

2011 REPORT OF THE BENEFACTION COMMITTEE

Chair: Barbara Frei
Member: Daniel Keller, Kari Koeppel Mason

Senior Member Group:
Z.Jacquat, H.Grieder, L.Damask

During these ongoing financially difficult times the three (3) beneficiaries are very grateful for their monthly statements. Ongoing health problems cause great concern for 2 recipients, whereas the inability of finding a job leaves the other recipient very anxious.

The three recipients greatly appreciate their stipends as this helps them pay for medications not covered by their insurance, augment their diet with healthy food choices, or in inclement weather allows them a cab fare to avoid exposure to the elements. Ad hoc visits and regular phone calls help to maintain contact with the recipients.

A longtime member of the Swiss community shows signs of physical frailty. At times, it appears this member barely recognizes her caregivers, and barely responds to cues. But then, there are days of many smiles, greater responsiveness.

The Senior Member Gatherings are now organized by Zeno Jacquat, Heidi Grieder and Leo Damask. Leo always sets up the room for the meetings, and surprises the attending members with a treat he prepares for the occasion.

We grieve the loss of Walter Peyer, founder and host of this group for many years, as he passed away in April 2011 at the age of 92. His spouse Emily and daughter Sonja continue to be involved. These gatherings present a unique opportunity to maintain longstanding friendships among the Swiss who are widely dispersed over the Chicago area and numerous outlying communities.

Respectfully submitted
February 23, 2012

Barbara Frei
Chair Benefaction Committee

(Image)

Walter's 90th Birthday 2009

*Front Row L to R: Thomas Zoells Emily Peyer, Ursula Furrer, Walter Peyer
Back Row L to R: Barbara Frei, Hans Stucki, Sam Burckhardt, Marie-Simone Pavlovich*