

additional English lessons in a week. So we are very used to English and most of us had no problems communicating with the Canadians.

Though we didn't talk much with the people in Toronto (because we stayed in our group) we were overwhelmed by the English language in Vancouver. The first two days we spent with our host families. They showed us Vancouver, took us to some parties of their friends and so on. In fact, we really had fun that weekend. On Monday we attended school at Point Grey School and were introduced to the Canadian school system. But we only had two lessons and afterwards we visited some sights of Vancouver like the art museum, Chinatown and Gastown. The next day



Vienna students getting ready to go on a whale watching trip, 2006. Photo: Gery Valtiner

we also attended school in the morning. In the afternoon we could do what we wanted to; so most of us went shopping. Actually this was our last day we attended Point Grey. On Wednesday we rented bikes and drove around Stanley Park and to the Aquarium in the morning. After we had some lunch we

went to the Storyeum where we could learn about the history of British Columbia. Thursday was quite an interesting day: it was the day when we drove to Lower Seymour Conservation Reserve to learn about Vancouver's water supply. This took us the whole day because we drove around quite a bit.

On Friday all Austrian and Canadian students met in the morning to go dragon boating. That was really awesome and we had lots of fun. After that we could spend the weekend with our host families. Some went to parties, went downtown and some drove to Mount Whistler. All of us were quite sad to have to leave on Monday morning.

*Alexander Wietek*

## The Kaiser-Ball in Winnipeg

In an effort to re-establish the century-old ties among central European cultures in Winnipeg, The Friends of Austria Inc., together with the Canadian Czech and Slovak Benevolent Association (CCBA), the Czech and Slovak Association of Canada, the Slovenian Canadian Association of Manitoba, the Hungarian Canadian Cultural Society of Manitoba, the Consulate of the Slovak Republic and the Hungarian Kapisztrán Folk Ensemble of Winnipeg, presented a co-operative effort for a Gala Evening of traditional music and dance for all the participating ethnic communities. This evening was Winnipeg's first *Kaiser-Ball*. The Gala event was enveloped in the ambience reminiscent of traditional balls held during the time of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and was intended to celebrate the unifica-

tion of cultures and countries that is currently occurring in Europe.

In order to re-create a truly European atmosphere, the Crystal Ballroom in the historic Hotel Fort Garry was selected for the venue. The evening featured a special guest performance by dramatic soprano soloist, Helena Holl, a regular performer for the "Salute to Vienna" concert series since 2001. In accompaniment, members of the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra provided the musical entertainment for the evening, based on well-known classical composers of the cultural regions (i.e., Bedrich Smetana, Antonin Dvorak, Joseph Haydn, Johann Strauss, to name a few). In addition, members of Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet School provided a classical performance in the style of a Viennese Ball.

This special event has been a very important evening for these ethnic communities of Winnipeg. The evening celebrated the unity among the above-mentioned communities as a symbolic gesture of the celebration of the European Union. As a result, a better understanding of our cultures, separately and together, is expected. This better understanding will allow for the development of acceptance and improved inter-ethnic communication. Rather than viewing each other as separate entities, our communities in Winnipeg could begin to view each other as a whole, striving towards the same goals.

*Dr. Katrin Stedronsky  
Kaiser Ball Committee Chairperson  
Active Member of:  
The Canadian Czech and Slovak Benevolent Association (CCBA), and  
The Friends of Austria Inc.*

## MALCA comes to Canada

The North American "Modern Austrian Literature and Culture Association" (MALCA) is about to hold its annual conference in Canada for the first time in its history. The conference will take place at the University of Alberta under the auspices of the Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies on April 12-15, 2007. The theme of the conference is "Sexuality, Eroticism, and Gender in Austrian Literature and Culture." The planned conference intends to offer a varied selection and analysis of the themes and problems of sexuality, eroticism, and gender in Austrian literature and culture, providing a view of crosscurrents and interconnecting traditions. Interdisciplinary approaches to literature as well as submissions from related fields such as (Art) History, Philosophy, Sociology, Media, Theatre, Film and Cultural Studies are also invited. The keynote speaker will be Stefan Kojka, curator of the Austrian National Gallery, Belvedere's nineteenth-century section. Kojka's theme will be "Gustav Klimt and eroticism in fin-de-siècle Vienna."

In the early 20th century, Austria and her metropolis Vienna were a major hub of artistic and cultural activity in Central Europe, where a diversity

of influential discourses on sexuality, eroticism and gender also contended and flourished. This is evident in the portrayal of problematic sexual relationships in early Austrian modernism, e.g., in the literary works of Arthur Schnitzler and Peter Altenberg, Karl Kraus's *Sittlichkeit und Kriminalität* or Otto Weininger's *Geschlecht und Charakter*, in the popular novel of the time (Josefine Mutzenbacher; Hugo Bettauer), in the beginnings of academic sexology (Sigmund Freud, Friedrich Salomon Krauss, and others), in the activities of Rosa Mayreder and the early women's movement, in the eroticism of the art works of Gustav Klimt, Egon Schiele, and Alfred Kubin, or in photography. Early stages of this interest in sexuality as a cultural topic are already noticeable in the second half of the 19th century, for example, in the works of Leopold von Sacher-Masoch or Hans Makart and, indeed, even found antecedents in the erotic culture of late 18th century Josephinism.

After the historical disruptions of 1934-45 the themes of sexuality, eroticism, and gender resurfaced in the literature and culture of the Second Republic: e.g., in the "happenings" of Viennese *Aktionismus*, the *Orgien*

*Mysterien Theater* of Hermann Nitsch, and the video works of Valie Export, in Austrian film (directors such as Franz Novotny, Kitty Kino, Michael Haneke, or Ulrich Seidl); within Austrian literature, e.g., in the eroticism of Heimito von Doderer und Albert Drach, in the feminist discourse from Ingeborg Bachmann to Marlen Haushofer, Elisabeth Reichardt, and Elfriede Jelinek, in the beginnings of an autobiographically based queer writing (e.g., Josef Winkler), and in the *Fäkalien-dramen* of Werner Schwab.

While the call for conference papers is still open, a full programme should be finalized by February 2007. Anyone interested in further details is encouraged to consult the Wirth Institute website at [www.arts.Ualberta.ca/wi](http://www.arts.Ualberta.ca/wi). The planned conference will be open to the general public, and a special conference hotel rate is available for out-of-town guests.

Anyone interested in attending should contact the Wirth Institute (by regular post at Suite 300, Arts Building, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, T6G 2E6 or by e-mail at [wirth.institute@ualberta.ca](mailto:wirth.institute@ualberta.ca)).

Franz A.J. Szabo

### Oskar Stubits

*Continued from p. 7*

for weeks before he was able to see his family in Toronto again.

After his retirement in 1989, Oskar Stubits lived in a modest-looking but very cultivated house in Toronto, and spent a lot of time with his children. He was also able to spend more time with his Burgenland compatriots in

Toronto. He was the director and treasurer of the "Burgenlanders' Club" and one of the leading officials of the *Burgenländische Gemeinschaft in Canada*. When members of the Burgenland's Provincial Government paid a visit to Toronto in May 2002, they stayed in his house.

Oskar Stubits passed away in May 2006. He is missed not only by his family, but also by the *Burgenländische Gemeinschaft* and the entire Austrian community in Canada.

*Dr. Walter Dujmovits*

## Expatriate Austrian community

*Continued from p. 8*

In 1957 Sepp Fröschl became the founder of Austrian Airlines (AUA), and from September 30, 1957 until 1960 he served as its first president. He studied at the University of Vienna and received his Ph.D. in 1960. In 1965 he emigrated to Montreal and served as the president of the Austrian Society Montreal from 1984 to 1988.



Left to right: Dr. Sepp Fröschl (Montreal) receives Gold Pin Award from HCG Ulrike Billard and AÖWB President Gustav Chlestil. Photo: Roland K. Pirker

Dr. Fröschl was instrumental in taking the Aviation MBA from Concordia University in Montreal to the *Donau-Universität* in Krems, Lower Austria. For three years he served as the vice-president of the *Weltbund*.

In April 1976 Dr. Fröschl was awarded "The Medal of Merit in Gold" by the Austrian Aero Club. In 1988 he received the *Goldene Ehrenzeichen* from the Republic of Austria, and in 1996 he was decorated with the *Große Ehrenzeichen* for his outstanding work for Austria. In August 1995 the City of Krems bestowed on Dr. Fröschl the *Wappenplakette in Gold*. In 2001 Dr. Fröschl was awarded the Full Professor title by Thomas Klestil, the then President of Austria. In May 2004 he received the *Ritterkreuz der*

*österreichischen Offiziersgesellschaft*.

## Robert Jüthner-Krtschan

Robert Jüthner-Krtschan emigrated to Canada in 1954 with his wife Erika and son Michael. Since his arrival Mr. Jüthner-Krtschan worked



Left to right: Robert Jüthner-Krtschan (President, Johann Strauss Foundation Edmonton) receives Gold Pin award from AÖWB president Gustav Chlestil. Photo: Roland K. Pirker

tirelessly to represent his native Austria. He joined the Club Austria in Edmonton in 1957 and the Johann Strauss Foundation in 1975.

Since 1998 Mr. Jüthner-Krtschan has served as President of the Johann Strauss Foundation, Edmonton. The Foundation's aim has been to support young musicians in Alberta by providing funding to further their musical talents through education and exposure to musicians in Austria. His organization is therefore not a social club, but rather a charitable entity which organizes events such as music recitals. At these recitals, the young Albertans returning from their studies in Austria are given the opportunity to demonstrate their talents as singers or instrumentalists.

To sponsor these students, the Foundation holds an annual Johann Strauss Ball, not only to raise funds but also to introduce Canadians,

especially from Edmonton, to the Viennese charm and atmosphere.

Since 1947 Mr. Jüthner-Krtschan has been a member of the Schlaraffia Prima (an Austrian men's organization with a pledge of friendship, art and humour). He was president of the Canadian chapter "Schlaraffia Prima Canadensis" from 1957 to 1968 and from 1974 to 1982. Since 1982 Mr. Jüthner-Krtschan has also served as a "Knight of Grace" with the charitable organization of the Hospitaller Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem (a member of the Grand Priory of Canada).

## Heidi-C. Temelie (née Stollwerck)

Since 1977 Mrs. Temelie has been a member of the Austrian Society Ottawa and a member of its Board of Directors from 1983 until 1993. From 1993 to the present she



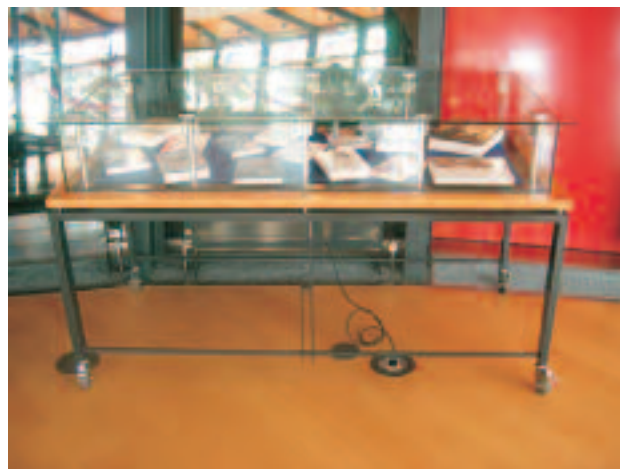
Left to right: Heidi-C. Temelie (Ottawa) receives Silver Pin award from AÖWB president Gustav Chlestil. Photo: Fotoatelier Tollinger, Klagenfurt

has served as treasurer of the Austrian Society Ottawa. In 2001 Mrs. Temelie participated in the establishment of the Friends of Austria Ottawa Inc. where she became one of the four founding directors, and since 2001 she also has served as its treasurer.

## Auslandsösterreicher-Weltbund-Treffen, Klagenfurt, 2006



Sunday lunch with the Foreign Ministry. Left to right: Austrian Foreign Minister Dr. Ursula Plassnik and the "AÖWB Expatriate Member of the Year 2006", Friedrich von Thun



AÖWB *Auslandsösterreicher* Exhibition at the Carinthian Archive in Klagenfurt: Books about Austrian emigrants on display.

Photos: Roland K. Pirker



Sunday lunch with the Foreign Ministry. Left to right: Dr. Plassnik and the Austrian Honourary Consul General, Ulrike Billard (Montreal)



Cultural Evening in Pörschach. Left to right: Franz Friesacher (Edmonton), Heide Huber (Switzerland) and Walter Schachenhofer (Past President, Club Austria, Edmonton)



Every year the Austrian Society Ottawa holds approximately 25 events for its members, and Mrs. Temelie plays a major role as the treasurer of the organization. Mrs. Temelie also took part in two major national and International events. In 1975 she participated in the "Austrian Immigration to Canada Symposium" at Carleton University with 200 registered participants. In 2005 she worked on the organizing committee of the "Austrian Celebration: Sym-



Meeting of Austrian-Canadians at AÖWB. Left to right: Burgie and Roland Pirker, Pauline Kuchli (long-time member of the Austrian Society Ottawa who now lives with her daughter in Klagenfurt), Waltraud Kuchli-Dvorak, and Heidi Temelie.

posium and Cultural Events" held at the University of Ottawa, in which 300 registered participants from Europe and North America took part.

At the weekly bingo event organized by the Friends of Austria Ottawa Inc., Mrs. Temelie looks after its accounting. On May 19, 2001 the Austrian-Canadian Council bestowed on Mrs. Temelie the "Medal of Merit in Gold" for her contributions to the Austrian community in Ottawa.

*Roland K. Pirker*

## Annual General Meeting of the Austrian-Canadian Council

On November 4, 2006 the Austrian-Canadian Council held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the

members in good standing, participated, either by sending their proxies or voting directly. Heidemarie Kelly, the

have been awarded to members and non-members of Austrian clubs in Canada as well as to several international members. (Medals are usually requested from the ACC Awards Chairman by a club president; then a mutually acceptable date is selected for the awards presentation.)

Roland Pirker, in his capacity as the Canadian representative, and 26 members of various Austrian clubs had attended the *Auslandsösterreicher-Weltbund* (AÖWB) meeting that was held in Klagenfurt in September. At that AGM, Pirker spoke about the importance of continuously honouring the outstanding work of individuals and Austrian-Canadian clubs. He informed the Executive that this year three Canadians had been



Left to right: Heidemarie K. Kelly, Gabriele Kaindl, Hans Raschke, Gerhard Bonner, Otto Heberlein, Ingrid Feil, Inga Michalek, Consul Robert Sinnhuber, Heidi-C. Temelie, and Roland Pirker. Photo: Burgie Pirker

ACC's head office in Ottawa and elected its Executive for another four-year term. The Austrian Embassy was represented by Consul Robert Sinnhuber who recently arrived in Ottawa to take up his new posting. Seventy percent of the Austrian clubs from across the country which are mem-

ACC's solicitor, oversaw the electoral process.

During the AGM several issues were discussed. Garry Bonner reflected on the success of the ACC's Awards Program implemented in 2001. Since its inception a total of 43 gold, 99 silver and 20 bronze medals



Left to right: Ingrid Feil, Heidemarie K. Kelly, and Inga Michalek. Photo: Roland K. Pirker