

SWISS MOVIE MATINEE

Presented in Swiss German

Sunday, November 18 • 2:30 P.M.

HILLCREST LIBRARY: The Library is located on Leslie St. at Clansman Blvd, just South of the Galati Supermarket, about 750 m north of Finch Ave. There is a stop of the #51 Leslie bus at that corner and a 75m walk to the library.

Entrance is free to members of the Swiss Club;
\$5.00 to non-members.

Note: This event is open to all Swiss Club Members.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**NOVEMBER 6 AT 6PM
RECEPTION AND SCREENING
OF THE MOVIE "HEIDI"**

organized by the Swiss Consulate
General in Montreal at the Alliance
Française. RSVP to
mon.newsletter@eda.admin.ch required.

**NOVEMBER 17 AT 7PM
GRAND RACLETTE GALA**

organized by the
Swiss Canadian Chamber of Commerce
at the King Edward Hotel, see
<http://www.swissbiz.ca> for details.

**NOVEMBER 18
SWISS MOVIE MATINEE**

at the Hillcrest Library, contact
Arno Sigrist (416-493-8025) for details.

**NOVEMBER 29 AT 7PM
SWISS SOCIAL**

at the Duke of York pub, contact
Nadia Berger (info@swissclubtoronto.ca)
for details.

**JANUARY 26
ANNUAL FONDUE AND DANCE**

with the Amicale Romande at
the St. Philip Neri church,
see details in this issue of *Tell Tale*.

**APRIL 26 AT 6PM
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

at the Chelsea Hotel in Toronto.
Save the date, more details will be
released in the next issue of *Tell Tale*.

**APRIL 28
THEATRE PERFORMANCE**

at the Latvian Centre, save the date.



Amicale Romande
invites you to

The Annual Fondue & Dance

**January 26, 2019
7:00 P.M.**

Saint Phillippe Neri Church,
2100 Jane Street, Toronto

RSVP with Jean-Marc Velen
416-488-6493
velenglish@rogers.com

SWISS CLUB CONTACTS

www.swissclubtoronto.ca

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The President's File

Dear members,

The year 2018 is not over yet but what a year it has been so far! A century after its creation in 1918, the Swiss Club Toronto is still going strong, with lots of activities loved by all.

Following the very successful performance of "Miss Sophie's Erbe" by our Theatre section in April (see previous edition of *Tell Tale*), a group of members and guests went to the Woodbine Casino on June 8 for a day of fun at the races organised by Paula. On June 23, the Men's section welcomed members to the Egger Farm for their annual BBQ.

Soccer fans met at the Rushton pub on St. Clair on June 17, 22, 27 and July 3 to cheer for Switzerland at the 2018 FIFA World Cup. Spirits were high and a good crowd of supporters filled the patio for each game the Nati played. Fans were also able to test their soccer knowledge thanks to fun quizzes, and win great prizes. Even though Switzerland did not go further than the round of 16, those were good games and everyone had a great time. Thank you Arno and Nadia for making the Swiss fan zone at the Rushton happen.

As every year since 1932, the main summer event of our club was the celebration of the Swiss National Day, which this year happened in two occasions. First, we had our main celebration on July 29 at the Country Heritage Park in Milton, where a good crowd of over 400 attendees gathered in and around the Gambriel Barn to enjoy lunch, have a drink, chat with friends, enjoy music and celebrate our heritage. We were honoured by the visit of Elisabeth Bösch Malinen, our Consul General from the Consulate of Switzerland in Montreal, who gave an address and congratulated the club for its 100th anniversary. We were also glad to welcome our Honorary Consul of Switzerland in Toronto Beat Guldumann and his wife Marcella. Entertainment was provided by the Ländlertrio Seetal from Switzerland, who regaled us with traditional Swiss music, as well as by two members of the Trillium Alphorns, Eva Hajda and Erwin Oechslin. Suzi Hubler made sure to keep our youngest members entertained with crafts and a magic show, while attendees were free to peruse the wares of our various vendors. The day ended as always by our famous raffle and a dizzying array of prizes courtesy of our generous sponsors. I'd like to thank the whole team of volunteers who put together another successful National Day celebration, in particular our past president Sascha Frassini. Thank you for your hard work. Our thanks also go to our sponsors (see list page 8) who make this event possible every year.

But that wasn't all. On August 1st, the actual Swiss National Day, we celebrated with a raising of the Swiss flag in front of Toronto City Hall for the first time ever. Coordinated by our Honorary Consul Beat Guldumann and sponsored by the Consulate, the Swiss Canadian Chamber of Commerce as well as the Swiss Club, this event was another well attended and successful occasion. It was quite a unique sight to witness the small red flag with the familiar cross be raised against a backdrop of skyscrapers and a busy Canadian metropolis, in sharp contrast to the mountains and green pastures we usually associate with it. The Trillium Alphorns added to the effect by replacing the sounds of the city by the traditional music of the Swiss mountains. Addresses were given by City Councillor Jim Karygiannis, Honorary Consul of Switzerland in Toronto Beat Guldumann, President of the Swiss Canadian Chamber of Commerce Alexandra Soriano, as well as myself. The official part was followed by an apéro featuring delicious Swiss specialities.

The summer carried on with the annual canoe trip organized by the Gym section at Algonquin Park during the August 4-6 long weekend. On August 28, the author Diccon Bewes, a British expat who's been living in Switzerland for a long time, gave an entertaining lecture about his adoptive country. We still have some signed copies of his books, please contact me if you're interested in buying one. On September 8, a sold-out crowd embarked on the *Lady Muskoka* for an Anniversary Cruise on Lake Muskoka, pairing an excellent lunch with the beautiful views of late summer in Ontario. Immediately afterwards, on September 9, the Amicale Romande had the cheese grills at the ready for their ever popular Raclette afternoon at Simeon Park north of the city! Throughout the summer, the Club partnered with other organizations to promote Swiss culture in Toronto by welcoming Swiss musicians at the TD Toronto Jazz Festival, presenting a Swiss co-production at the Cinéfranco francophone film festival and a selection of documentary films with links to Switzerland at the Planet in Focus festival.

The grand finale of our 100th anniversary celebrations was however without question the Anniversary Gala on September 29 at the Old Mill Toronto. Led by our Master of Ceremonies Peter Schurmann, this momentous event was attended by over 220 people, including special guests Dr. Beat Nobs, Ambassador of Switzerland in Ottawa, Beat Guldumann, Honorary Consul of Switzerland in Toronto and his wife Marcella and Beth Zurbuchen, CEO of

the Swiss Center of North America in New Glarus, Wisconsin, who all gave thoughtful addresses. A total of 8 past and current presidents of the Swiss Club were in attendance (see picture gallery on page 7). Following hors d'oeuvres, a delicious dinner was served on tables impeccably decorated by former club president Sonja Evans, and followed by a very special anniversary cake which was ceremoniously cut by Ambassador Nobs and myself. Entertainment was provided by the indefatigable Trillium Alphorns, accordionist Matt Lebar and the Howard Lopez Band, who also led the dance that followed the dinner. The evening went by quickly, the dancing only stopping for drawing the fabulous door prizes, once again donated by the generous sponsors listed on page 8. Pictures of past events were projected during the entire evening, as well as a short video which was commissioned specially to commemorate this event. It can be seen on our website swissclubtoronto.ca, don't miss it! Guests did not leave the party empty handed, for a "goodie bag" was presented to all attendees containing a specially engraved commemorative cheese board, as well as a booklet with a short history of the Swiss Club Toronto. Members who could not attend the gala dinner but who would like a copy of our celebratory booklet are invited to contact me to get one, or find the text of the club's history on our website. This event was a resounding success and more than adequately marked the occasion of the 100th anniversary of our club. I would like to extend my deepest thanks to the amazing team of volunteers who put this event together: Sascha and Denise Frassini, Peter and Susanne Schurmann, Erika Tièche, Sonja Evans, René Wälti and Arno Sigrist. Thank you all so much!

You'd think that after such momentous events and a busy summer we'd be resting on our laurels, but that's not how this club rolls! Our two bowling sections have resumed their regular games, as has the Jass section. Kaffeeklastsch gathering have resumed and the Swiss Socials are still happening monthly. We have some great events coming up this winter; watch the pages of the *Tell Tale* for details and as always check our website swissclubtoronto.ca as well as our Facebook, Twitter or Instagram pages to be kept updated.

I wish you all a warm holiday season and a great winter, and I look forward to see you at one of our upcoming events!

Thomas Guignard, President, Swiss Club Toronto

Swiss Citizen of the Year Award 2018

The results are in! At the AGM back in April, members in attendance were invited to vote for their candidate for Swiss Citizen of the Year Award and elected Denise Frassini as the clear winner. What a great way to recognize the work and dedication that Denise has gifted to the club. Denise was presented with her award during our Swiss National Day celebration in Milton. Thank you Denise!



Swiss Citizen of the Year Award 2018, presented to Denise Frassini by Thomas Guignard, club president.

Men's Section

Come and join us **every Monday morning** from about **10:15 am till Noon** for hot chocolate, or coffee at **The Lindt Chocolate Store**, near the North/West entrance, inside the Bayview Village Shopping Centre, Bayview at Sheppard. (Free indoor parking, by Loblaws).

PAST EVENTS

Many of us attended the **Raclette** at the Simeon Park in September. The Raclette was very good, the weather was a bit cold and windy, but the turnout was great.

On **Thursday, October 25**, we will have had a **tour at a Migros / Frey owned Chocolate factory in Scarborough**.

UPCOMING EVENTS

On **Sunday, November 18 at 14:30 PM**, we will have our **Swiss Movie Matinee**, again in the large hall of the **Hillcrest Library**. Please take note: It is again on a Sunday!

On **Friday, December 7**, starting with cocktails at about **11:45 AM**, we will have our **Christmas Dinner** at the **St. Georges Golf and Country Club**, **1668 Islington Ave. Toronto**.

On **Thursday, January 17, 2019** starting at about **11:45 AM**, we will have a nice **lunch at the St. Georges Golf and Country Club**, **1668 Islington Ave. Toronto**, followed by our **Annual General Meeting**.

MEMORABLE BIRTHDAYS

Freddy Mettler will be 90 on November 11
Otto Bertschmann will be 90 on December 27
 Many happy returns and good health to you all !

Hope for the best.
 Expect the worst.
 We're unrehearsed.
 — Mel Brooks

Arno Sigrist

Dear Members of the Swiss Club Toronto,

As your delegate for Ontario and Central Canada, I participated in the 96th congress of the Swiss Abroad that took place in Visp, from August 10 to 12, 2018. This was a great occasion for meeting with the other Delegates from Canada, who all attended the Congress, and with participants from all over the world. Many points were discussed, and a detailed summary of the session can be read on the ASO website (<https://www.aso.ch/>). In particular, I would like to call the attention of the readers of *Tell Tale* and of the members of the Swiss Club Toronto, to the launch of the following on-line petition, calling on the Federal Council and parliament to make electronic voting accessible to all Swiss abroad by 2021. Most of the Swiss living in Canada do not encounter major difficulties with the system of postal vote. However, in other parts of the world, some of our fellow citizens receive their voting documents too late (or never receive it at all), which makes it difficult for them to exercise their political rights as Swiss citizens. Therefore, I would like to encourage you to sign online this petition in support of e-voting. Many thanks for your support!

Florence Pasche Guignard,
OSA Delegate for Ontario and Central Canada
florence@osa-canada.com



Canadian delegates to the 96th congress of the Swiss Abroad in Visp. Left to right: Käthi Lyon-Villiger (Ottawa), Philippe Magnenat (Québec & Maritimes), Florence Pasche Guignard (Toronto), Silvia Schoch & Heidi Lussi (BC, Alberta & Northern Canada)

Dear compatriots,

Support the online petition calling on the Federal Council and parliament to make electronic voting accessible to all Swiss Abroad by 2021.

The online petition launched by the Swiss Abroad organisation at the 96th Congress of the Swiss Abroad in Visp aims to enable all Swiss Abroad to take part in votes and elections. They often receive their documentation too late and are therefore unable to exercise their political rights.

The online petition can be signed on the website: www.evoting2021.ch until 28 November 2018. We will then submit the petition to the Federal Chancellery on 30 November 2018.

Further information on the petition's starting point, justification and aim can be found on the website www.evoting2021.ch in English, German, French, and Italian.

We would like to ask you to encourage all Swiss Abroad who you know to sign the petition.

*Thank you very much for your support.
The Organization of the Swiss Abroad*

Open Positions on Swiss Club Board

Open SECRETARY Position (immediately)

The secretary position has become vacant end of last year and needs to be filled immediately. The secretary is the custodian of the permanent records of the club and keeps a correct journal of the club's proceedings. The secretary prepares the minutes of all board, the AGM and any special meetings of the club.

Open MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON Position (immediately)

This position is responsible for keeping our membership file current and for assisting in the distribution of our *Tell Tale* newsletter.

If you are interested in either of these interesting and rewarding positions, please contact me (Thomas Guignard) or any other current Board member. All the contact information can be found on page 2.

OF INTEREST

SWISS CANADIAN CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE (ONTARIO) INC.

Patricia Keller Schläpfer

Tel. 416.236.0039

sccc@swissbiz.ca • www.swissbiz.ca

SWISS RIFLE CLUB

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JASS Section In Memoriam ROBERT WALDER

Founder of the Jass section of the Swiss Club Toronto

February 7, 1936–July 4, 2018

In the spring of 1974, while reading the *Tages Anzeiger*, an article from the Swiss Club Johannesburg caught Robert's attention. It was about a successful Jass championship their club had held. This story intrigued him so much, that he started to talk to friends and members of the Swiss Club Toronto about organizing a Jass club here. The response was very positive and he made a proposal to the board of the Swiss Club to organize a Jass section, which was approved. In the fall of 1974, the first championship was held at the Austrian Club Edelweiss with a good turnout of over 50 members. After it could no longer accommodate the Jassers, they moved to the German Club Harmonie, and then on to the Bond Place hotel. At this location, they had the penthouse with lots of windows and a beautiful view over the city. However, it was soon discovered that the large windows reflected the cards held by the opposite player and some took advantage of the situation! From then on the curtains were drawn – so much for the beautiful view!

We played a lot of games over the past 44 years in our Jass section. Robert Zuend took over the chairman's duties 1984 and I in 1987. We played at many different locations, at Ozzie Schaller's place, the Primrose Hotel, at the Old Country Inn, the Silly Goose, the Donauschwaben Club, the Prince Hotel, and now we play in the Agincourt Room on Bridletowne Circle.

Besides his enthusiasm for playing the Swiss card game, Robert also took great pleasure in travelling all over the world. Especially after his retirement from his long-time employer, the Canadian institution called "Canadian Tire".

From all your friends and Jassers
FAREWELL ROBERT and REST IN PEACE.

Albert Lenz
Chairman of the Jass Section

Women's Section

It was a busy summer for the Swiss Club members, there were so many events to participate in.

PAST EVENTS

BBQ at the Egger Farm: Despite a rainy day we all had a good time eating and socializing. **Our first of August celebration:** Always a big celebration with music and family fun. Three days later we watched the Swiss flag being raised at City Hall in honor of our 100 year anniversary. **Our Anniversary Luncheon Cruise:** I must say it was one of our most enjoyable outings. Great weather, good food, and a great group of Swiss club members. **The Annual Raclette:** Organized by the Amicale Romande, also a very successful day with our wonderful hosts. **100 Year Anniversary of the Swiss Club Gala:** A grand affair to celebrate the longevity of our club. **Women's Section Luncheon:** At the Old Mill, our section has been going for 74 years.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 18 • Movie Afternoon: See announcement on the cover; please note, there will be no bake sale this year.

December 6 • Christmas Luncheon: at St. Georges Golf and Country Club.

Ongoing • Kaffee-Klatsch: First Wednesday of the month at Baka's Cafe Gallery, 2256 Bloor St. West @ 1:30 PM. Last Wednesday of the month at the Pickle Barrel, Leslie and Finch @ 1:30 PM.

Enjoy every day if you can and keep well until next time.
Paula

FUN AT OUR ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON CRUISE



Swiss National Day



Ländlertrio Seetal



Honorary Consul of Switzerland in Toronto, Beat Guldemann and his wife Marcella (front) and Consul General of Switzerland in Montréal Elisabeth Bösch Malinen (back) at the Swiss National Day celebration in Milton on July 29.



Consul General of Switzerland in Montréal Elisabeth Bösch Malinen



Raclette

100th Anniversary Gala



Beth Zurbuchen, CEO of the Swiss Center of North America with René Wälti, past president of the Swiss Club Toronto and board member of the Swiss Center.



Current and past presidents of the Swiss Club. Left to right: Thomas Guignard (2018-), Sascha Frassini (2012-2018), René Wälti (2008-2012), Sonja Evans (1987-1989), Erika Tièche (2004-2008), Gottfried Hildenbrand (1981-1984), Alex Lang (1989-1993), Bruno Buser (1984-1987)



Dr. Beat Nobs, Ambassador of Switzerland in Canada.



Organizing committee of the 100th Anniversary Gala. Left to right: Sascha Frassini, Thomas Guignard, Denise Frassini, Peter Schurmann, Suzanne Schurmann, Sonja Evans, Erika Tièche, René Wälti and Arno Sigrist.



Master of Ceremonies Peter Schurmann



Flag-raising Ceremony at Toronto City Hall



The Swiss Canadian Chamber of Commerce cordially invites you to

The Grand Raclette Gala

November 17th, 2018

King Edward Hotel

Join us for an elegant evening with a traditional Swiss meal! Executive Chef Schick will prepare a signature Raclette along with other Swiss delicacies, wine and dessert. This function will be held as a sit-down dinner in the beautiful Sovereign ballroom. There will be live music, dance, and a raffle with exciting prizes to win!

Venue:

Sovereign Ballroom Restaurant at the King Edward Hotel

Time:

7:00 PM cocktails, 8:00 PM dinner

Dress Code:

Semi formal / formal attire

Entertainment:

Music by Soul Tones

Raffle:

Tickets are available for sale upon registration and at the event

Admission:

\$90/ticket for SCCC members

\$110/ticket for non-members

\$100/ticket for corporate tables (min. 6 people)

Register Now

Seating is limited! For further questions please contact
sgcc@swissbiz.ca or 416-236-0039.

2018 EVENT SPONSORS

Our warmest thanks to the following sponsors who supported our major events this year. Their donations helped make our National Day Celebrations and 100th Anniversary Gala a success.

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Victorinox Swiss Army Canada



Author Diccon Bewes at the lecture he gave this summer at the Toronto Reference Library on "Swiss Watching", with past Swiss Club president Sascha Frassini (left) and current president Thomas Guignard (right)