob
5415 McCandless Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15201

Dear Mr. Jacob,

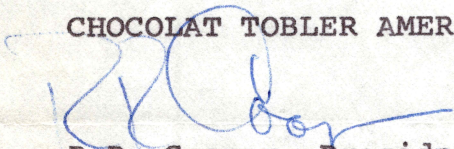
Thank you for your letter of March 15.

We certainly would be interested in having Tobler chocolate featured at your food booth and we are sending you here enclosed our catalogue and our wholesaler's price list. The sale's price we suggest for each item is also listed.

We are looking forward to our order and wish you success with the Tobler chocolate at your 10th Annual Folk Festival.

Sincerely,

CHOCOLAT TOBLER AMERICAN CORPORATION



R.R. Cooper, President

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THE SWISS AMERICAN SOCIETY
OF
PITTSBURGH

March 29, 1966

Ronald Goldenson
107 Avenue Louis Pasteur
Roxbury 1, Mass.

Re: Alphorn Blowers

Dear Sir:

The Swiss-American Society of Pittsburgh
guarantee the payment of twenty (\$20.00) dollars
for your performance on Saturday, May 14, 1966.

Very truly yours,

Walter Heer
President

SWISS-AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH

April 3, 1966

The Robert Morris School
575 Sixth Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Attn: Mr. Stan Walczak, Display Chairman
10th Annual Folk Festival

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find a fact sheet on Switzerland.
I understand Robert Morris will print this to be kept
in the Swiss Display Booth to distribute to interested
visitors.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. E. Kuenzi
Chairman of Swiss Display Booth

Enclosure

S W I T Z E R L A N D

Switzerland is a small country in western central Europe. It is the oldest democracy founded in 1291. It is mountainous, surrounded by France, Austria and Italy. There is no Swiss language. Many speak a German dialect and the others speak French, Italian and Romansch. The population is 5,240,000. Bern is the capital with Zurich being the largest city. There are 22 Cantons (like our States).

The largest business in Switzerland is the tourist industry. Switzerland's second largest industry is chemicals and textiles. Besides many industries there is farming. Cheese, milk chocolate and watches are famous products also. The swift streams help produce electricity for the factories which is one of the reasons the Swiss trains are run nearly 100% by electricity and always on time.

Some of the famous mountains of Switzerland are the Matterhorn, in Valais (the French part of Switzerland), Eiger, Monch and Jungfrau in the Bernese Oberland.

Religion is a personal matter in a nation almost equally divided between Catholics and Protestants.

Switzerland's most distinctive form of architecture is the "Chalet."

In World Wars I and II, Switzerland remained neutral. It has a well-equipped militia and air force, and military service is compulsory.

THE SWISS-AMERICAN SOCIETY

OF

PITTSBURGH

April 16, 1966

Swiss Tourist Office
Eiffeltower Center
New York City, New York

Gentlemen:

The Swiss-American Society of Pittsburgh is participating in the 10th Annual Pittsburgh Folk Festival May 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th, 1966. We are having a Swiss eating and display booth and would like to know if you could send us some posters from Switzerland that we may use in our display. If so, please send same to: Mrs. E. Kuenzi, Chairman

207 Churchill Road

Turtle Creek, Pa. 15115

Very truly yours,

Mrs. E. Kuenzi
Secretary

May 24, 1966

An informal meeting of the Swiss-American Society of Pittsburgh was held at Werner Schneider's home. The following members were present: Mr. & Mrs. Walter Heer

Harry Jacob

Trudy Kuenzi

Frank Fisher

Florence Cappe

Charles Erb

John Fankhauser

Werner Schneider

The purpose of this meeting was to settle the Folk Festival bills. Bills were turned in and paid and a tally was made as follows: \$1,059.94 Taken in

838.58 Expenses

\$ 221.36 Profit to date

Money for tickets is still out at this time. Thank you notes will be sent to several people for their help.

Frank Fisher gave a bank balance of \$2,343.10 to date and collected money for dues and the festival at this time.

The charter was signed by members present whom it concerned.

The August 1st Picnic was discussed and Harry Jacob will contact Rene Nigg if he still wishes to have the picnic at his place.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Trudy Kuenzi, Secretary

July 1, 1966

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Harry Jacob at the home of Werner Schneider.

Members present were Harry Jacob, Trudy Kuenzi, Florence Cappe, Frank Fisher, Hans Leuenberger and Werner Schneider.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and set up Committees for the August 1st Basket Picnic to be held at Rose Grove, North Park, Monday, August 1st, 1966.

The following Committees were set up:

Refreshment Committee - Church Erb - John Schwab

Coffee, Ice Cream and Band Committee - Frank Fisher

Cheese Stabbing Committee - Paul Debrunner

Games - Leo Marxer

Invitations and Publicity - Trudy Kuenzi

Entrance - Membership - Florence Cappe

An article will be sent to the Press and Post-Gazette about the Picnic.

Thank you notes from Mrs. H. Lienhard and Reid Miller Family were passed around for members to read.

The Swiss-American Society of Pittsburgh received their charter at a special ceremony at the Court House on June 27, 1966.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Trudy Kuenzi
Secretary

October 7, 1966

President Walter Heer called the meeting of the Swiss-American Society of Pittsburgh to order.

Roll Call was as follows: Walter Heer, Trudy Kuenzi, Florence Cappe Leo Marxer, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Fisher, Rene Nigg, Charles Erb and Werner Schneider.

A guest from Bern, Switzerland, Mrs. Marie Althaus, who is demonstrating flower making from foil at Kaufmann's was present and welcomed.

The minutes of our July meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer reported the books were audited and in order.

A summary was given as follows:

Receipts \$1,646.99

Expenses 1,646.04

Petty cash \$.05

Bank Bal. \$2,257.50

Balance a Year Ago 2,146.60

Increase for 1965 \$ 110.86

Correspondence was read. Folk Festival thank you letters from Nick Jordanoff and Chuck Kublick and a letter for a meeting for the 1967 Folk Festival, to be held in June at the Arena. Some members plan to attend but we are not committing ourselves at this time.

The picnic was discussed. The cost was approximately \$120.00. It was suggested that it be on the Saturday before or after August 1st next year. It was a success and Rene Nigg's speech for the occasion was very appropriate.

A reception for Swiss Ambassador Schneider was discussed for

the Spring of 1967. Florence Cappe made a motion to have a reception for the Swiss Ambassador in the Spring. Motion was seconded and carried. Rene Nigg will make contactss for same.

Our Fall Social will be at Cranberry Hall - cocktails, dinner and dancing on November 12th or 19th whichever date is available. It was suggested to ask for the extra dining room after 10:00 P.M. for visiting and to make more room for dancing. Also a coffee hour before departing for home. Charles Erb made a motion to have a Fall

Social at Cranberry Hall on November 12th or 19th whichever date is available. The motion was seconded and carried. Charles Erb will have invitations printed, Florence Cappe will make arrangements for Cranberry Hall and Frank Fisher will attend to getting the orchestra.

Leo Marxer and Werner Schneider were appointed to the Nominating Committee. Ballots will be sent to members along with their invitations for the Fall Social. Results will be announced at the November get-together.

Plans for a Fondue Party for the dancers who took part in our Folk Festival Program are in progress for the 1st week in December.

Charles Erb made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Frank Fisher seconding the motion and it was carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Trudy Kuenzi
Secretary

November 19, 1966

The Fall Dinner Dance was held at Cranberry Hall, Saturday, November 19, 1966. President Walter Heer called a short meeting after dinner extending a welcome to new Swiss and guests in the area.

Charles Erb presented the slate of the newly elected officers of the Swiss American Society of Pittsburgh as follows:

President Harry Jacob

First Vice President - Paul Debrunner who declined the nomination due to personnel reasons and suggested Rainer Vogt serve as First Vice President who had been elected as Second Vice President.

Secretary Trudy Kuenzi

Treasurer Frank Fisher

Membership Secretary - Florence Gerber Cappe

Auditors Leo Marxer and Hans Reinmann

Trustees Werner Schneider, Walter Krummick and Walter Heer

Board of Directors - Charles Erb, Rene Nigg, Robert Leuenberger and Heinz Gonser

Rene Nigg welcomed everyone and announced the First of August Picnic can be at his farm in 1967. He also suggested to the Board to have an Entertainment Committee next year, as he had much program entertainment material available from Switzerland.

The President adjourned the meeting for a social evening of fellowship and dancing.

Respectfully submitted,

Trudy Kuenzi Secretary





PITTSBURGH'S annual Food and Folk Festival, featuring food and performances of many nationality groups, will be held June 8, 9, and 10 at the Civic Arena this year. The popular event promises to mushroom in scope. Duquesne Tamburitizans offer performances at Food and Folk Festival.



THE PEOPLES NATURAL GAS COMPANY

Voice

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