Arizona Swiss Society

VALLEY ECHO

Newsletter

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SUMMER / FALL 2019



Entlebuch

Spring Picnic

Desert Breeze Park, Chandler

Joint Event with
Arizona Swiss Society
Austrian Society of Arizona
Arizona Center for German Culture and German-American National Congress D.A.N.K.
April 7th 2019























Message from the President

Dear Members and Friends of the Arizona Swiss Society;



My president's letter likely finds you in some cooler climate, perhaps even back in our beloved Switzerland. Whether you're here in the Valley of the Sun or elsewhere, I wish you a wonderful summer.



Our next event is our First of August celebration at which we recognize the Confederation's establishment. Our event will be held on August 3rd at the Arizona American Italian Club. Check your e-mail for the invitation and please RSVP by July 26. I'll be there to celebrate "Switzerland's birthday." A fierce Bocce ball tournament is predicted (but I'm bringing my boules de pétanque).

I am pleased to report that the EDA (FDFA) has appointed a new Honorary Consul in Phoenix. Dr. Werner Bonadurer is a clinical professor of finance at Arizona State Univeristy. Previously, he had sixteen years of international senior management experience with UBS. Dr. Bonadurer has an MBA degree from Wharton and a degree of Doctor of Business Administration (Dr. oec./Ph.D.) from the top-rated University of St. Gallen. He has lived and worked in the U.S., Europe and Asia and is fluent in English and German.



Your Board held a small and informal reception for Dr. Bonadurer and his lovely wife Irene before everyone escaped town for the summer. We expect to formally introduce you to him and him to you at our Swiss Fall Fest party on October 12. I think you'll be as delighted as I am in his appointment. We might even have a special guest from San Francisco attending Swiss Fall Fest.

Au revoir les amis,

John Thornton, President











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Culture & Activities in Entlebuch







Hardly any other region in Switzerland possesses as many natural treasures as does Lucerne's "Wild West". Switzerland's most extensive and numerous moorlands are found here as are a flora and fauna of (inter)national importance. It is no wonder that Entlebuch was designated by UNESCO as the first biosphere reserve in Switzerland. Within the worldwide network of biosphere reserves, Entlebuch represents pre-Alpine moorland and karst l andscapes.

The 17,000 inhabitants of Entlebuch, live in harmony with nature. Together they practice sustainable regional development with the assistance of the UNESCO Biosphere Entlebuch: as a result, the unique, protected natural and cultural landscape with its special moorland and karst areas is in safe hands. Entlebuch is the first biospher reserve and at present the only one.



Over an area of almost 400 square kilometers that has a flora and fauna of national and international importance, a mystical world unfolds with its promise of peace, inspiration, and relaxation - unspoiled moorlands, idyllic Alpine pastures and the majestically towering Schrattenfluh make for experiences of a very special kind indeed.



But it is not only peace and relaxation in unspoiled nature that the UNESCO Biosphere Entlebuch offers. It also boasts a wide range of leisure activities. There is an enormous range of choices including the energy and fairytale trails, Kneipp facilities, mud baths, and satellite-guided hiking and field trips. Even from a historical and cultural point of view, the region has much to offer - the ancient craft of charcoal burning in Romoos and the pilgrimage site of Heiligkreuz are just highlights of a visit to the largest book in the world.

Things to do



A path leads through the wonderful area, guiding the visitor through thelush, green forest. An observation platform opens the view to a breathtaking water landscape that the Rotbach has formed over the centuries. The marvelous Wasserfall Chessiloch is a paradise for both geologists and laypeople.



Panning for gold is not only possible in the USA, but also in Entlebuch.

Activities in and Around Entlebuch



Bike

Discover the Lucerne Lake Region on two wheels. Whether you enjoy leisurely riding along the numerous lakes or mastering demanding MTB trails and challenging pass roads, the possibilities are endless.

Markt



Since 2013, Entlebuch’s herb and wildplant market ahs been held in Escholzmatt. The market has developed from an insider's tip into a popular and well-known event for anyone looking for something special. The historic village square gives the market a special ambiance. In addition, the herb garden, which was planted next to it a few years ago, invites you to linger. The children enjoy themselves in the basket carousel or in the nursery and are well being taken care of. Several thousand visitors are expected each time.



At other market and shops you can find special products from Entlebuch such as the “Zyberli-Konfi and Sirup” (jam and syrup) made from small plums ore the Entlebucher Bier.
You have the choice of 4 different Entlebucher beers, Entlebucher 61, Entlebucher Lager, Entlebucher Original, and Entlebucher Fux.



A Folk Festival In Honor Of The Aelpler Families



Every year, at the end of September, seven Entlebucher Alps end their summers with the Entlebucher Alpabzug. It has grown into a huge street party, one of the largest Alpabzüge in Switzerland and a kind of “little yodeling festival”. Each year, more than 12,000 visitors welcome the Alpine families with their splendidly decorated animals. The Alpabzüge take place in any weather.
Many wear an edelweiss shirt or, even to celebrate the special day, the women even wear the Entlebucher costume or the “Chüjer” the traditional male costume in black jacket, embroidered with Edelweiss. About 25 regional market stalls sell regional products, and in small “Beizlis” (restaurants) they sell grilled Bratwurst and Käseschnitten (gratinated cheese breads) and refreshments.

We hear yodeling, playing Alphörner and also Blasmusikklänge - simply cozy!





https://www.biosphaere.ch/de/

The Swiss Circus Knie will be 100 years old this year





The famous Swiss circus dynasty is turning 100 years old and the management is in the 7th generation with Géraldine, Franco jun. and Doris. Currently, even the 8th generation with Ivan Frédéric, Chris Ri and Chanel Marie is already in the manège.





100 Years ago, the brothers' Friedrich, Rudolf, Karl and Eugen Knie achieved the groundbreaking transition from the open-air arena to the tent circus, creating a legacy for the company as it is still in existence today.

In 1919, the first winter quarters were built in Rapperswil. Only a year later, Friedrich Knie performed his horses in the manège for the first time. And as early as 1926, the Circus Knie was on tour with more than 80 home, transport, menagerie, and office cars. Karl and Eugen Knie decided in 1934 to transform the family business into a stock corporation. Only a year later, after a costly and unsuccessful tour, the circus suffered a financial setback. Karl had hired 50 artists from India for a gigantic production - and unfortunately could not thrill the audience. In the following years, the company is recoveed and was able to expand. In 1956, for example, the new winter quarters were moved to Rapperswil, and at Pentecost 1962, Knie's Circus opened a Children's Zoo.

Clown Spidi has been part of the Knie family for 25 years. Everyone knew him and no one could imagineattending a performance without him. In July 2018 Clown "Spidi" whose real name was Peter Wtzel, passed away. It was a shock for the whole Knie family. Rest in peace.

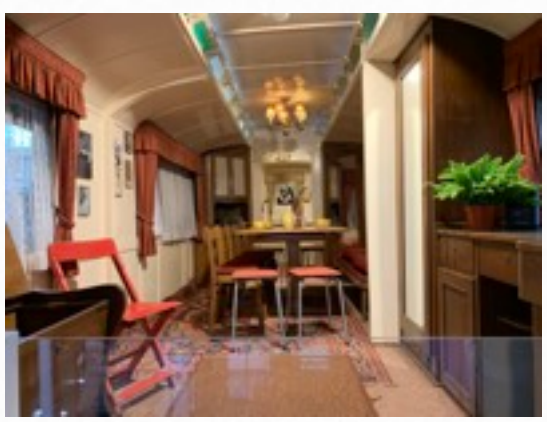












This was the first Knie's family home. The first picture is a photo and the second and third picture is the real home, including the furniture. The original is displayed in the Verkehrshaus in Lucerne.

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
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Consulate General of Switzerland in San Francisco

Consular district: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming

Presidents of
Arizona Swiss Society
Swiss in Prescott & Surrounding Areas
Tucson Swiss Club

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Phone: (415) 788-2272
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E-mail: thomas.schneider@eda.admin.ch
San Francisco, June 11, 2019

Dear President,

It is a great pleasure for me to inform you that the Swiss government has nominated **Dr. Werner Bonadurer** as Honorary Consul of Switzerland in Phoenix, Arizona.

Born in Chur, in the Canton of Graubünden, M. Bonadurer is Clinical Professor at W. P. Carey School of Business at the Arizona State University in Tempe.

Mr. Bonadurer assumed his office starting June 1, 2019 at the:



Consulate of Switzerland
9290 E. Thompson Peak Parkway, #141
Scottsdale, AZ 85255

Phone: (480) 433-1871
Fax: (480) 284-5556
Email: phoenix@honrep.ch

All consular matters and crisis management for Swiss citizens in the State of Arizona will continue to be handled by the:

Consulate General of Switzerland in San Francisco
Pier 17, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94111
Phone: (415) 788-2272
Fax: (415) 788-1402
Email: sanfrancisco@eda.admin.ch

My team in San Francisco will be happy to assist you, should you have any queries.

I wish you a great summer and remain

Sincerely,

Thomas Schneider
Consul General a.i.

Important Contacts for Swiss Citizens

All Consular passport or visa affairs, please contact:



The Hon. Thomas Schneider
Consulate General of Switzerland
Pier 17, Suite #600
San Francisco, CA 94111

Phone: 415 788 2272 Fax: 415 788 1402

Email:	Headquarters:	sanfrancisco@eda.admin.ch
	Consular services:	sfr.kanzlei@eda.admin.ch
	Visa:	sanfrancisco.visa@eda.admin.ch
Website:		https://www.eda.admin.ch/sf

Swiss Citizens may also contact:

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
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Helpline of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Switzerland:

Helpline EDA
Effingerstrasse 27
3003 Bern
Switzerland

Telephone 011 41 800 24 7365 or 011 41 58 465 33 33
or per Skype free of charge.



Joking

“ Fritzli” you have the same errors in the dictation as your table neighbor. How do you explain that?
“Fritzli”: “Quite simply we have the same teacher!”



Advertise in the Valley eCHo

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½ page	$ 50.00 per insert,	pay 4 and get 10% off
Full page	$ 100.00 per insert,	pay 4 and get 10% off

20 Year of Sister City Interlaken and Scottsdale

Delegationsreise vom 9. bis 11. April 2019 zu unserer Schwesterstadt Scottsdale

Verfasser Philippe Ritschard



Am Vormittag des 8. April wurde die Delegation bestehend aus der IFAI-Präsidentin Sibylle Andres, Vorstandsmitglied René Schneider mit Gattin Margot, der Gemeinderätin Sabina Stör mit Sohn Rrezart, dem Vize-Gemeindepräsident Peter Michel und dem Gemeinderat Philippe Ritschard mit Gattin Anne-Françoise vom Bürgermeister Jim Lane in seinem Büro empfangen. Thematisiert wurden unter anderem alternative innerstädtische Lösungen für individuelle Mobilität.

Es folgte ein geführter Rundgang mit dem lokalen Stararchitekten Douglas Syndor durch die architektonischen Besonderheiten und ausgestellten Skulpturen im Rayon des Stadthauses und der Altstadt von Scottsdale.









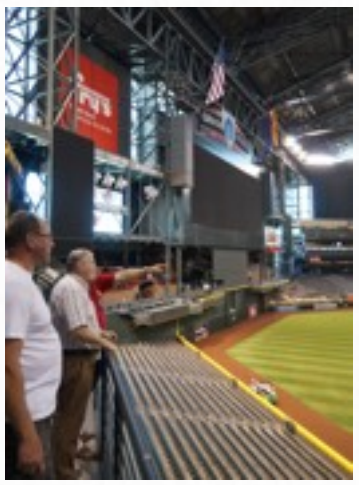
Das Mittagessen wurde im neu erbauten Zentrum der „Salt River Pima Maricoopa Indian Community“ eingenommen und als Erlösung empfunden, nach zwei an der Sonne und bei 34°C verbrachten Stunden, von den kühlen Getränken ganz zu schweigen.

Innerhalb des Staates Arizona geniesst die Indian Community eine weitgehende Autonomie. Sie verfügt über eine eigene Regierung, Verwaltung, Bildungseinrichtungen, Rechtsspre-chung mit Vollzugsanstalt sowie Polizei- und Feuerwehr-Corps. Die Haupteinnahmequelle bildet der Unterhaltungssektor mit den Spielcasinos für welche sie nach langem Seilziehen eine Konzession erhielten, sowie den sieben gebauten Hotels.

Erfahren konnten wir auch, dass auf dem Land der Community nur wohnberechtigt ist, wer nachweislich das Blut –auch leicht verdünnt- einer der beiden Stämme Pima oder Maricoopa in den Adern hat.

Abends gaben sich mehrere Mitglieder der Schwesterstadt-Organisation in Scottsdale die Ehre und luden zu einem „Progressive-Dinner“. Eine ausgezeichnete Gelegenheit näher miteinander Bekanntschaft zu machen.

Der Mittwoch begann mit einer Ausfahrt zu den südlich von Phoenix gelegenen „South Mountains“, wo uns Rancher Derek auf einem Spaziergang die Petroglyphs (Steinzeichnungen) der Ureinwohner erklärte. Weiter gings zum höher gelegenen Ausschtspunkt. Hier führten uns George und Donna vor grandiosem Panorama in die Geschichte, Entstehung und Entwicklung des Phoenix-Valleys ein.



Rückfahrt und Mittagessen im Chase Field Baseball Stadium. Eine eindrückliche Anlage mit Schiebedach, 42‘000 Sitzplätzen und circa 90 Spielen pro Jahr.

Delegationsreise vom 9. bis 11. April 2019 zu unserer Schwesterstadt Scottsdale



stieg die Geburtstags-Party im «The Desert Oasis» des Culinary Arts Scottsdale Community College, wo uns die Schüler –in den USA heissen sie alle Students- bekochen und bedienten. Den Festreden folgte der Austausch der Jubiläums-Geschenke und das Versprechen an den ausgezeichneten Beziehungen festzuhalten, welche den regelmässigen Austausch insbesondere im schulischen Bereich ermöglichen. Der Western-Vortrag von Marshall Trimble mit Gitarre und Gesang liess den einen oder anderen Einheimischen sentimental werden.



Einen schönen Ausklang hatten die Organisatoren, allen voran Lisa White, für Donnerstag vorgesehen mit einer Fahrt im Kleinbus entlang dem Salt River zum Apache-Trail der „Red Mountains“ östlich von Scottsdale. Besuch des Goldfield Ghost Towns, dem Drehort von unzähligen Western-Komödien und –Dramen. Eine zeitgenössische Kapelle mit lebensgrosser Elvis-Statue durfte natürlich nicht fehlen. Abgerundet wurde der Ausflug auf dem „Canyon Lake“ an Bord des Raddampfers „Dolly“, von wo eine vielfältige Fauna und eindrückliche Felsformationen bestaunt werden konnten.

Schlusspunkt unseres Besuches war ein traditionelles Barbecue im Garten von John Thornton, Präsident der Arizona Swiss Society, wo in der Erinnerung an die gemeinsam verbrachten letzten 72 Stunden geschwelgt werden konnte.









Club News / Sunshine Committee

We Welcome New And Returning Members:

The Honorary Consul Werner and Irene Bonadurer
Gaby and Dick Allen
Heidi Hall
John Hanzi
Ingrid Barakat



Fall-Fest

Upcoming event

October 12th, 2019

Golden Eagle Park, Fountain Hills

RESERVE THE DATES



Children's page
and young at heart



Luzerner Chriesisuppe (Lucerne cherry soup)

The traditional Lucerne Chriesipuppe tastes so delicious! Convince yourself to try out this simple recipe. It is very refreshing, especially during the Summer heat!

Ingredients for 4 persons



- 1 kilo cherries
- 200 g flour
- 5 dl milk
- 5 tbsp sugar

Preparation

1. Remove stems from the washed cherries but do not stone.
   Put the cherries in a bowl and sprinkle with sugar.

2. Put the flour in a non-stick pan, stir and fry until its lightly brown.
   Then remove from the heat and let cool.

3. Put the flour in a larger bowl, stir in the cold milk and stir into a thin porridge.
   Add the cherries with the juice, refrigerate for about 2 hours and strain.

4. The soup will be served cold.

5. Decorate with a mint leaf and with whipped cream



Enjoy!

Board Members 2019

President	John Thornton
Vice President	Anthony Haechler
Treasurer	David Campell
Secretary	Viktor Stuart
Activity Chairs	Susan Oake Kurt Schittli Sibylle de Marignac
Membership Chair	Helene Block
Past President	Christian Bucher

Ex-Officio:

Honorary Swiss Consul	Thomas Schneider, San Francisco
Swiss Consul Emeritus	Max Haechler

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Sunshine Committee	Elsbeth Haechler Yvonne Zaugg
Historian	Sigrid Kuster
Webmaster	Philippe Reichen
SocialMedia Coordinator	Vivian Stearns-Kohler
Entertainment Coordinator	vacant
Investment Committee	John Thornton, Chair David Campell Fred Kohler
Adviser	Ueli Zaugg

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