

'Chuchischästli

PUBLISHED BY THE SWISS SOCIETY OF BOSTON

May 2009 | Volume 18 Number 1

President's Message

Hello to all our friends,

Since our last issue we had two successful events: first the guided tour of the Spellman Museum of Stamps and Postal History on the campus of Regis College in Weston – it was most interesting, as this is the only place other than the Smithsonian where you can see even some Swiss stamps! A delightful dinner followed at Bertucci's in Wellesley.

On March 14th the annual meeting and dinner took place at the Scandinavian Living Center in West Newton – I was happy to welcome so many wonderful people – thank you all for coming and making it a great evening. You will find a description on another page by Rita Rossinelli and photographs by Gaby Stewart - check them out! In this issue you will find the calendar, and we hope to see many of you at the upcoming events.

Happy Summer!
Marianne Biber



Festive decor at the Annual Meeting

Inside this Issue

- 2 SSOB and FOS news
- 3 Reflections on the Swiss Society of Boston
- 4 144th Annual Meeting
- 6 Off the Beaten Track
- 7 Marketplace
- 8 Calendar of upcoming events

Welcome! New SSOB Members

Tristan Balleys and Marie Deshawn
Brighton, MA

Daniel Bollag and Wendy Miller
Lexington, MA

Amanda Brickell
Boston, MA

Hans Peter and Anne Marie Fuchs
Concord, MA

Richard and Maggie Jarvis
Framingham, MA

Bill and Roslyn Pullman
Carlisle, MA

Tell friends & family to become a member!
Bear in mind, membership becomes honorary once you reach the age of 75!

Be the first to know!

Check out our website and sign up to receive notices by e-mail. Just send your info to contact@swissocietyboston.org.

Please also let us know if your e-mail address is changing or if you are moving.

Help save the environment!

If in future you wish to receive the link to the latest "Chuchischästli" by e-mail and read it online, register at contact@swissocietyboston.org.

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In Memoriam – 2008/2009:

Vera Peterson

December 2008

Charley Allemand

January 22, 2009

New Board Member

My husband's job was transferred from Basel to Cambridge just over 6 years ago. While this came as a shock it opened up new possibilities. We now live near the ocean, which is great for someone like me, coming from a landlocked country but having grown up on the shores of Lake Zurich! I followed my husband and arrived in the US the day before America went to war in Iraq.

My ties to Switzerland remain strong, as I had to leave all our children and family behind. I am lucky in that in recent years I am able to work for my former employer in Basel for several weeks a year. This gives me an opportunity to catch up with family and friends while earning my keep in Switzerland.

Through my volunteer job at the Harvard Museum of Natural History (HMNH) I meet lots of interesting people and can further my interest in nature. Birding has become a new hobby my husband and I pursue in Massachusetts and (hopefully) eventually all over the US.

While missing all my family in Switzerland I did not initially miss all the committee work I left behind - but am now ready to start this off again with a new challenge and look forward to bringing my experience to the Swiss Society of Boston.

*Christine Whitebread-Sannemann***Friends of Switzerland**

Friends of Switzerland is dedicated to friendship among people who wish to express their interest in and admiration for Switzerland. There are many reasons for the warm feelings of friendship of these Americans. Some have gone to Swiss schools, others have traveled on vacation to Switzerland, and some have business interests there. Others admire Switzerland for her uniqueness, her history and the characteristics of her people.

FOSI furthers Swiss-American cultural relations through its Julius Adams Stratton Prizes and Fellowships and through a series of monthly "Stammtisch" luncheons with featured distinguished speakers.

Upcoming event:

Stratton Dinner 2009

May 15

7:00 pm

Harvard Club

374 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston

Deadline for registration: May 9th

For last minute registrations please email:

biber.marianne@gmail.com

Calendar 2009**Luncheon meetings 2009**

October 8

November 12

December 10

All Luncheons are held on Thursdays at the Harvard Club (downtown location), 1 Federal Street, Boston (except May event).

For inquiries contact:**Marc Redlich, President**

617-720-0900 ext. 21

The Early Years

Reflections on the Swiss Society of Boston

I arrived in Boston in the spring of 1959. Visiting the Swiss Consulate in Boston, I met the Honorary Consul Mr. George Barrel, his secretary George Zilberstein and the Vice-Consul Germain Broquet. Mr. Broquet's place of origin was Envelier, a hamlet where my mother was a teacher and where I attended school.

The Broquets wanted me to meet some well-established Swiss people. The executive board of the Swiss Benevolent Society was holding a meeting to organize to First of August celebration. We met at the N. E. Spun Silk Corporation in Brighton (343 Western Ave).

The meeting was held in a back room of the factory. We sat on benches. About ten people were present. Mr. Edward Favre was president. Mrs. Broquet nominated me as a board member. I was accepted on the spot as new blood and was asked if I would be willing to help setting up for the 1st of August celebration that was held in Wayland at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Barrel.

In 1960 the Annual Meeting took place in the Recreation Room of the N. E. Spun Silk Corporation. The price for the meal was \$2.50. Membership dues: \$2.00 for men and \$1.00 for ladies.

In 1963 Mr. Broquet was transferred to Ecuador. In 1964 Mr. Barrel retired. Dr. Homburger was nominated as Honorary Consul. The president Mr. Favre left for Florida in 1964 and nobody wanted the job. Dr. Homburger suggested that the Swiss Society President Job be limited to two years. Leon Golay accepted for one year. Toni Arquisch succeeded him, then Rudy Meyer, then my turn came-up in 1969/70.

Dr. Homburger offered his Boston office as a place for the Swiss Society Committee to meet. The office was well stocked with Swiss snacks including wine. Dr. Homburger would come to open the door, stay for the meeting and close the door as the last member left.

In 1966 at the suggestion of Dr. Homburger the name of the society was changed from Swiss Benevolent Society to Swiss Society of Boston.

Dr. Homburger was a member of the Harvard Club and the Annual meeting was now held at the Club. The first Swiss Chilby was held at the Club in 1965. This all out Swiss Celebration became quite an event in the otherwise Proper New England Club. In the lower level of the club was a smoking room reserved for men only!

The first picnic of the Swiss Society of Boston was held in Hopkinton State Park in 1968. In 1970 the Society provided raclette cheese service, which became a tradition. To buy Raclette cheese Mrs. Montilio found a place in Nyack N.Y. The cheese was to be shipped to Logan and the Cavigellis would pick it up. Unfortunately the cheese could not be found. Fortunately there was more raclette cheese in Nyack but the store was not open on Saturday. So Friday the Cavigellis packed the kids in the station wagon and drove to Nyack and got the cheese. Three months later we got a call from Logan telling us that they had some very smelly cheese for us!

In 1970 I retired from the committee and Agnes continues the service of the Cavigellis to the Society as a Board Member. Soon though it will also be time for Agnes to call it a day, as we are starting to pack up the bags for our move to Pennsylvania.

Georges Cavigelli

144TH ANNUAL MEETING

Scandinavian Living Center
 Newton, MA
 March 14, 2009

An Enjoyable Evening...

Like every year, the Swiss Society annual meeting and dinner took place in March.

I have been here for several years now, but for one reason or another this was the first time I participated in the event. And it won't be the last, because I really enjoyed it.

Now, I just want to share a few thoughts:

If you are like me, you'll have friends who come from different parts of Europe or the World. Some cultures more than others tend to stick together by mostly being around their countrymen or going to their country's clubs.

You could say that this was the way it used to be when people had to come over here looking for a better life, with practically no possibility to go back, not even when family events would have required it. Re-creating an environment that made them feel at home was a way of drawing strength from unity and keeping alive their cultural identity.

Generations that followed didn't come here because they needed to find a better life, and so there are probably those who think that going to social events with fellow countrymen is a thing of the past, just for the nostalgic ones.

Come on, I know young people from other countries that like to hang out with fellow countrymen. We, as Swiss, are already used back home to being all part of one country while having very different cultural backgrounds. So, we are probably **more** used to mingling and making friends outside our circle.

But let me tell you, it is very refreshing, nurturing, relaxing and enjoyable to spend an evening with people that you might not know very well, but you recognize their face because you already met them at the 1st of August celebration, hiking, raclette party, or Swissnex events, and you feel like you are seeing old friends, because like it or not, there is that strong feeling of affinity that comes from being from the same country.

If you are still not convinced, the happy people at the dinner and meeting were not just Swiss: different nationalities enjoyed the evening, sharing a sense of affinity in our way to be.

You should try it. See you there next year!

Rita Rossinelli



SwissBäkers: Helene, Toby, Nick and Thomas Stohr

- 1 Christopher Thullen
- 2 Paulette Fraizer and Andrea Grealish
- 3 Alan and Susan Beeber
- 4 Agnes Montilio and Agnes Cavigelli
- 5 Fredy Leuenberger and Andreas Albrecht
- 6 Melanie McBeth, Roger Binggeli and Parris Kellermann
- 7 Lena Bodos
- 8 Nina and John Jordan
- 9 Martha and Alfred Prudhomme
- 10 Emil Wyss
- 11 Gaby Stewart, Felix and Anita Bosshard



Off the Beaten Track

Visitors in Town? Or just looking for a great weekend trip this summer? Here are two ideas for those who like to discover interesting places that don't get too many visitors (yet):

Coolidge Reservation

Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA

45 minutes North of Boston

Admission Fees & Permits: Free

Opening Hours & Directions:

www.thetrustees.org/pages/292_coolidge_reservation.cfm

www.thetrustees.org/pages/292_coolidge_reservation.cfm

Note: Parking is limited!

Part of historic Coolidge Point, the Coolidge Reservation is named for the prominent family who came to own the peninsula. The diverse woodland features a mix of oak and pine with numerous wildflowers and ferns, and is home to an array of birds and other wildlife, including fishers and fox.

At the tip of Coolidge Point is the magnificent Ocean Lawn. At one time, this vast lawn was the site of the Coolidge family's "Marble Palace," a Georgian-style mansion designed in 1902 by Charles McKim under the direction of Thomas Jefferson Coolidge, Jr. The Ocean Lawn is now an open, grassy expanse broken only by large shade trees.

A one-mile trail runs from the parking area to the top of Bungalow Hill, around Clark Pond to Magnolia Beach, and to the Ocean Lawn. Easy walking, though moderate in places.

Great for picnics (no grilling!) or to chill out on a hot summer day!

Museum of Russian Icons

Clinton MA

1 hour Northwest of Boston

Admission Fees: Adults \$5,

Students & Children (under 16) free,

Seniors (59+) Voluntary Donation

Opening Hours & Directions:

<http://www.museumofrussianicons.org/>

The Museum of Russian Icons was founded as a non-profit educational museum by Gordon Lankton. The collection includes about 340 Russian icons, the largest collection of its kind in North America. It is one of the largest private collections outside of Russia, spanning over six centuries, and including important historical icons dating from the earliest periods of icon painting up to the present.

Equally as beautiful is the building in which its housed. A 150-year-old former mill building, its three-story structure has been completely gutted, strengthened, re-roofed, and refurbished. All of the exterior south-facing windows are black glass panels that block all exterior light.

It's also a "Green" Building Featuring Solar Power, LED Lighting, and Automated Displays. An innovation on the roof includes photovoltaic panels.

Step inside, where technology has married art, and you begin to see what an integrated photovoltaic, timber-framed truss roof system can do. The building is self-sufficient for electricity, with 44 photovoltaic panels each capable of 13 KW hours powering low voltage fluorescent and LED (light emitting diode) lighting in multiple colors that bring the canvas-covered, expansive walls to life.

MARKETPLACE

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HEATHER SEARS'

**SAUSAGE SALAD WITH
MUSTARD VINAIGRETTE**

Salad Ingredients

4 sausages (Cervelat, Lyonnais or other)
3.5 oz Gruyere cheese
2 gherkins or cornichons
1 small onion
2 tomatoes
1-2 hard-boiled eggs
chopped chives

Vinaigrette:

1 tbsp mustard
6 tbsp oil
3 tbsp vinegar
1 tbsp mayonnaise
salt/pepper

Directions

Skin sausages and slice. Cut cheese into cubes or strips. Chop pickles and onion finely.

Mix together all ingredients for vinaigrette and pour over salad. Toss well.

Slice tomatoes and egg and arrange on top. Sprinkle with chives and chill.

Bon Appetit!

Do you have a favorite recipe you'd like to share? Just send us an email: contact@swissocietyboston.org

SUNDAY

NEWBURYPORT

June 14 – Oct. 25, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Tannery parking lot, along Water St.

MONDAY

BEDFORD

June 15 - Oct. 19, 2:00 - 6:30 pm

Bedford Depot Park, Intersection of Railroad Ave. and South Rd.

CAMBRIDGE / CENTRAL SQUARE

June 1 - Nov. 23, 11:30 am - 6:00 pm

Parking Lot #5, Bishop Allen Dr. & Norfolk St.

TUESDAY

LEXINGTON

June 9 - Oct. 27, 2:00 - 6:30 pm

Corner of Massachusetts Ave., Woburn St. and Fletcher Ave.

NEWTON

July 7 - Oct. 27, 1:30 - 6:00 pm

Cold Spring Park

FARMERS MARKETS 2009

Eager for seasonal produce and freshly baked goods? Here are just a few of the many markets **Massachusetts** has to offer this season.

For more markets in your area visit: <http://www.massfarmersmarkets.org/>

WEDNESDAY

ARLINGTON

June 10 - Oct. 28, 12:30 - 1:30 pm

Russell Common Parking Lot, Arlington Center

BOSTON CITY HALL

May 27 - Nov. 25, 11:00 am - 6:00 pm

City Hall Plaza along Cambridge St.

THURSDAY

BELMONT

June 11 - Oct. 29, 1:30 - 7:00 pm

Belmont Center Parking Lot

GLOUCESTER

July - Oct. 8, 3:30 - 6:30 pm

Harbor Loop

FRIDAY

BOSTON COPLEY SQUARE

May 19 - Nov. 24, 11:00 am - 6:00 pm

Along St. James Ave. & Dartmouth St.

SATURDAY

ANDOVER

July 11 - Oct. 10, 12:30 - 3:30 pm

97 Main St.

NATICK

May 16 - Oct 31, 9:00 - 1:00 pm

Natick Common, Rte 27 & 135

WAKEFIELD

July 11 - Oct. 17, 9:00 - 1:00 pm

Hall Park at Lake Quannapowitt

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Do you have a favorite recipe or interesting story to share? If so, we would love to hear from you. Please send your contributions to Lena Bodos at contact@swissocietyboston.org or call 781-872-1050.

2009-10 Events Calendar

June 14

20 Mile Bike Ride and picnic lunch
through Weston with Peter Luck

July 26

Swiss Independence Day Celebration,
Harvard MA

September 20

Raclette Event, Larz Anderson Park,
Brookline, 12 - 5 pm

October 11

Fall Mountain Hike

December 6

Samichlaus Party
All New Music School, West Newton

February 2010

Winter Outing

March 2010

Annual Meeting

Invitations and details to come

s'Chuchichäschtli

c/o Swiss Society of Boston

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Needham, MA 02492-1432

