Arizona Swiss Society

VALLEY ECHO

Newsletter

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WINTER 2020/2021



Stoos Schwyz





11h00
to start

1st of August Celebration

Saturday, August 1st 2020
on Zoom



A first time Zoom August 1 Swiss National Day Celebration from where ever members were in the comfort of their homes. Even Elsbeth and Max in Switzerland tuned in and were a part of it.



National Day greetings from Simonette Sommeragua and our Swiss dignitaries: **Dr. Benedikt Wechsler's** smiley face, Consul General of Switzerland in San Francisco and our Honorary Swiss Consul in Phoenix, **Dr. Werner Bonadurer,** their speeches were uplifting and simply wonderful.

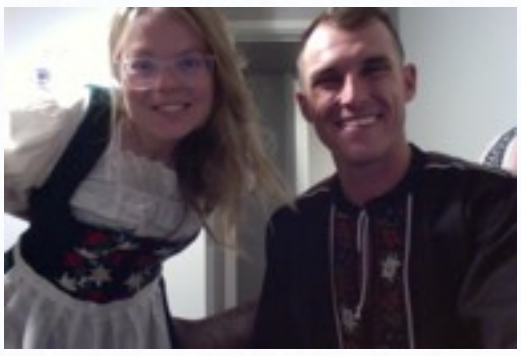




"Trittst im Morgenrot daher" a crescendo that brought goosebumps and a few tears to some, concluded a party on screen. "Once a Swiss . . . always a Swiss."

Nobody knew what to really expect but was smiling when the first successful virtual Zoom event was over. Great job by everyone involved that planned all the happenings.
Where there is a will, there is a way.

Thanks to Anthony and helpers we received the "Pro Patria" pins in time for the National Day Celebration.
(special delivery —awesome!)



The winners are:

Best costume:
Anthony and Emily Haechler
Best background:
Trudy and Lew Wells





Message from the President



Dear Members and Friends of the Arizona Swiss Society:

Hopefully this message finds everyone safe and sound.

Our previous two celebrations (1st of Aug & Fall Fest) were held through our online Zoom link, due to the ongoing COVID-19 health concerns. Unfortunately, we are not yet out of the woods and will be hosting our December holiday celebration once again through this virtual media. This holiday Zoom gathering will be pushed out to December 20th, in order to be closer to the holiday spirit. An email invitation will be sent a few weeks prior to this date.

The 1st of August celebration was our very first virtual Zoom gathering and it was a huge success. This celebration kicked off with a National Day greeting for Swiss Abroad from Mrs. Simonetta Sommagura, President of Switzerland. Next we heard informative live messages from Dr. Benedikt Wechsler, Consul General of Switzerland in San Francisco, and from Dr. Werner Bonadurer, Honorary Consul of Switzerland in Arizona. Many thanks on behalf of all us to Dr. Wechsler and Dr. Bonadurer for sharing their words and providing their Swiss insight during these concerning times. Next, the celebration continued with some interactive enjoyment, which consisted of a 20-question "Swiss and Arizona" trivia quiz (won by Lilly Gamma), a competition for Best Swiss Background (won by Trudy & Lew Wells), and Best Swiss Costume (won by Emily and Anthony Haechler). Prizes for the winners were handmade Swiss face masks and Amazon gift cards. Congratulations to all the winners and thank you John Thornton for making and contributing these fabulous face masks.

The Fall Fest celebration was our next Zoom gathering and what a terrific and memorable event it was. A kind thank you to Dr. Werner Bonadurer for opening this get-together with some informative "Swiss Talk" news. We continued with our annual scholarship awards announcement, presented by the chairman of our Arizona Swiss Foundation, Max Haechler, to the following Swiss student member recipients; 1st prize scholarship in the amount of $2,000.00 to Jaiden Singh studying Biochemistry at the University of Arizona, 2nd prize scholarship in the amount of $1,000.00 to Claire Leffler studying Architecture at the California College of the Arts, and 3rd prize scholarship in the amount of $1,000.00 to Jacqueline Purwins studying Physiology at the University of Arizona. Congratulations to all our Swiss students, well deserved, and thank you for your live acceptance speeches during our gathering. After the award presentations we had some fun and watched homemade Swiss cooking demonstrations. Family Reutter-Zaugg showed us how to make "Rüeblitorte", John Thornton presented "Spätzli" and "Émincé de Veau", and Elsbeth Haechler along with her kitchen aid, Max, presented "Rotchabis." Thank you for inviting us into your kitchens and treating us with some authentic Swiss recipes. If you are interested in these recipes and more, please visit our web site, ArizonaSwissSociety.com, and click on the events heading. Following our cooking segment, we participated in some competitions: Best Swiss Background (won by Jaiden Singh and people's choice to Lusha Pfister & Marco Janssen), and Best Swiss Costume (won by Eric Haechler and people's choice to Trudy Wells). Prizes for the winners were handmade Swiss quilted coasters and various swiss cookies. Congratulations to all the winners and thank you Helene Block for crafting and contributing these marvelous coasters. One of my favorite highlights of the Fall Fest was the fundraising raffle to win a limited-edition bronze sculpture created and donated by our Swiss Society member and artist Andreas Schwab. The ticket drawing was done by the Price family, with one of the most festive "Oktoberfest Festzelte" virtual backgrounds. Matys Price drew the winning ticket and the winners of the bronze sculpture were Dr. & Mrs. Werner and Irene Bonadurer. Congratulations on winning this beautiful prize and thank you Andreas Schwab for donating this magnificent piece of artwork. Many thanks go to everyone who donated to the Arizona Swiss Foundation throughout the year. Your contributions help support our Foundation's Scholarship Endowment Fund and the Scottsdale Sister Cities' Youth Ambassador Exchange program with Interlaken, Switzerland.

An extra special thank you goes to John Thornton, Susan Oake and Jason Price for all their efforts with the creation, organization, and presentation of these virtual Zoom gatherings. Additionally, thank you dearly to all the AZSS Board and Committee members for everyone's diligent and continuous effort in making the Arizona Swiss Society a wonderful and sociable club of which to be a proud member.

Upcoming events: Annual Meeting (tentative) / Sunday, February 21, 2021 at the Arizona American Italian Club. As we get closer to this event date the AZSS Board will decide whether to host an in-person or virtual get-together, due to the ongoing COVID-19 concerns.

Membership: We are currently over 200 members strong: with 14 Honorary and 16 Life Memberships

If you know of anyone interested in joining our club, please forward them our web-site www.arizonaswisssociety.com.

I wish everyone a delightful Thanksgiving celebration and look froward to seeing you at our Holiday party via Zoom in December 20.

With kindest regards,

Anthony P. Haechler, President
(602) 405-7767 cell
anthonyhaechler@yahoo.com



Activities at Stoos



Stoos is a tiny village located in the municipality of Morschach at 1,300 meters in the Swiss canton of Schwyz, and has about 100 inhabitants. It is used as a small ski resort with a cable car leading up to the Fronalpstock. The car free village is accessible via the Stoosbahn funicular railway.



Stoosbahn
The Swiss built the world's steepest funicular from Schwyz to Stoos

Sledge by Night on the Stoos and in Illgau



Tobogganing or sledge rides at night under the starry sky! In good snow conditions night-tobogganing takes place in Illgau each Saturday night, from the end of December until mid-March. The Sternegg ski lift is exclusively reserved for sledders on the Stoos.

Public Hölloch short tour



With a known length of over 200 kilometers, the Hölloch is one of the largest cave systems in the world. You can hardly escape the fascination of the cave.
On a guided tour, you can experience an underground world that you have never seen before.
With a huge primal force, nature created the rock formations in the Hölloch over a million years.
If you don't want to venture out on the big cave tour yet, then the approx. 2-hour Hölloch tour is the right place for you. Here you can comfortably walk the first 700m of the cave, which was expanded 100 years ago with paths and stairs. You will learn a lot of interesting things about the history of the Hölloch and about caving. You get a first impression of one of the largest cave systems in the world.
The trained cave guide will be able to tell you a lot about the formation of the cave, the rocks or about the animals living in the cave. Experience how the acoustics in the cave behave and what it is like when all the lights are switched off. https://stoos-muotatal.ch/en/activities/hlloch-cave-experience/

Husky encounters



Around 30 Siberian huskies live at the farthest end of the Muotatal. The climate – in snowy winters – is ideal for working with sledge dogs. Once they hear the loud “Go Go!” from the musher, the loyal and trusty bundles of energy push off.

http://www.erlebniswelt.ch/



Snowshoe tour with huskies
You will visit the beautifully built husky enclosures and get to know the loveable sledge dogs. Your musher will tell you a lot of interesting facts about caring for, maintaining and working with huskies.
Equipped with a special climbing harness you will experience an adventurous snow-shoe-tour with your bundle of energy. You will hike through remote and pristine landscapes away from the usual paths, and enjoy the peace of getting away from everyday life in the unique Muotathal mountain world. At the end a delicious cheese fondue will be served according to a local recipe, in the Husky-Lodge.

Skiing on the Stoos



Beautiful wide pistes of all difficulty levels, 35 kilometers long, thrill the hearts of winter sport lovers. The ski region Stoos is family-friendly, with plenty of snow guaranteed and lies on a sunny high plateau.



Skiing with children



Winter sportspersons young and old will quickly make friends with their favorite ski run.

- Children’s ski land with a magic carpet for the youngest
- easy ski slopes for beginners
- wide sunny and panoramic pistes for connoisseurs
- steep runs for brave top-notch skiers and racers

You can comfortably reach other pistes with the chairlifts, ski lifts and connection lifts. Without having to carry your own skis or those of your children.

Skiing becomes a pleasure with the proper method. Children learn the method in a playful way at the Stoos Swiss ski school. Once you feel ready on your skis, you can continue to attend courses to develop your skills or switch to snowboarding.
The winter sports region above Lake Lucerne is also attractive for families in terms of prices – whether it is for ski holidays or a skiing excursion. With the family steep pass, children ride for free throughout the entire winter season. Furthermore, the new pass grants access to family innovations, such as the “KidsFinder”, thanks to which parents can always keep track of the current location of their children.





Typical Swiss Advertising in Earlier Years



Swiss Chocolate



Swiss Shoes



First TV-Film



Swiss Instant Cocoa



Non-Alcoholic Drink



Ricola - Who Invented it?
The Swiss Invented it !



Children's slippers
Tiger-Finken, classic red

Advertise in the Valley eCho

Business card size	$ 10.00 per insert,	(no discount)
¼ page	$ 25.00 per insert,	pay 4 and get 10% off
½ page	$ 50.00 per insert,	pay 4 and get 10% off
Full page	$ 100.00 per insert,	pay 4 and get 10% off

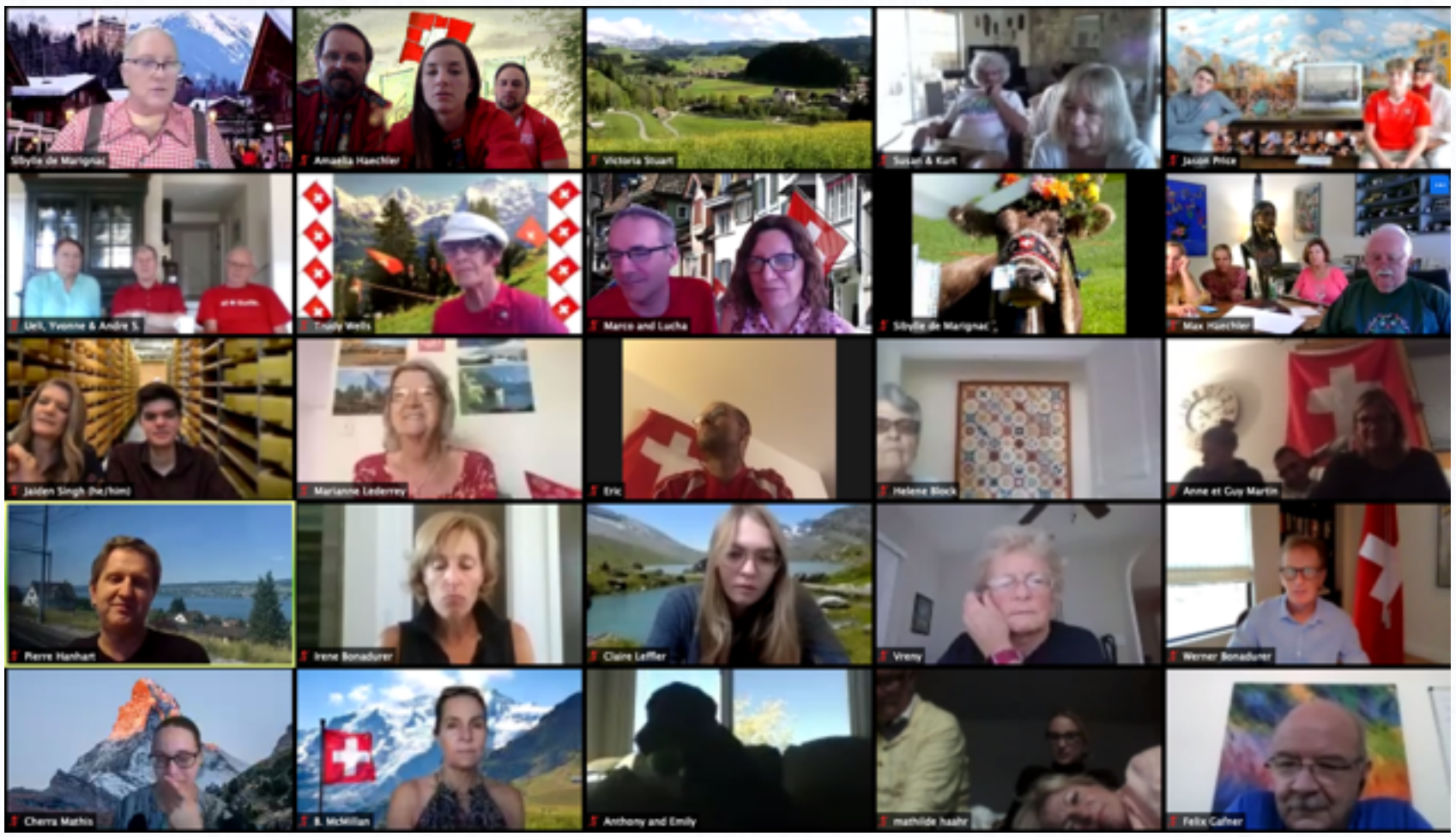




12h00
to start
Fall Fest
Pandemic Edition

Fall-Fest

Sunday, October 11th, at 12h00 on Zoom
with John Thornton and the cooking
demonstration for Spätzli and more....



SWISS COOKING
recipes coming in the next Newsletters











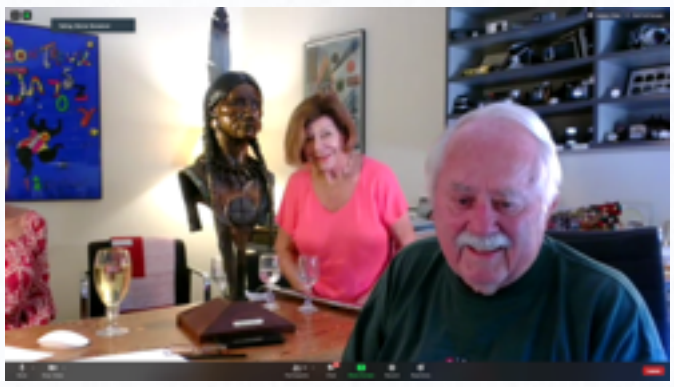




Entertainment with **Oesch's die Dritten** a famous Swiss Jodel Family Group and their Jodeling
"Da da Muh"

for more information go to:
www.oeschs-die-dritten.ch





















Raffle ticket winner:
Honorary, Arizona Swiss Council,
Dr. Werner and Jrene Bonadurer won the bronze sculpture
by Swiss Artist Andreas Schwab

Winner of the best SWISS background, **Marco Janssen** and **Lucha Pfister,** and **Jaiden Singh**
Winners of the best costume, **Trudy Wells-Meyer,** and, **Eric Haechler,** Horgen Switzerland









Club News / Sunshine Committee

Something for young and old to pass this crazy Time







Relax.... **and Enjoy !**

Club News / Sunshine Committee





Gratulations

Jaiden Singh, University of AZ / Biochemistry
Claire Leffler, CA College of the Arts / Architecture
Jacqueline Purwins, University of AZ / Physiology

have been awarded a 2020 Scholarship
from the Arizona Swiss Foundation.

We are proud of these young well educated people.

Keep up the great work!





We Welcome New Members and returning Members

Pierre-Yves and Casey Hanhart with their daughters Ashley, Abigail and Alyson, Sahuarita AZ
Jimmy and Ona Rose, Peoria AZ



Get well soon:

Ingeborg Senuta, Isabelle Blacher, Charlene Klump, Bruno Hahl-Zahno
and Rose Marie Sieger

New Home:

Urs Schwank, we wish you happy days in your new home



Upcoming events

RESERVE THE DATE

Christmas-Party

December 20, 2020

Annual Meeting

February 21, 2021



Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year





Children's page and
and young at heart



Christmas cookies: Totenbeinli



Ingredients:
150 gr. Nuts
150 gr. Almonds
3 Eggs
300 gr. Sugar
1 parcel Vanilla Sugar
1 pinche of Salt
300 - 350 gr. Flour
2 (gestrichene) Teaspoons Baking Powder
50 gr. Butter

Direction: Nuts and Almonds are rubbed on a cloth and 2/3 of them are roughly chopped. The rest remain whole. Then beat the Eggs and mix with Sugar, Vanilla Sugar, and Salt until the mass is creamy. Mix the Nuts and the Almonds, and as much Flour with Baking Powder is needed into the mixture until a solid paste is formed. Finally, the Butter is kneaded into the mass until a smooth dough is formed. Thereafter roll out strips, about 1 cm thick and place them on a greased sheet and bake.

Preheat: 10 min

Bake: 25 min about 400 Fahrenheit in the middle of the oven

Finish: Cut the still warm pastry in 1 cm wide stem and place with the cut surface on a baking sheet and bake as rusk light crispy, like Zwieback, about 20 min.

Old recipe from my mother. I love them
Sylvia

Enjoy!!!



Board Members 2020

President	Anthony P. Haechler
Vice President	Viktor Stuart
Treasurer	Sibylle De Marignac
Secretary	Victoria Stuart-Haldemann
Activity Chairs	Susan Oake Jaspm Price Amaella Haechler
Membership Chair	Helene Block
Past President	John Thornton

Ex-Officio:
Honorary Swiss Consul Dr. Werner Bonadurer
Swiss Consul Emeritus Max Haechler

Committee Members:

Newsletter	Sylvia Brunner Reichen Editor Trudy Wells-Meyer John Thornton
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 Anthony P. Haechler Sibylle De Marignac
Adviser/Jass Coordinator	Ueli Zaugg

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