Arizona Swiss Society

VALLEY eCHo

Newsletter

www.arizonaswisssociety.com

Visit us on Facebook

Follow us on twitter

SUMMER / FALL 2024



Frauenfeld TG

Spring Picnic





On a beautifully sunny day with temps in the mid 80s, 76 adults and 11 children of the Arizona Swiss Society enjoyed their annual **Spring Picnic at Chandler's Desert Breeze Park** . As usual, the food contributed by member volunteers was delicious. A variety of sausages were grilled by **Anthony Haechler and Daniel Fahrni**; Alain Butzberger arrived early to decorate the Ramada area and several volunteer photographers were on hand to document the event. Sadly missing at the music controls: "DJ" Kurt Schittli.

As usual, **Susan Oake and Amaelia Haechler Eckert** did a fantastic job coordinating the picnic. Incoming President **Roland Ulrich** made several announcements including thanking all volunteers for making the picnic a success; gratitude on behalf of the club to **Max Haechle**r for coordinating the availability of the Paradise Valley Country Club for our annual Xmas party for many years - we now will move on to a new venue: The Orange Tree Resort in Scottsdale; Swiss National Day is to be celebrated on Sunday, August 4 at Chompies; Fall Raclette picnic will be in Fountain Hills and, always good to hear: we have several new AZ Swiss Society members - we hope they will enjoy our activities.

Brigitte Metzger












































Message from the President

Dear Members and Friends of the AZ Swiss Society:



The board and I would like to thank everyone who attended the Spring Picnic at the Desert Breeze Park in Chandler. We shared a wonderful time with over a 100 members and guests attending. A big thank you to all our members and guests who brought delicious sides and desserts to share. Thank you to our grill masters Daniel Fahrni and Anthony Haechler for serving the Veal Brats. Thank you to our amazing Susan Oake for taking care of planning, decorations and all the activities. And finally thank you to all the volunteers who helped setting and cleaning up at the end of the day. You all made this event possible.

Our next event will be the first of August celebration. This event will be held at Chompie's in Phoenix. We will share the message of the President of Switzerland and play our traditional Swiss quiz with some great prizes.



The fall picnic is approaching, and we need volunteers to help Susan with the planning and execution. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming events.

Roland Ulrich
President

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

Youth Activity Page

























Culture & Activities in Frauenfeld and Surrounding Region

Frauenfeld is the canton capital of Thurgau



Frauenfeld the Thurgau capital with 25’990 inhabitants is located in the west of the canton and its charming surroundings with the wide Thur valley and the rolling hills of the region invite you to go hiking and cycling. In addition to the time-honored castle, the well-kept old town, the diverse Eisenwerk cultural center and the steel Stählibuck tower, the underground roundabout at the train station is a landmark of the city.



History



Frauenfeld emerged as a fortified small town settlement in the 13th century on the territory of (long and short-) Erchingen. In the 9th century, “Erichinga” was a royal court and place of justice with its own church and at this time it became the property of the Reichenau monastery as a royal donation.

Left picture: This is how the painter and illustrator Jörg Müller imagines the nascent city around 1246 (mural in the historical museum of the Canton of Thurgau in Frauenfeld Castle).

The Frauenfeld Castle



The start of construction on the tower of Frauenfeld Castle can be dated to around 1230 based on the wooden beams that are still preserved today. Immediately next to this stately center, the settlement was built in the second third of the 13th century, the name of which was first mentioned in a document in 1246. Frauenfeld is documented as a town as early as 1286. At this time, the bailiwick of the Reichenau property rested with the Habsburgs, who may have inherited this function from the Kyburgs in 1264.

After the Confederates conquered Thurgau in 1460, they gradually made Frauenfeld the administrative center of the landgraviate. As early as 1500, Frauenfeld became the first meeting location of the federal parliament. The federal governor resided in Frauenfeld Castle from 1532. Frauenfeld Castle is not only a landmark of the Thurgau capital, it is also home to the Thurgau Historical Museum.

Frauenfeld Openair Festival



The Openair Frauenfeld is the largest open-air music festival in German-speaking Switzerland and the largest hip-hop festival in Europe. The event has been taking place since 1987. It used to be a rock and blues festival called Out in the Green Festival, which also once took place in Winterthur. The open air has been running under the name Openair Frauenfeld since 2006 and presents mostly hip-hop artists.

Last Frauenfeld Openair was on July 11 - 13, 2024

Culture in Frauenfeld



Frauenfeld's cultural life impresses with its wide variety of offerings in a small space. Most cultural events are located within one square kilometer. In addition to the cantonal institutions (libraries and museums), it is primarily associations and private individuals that offer the public events on a small scale through to events with a national impact. The manageable size of the city and the commitment of many residents lead to good networking; Artists and art educators meet every six months with the city's cultural leaders at a round table, the so-called KulTisch, to discuss things and come up with new ideas.

Mammoth Raft Race



Every Mother's Day in May an extraordinary spectacle takes place on Sitter and Thur: the traditional Mammoth Raft Race. Raft riders compete over a distance of around 12 kilometers from Degenau to Kradolf. It's not just about speed. No, the real eye-catchers are the raft structures and the crew's costumes, which are made specifically for this race in countless hours of work with great attention to detail. This crazy raft trip is bizarre, adventurous and not entirely harmless.

The 50th Mammoth Raft Race Sitter-Thur took place in May 2024.

CatWalk9220



The CatWalk9220 is a modern, approximately two-hour scavenger hunt and brings exercise and fun for the whole family. Equipped with item instructions, puzzle fans discover 20 natural places around Bischofszell and try to find the treasure.
The participants start at the town hall. The post instructions, which can be obtained here, are absolutely necessary to find your way to the goal. The entire trail around Bischofszell includes 20 posts. The cat must not be lost sight of on the way and the aim is to find the way to the goal and the treasure using the solutions to various puzzles.
Tip: Pack bratwurst and bread and stop at the Swiss Family Feuerstelle on the way. Or enjoy a refreshing swim in the Thur or in the swimming pool.

Kraftort Kartausen Ittingen / Ittingen Charterhouse is a place of power



Just outside Frauenfeld, in Warth-Weiningen, lies one of the largest pearls in Thurgau: the Ittingen Charterhouse. The former Carthusian monastery is now a cultural center. Its story is told in the Ittinger Museum and on various guided tours or audio guide tours. The historic rooms also house the Thurgau Art Museum, hotel, monastery shop and concert series. Here you can dine in the monastic sense of self-sufficiency: with the zero-kilometer menu, no ingredient has traveled more than a kilometer to reach the plate. Historic rose and herb gardens, vineyards, a fish farm and the estate are part of the Charterhouse and can be discovered.

Musician Walty Anselmo dies at the age of 77 on March 22th, 2024



Walty Anselmo was considered the "Swiss Jimi Hendrix" and was one of the first rock musicians in Switzerland in the 1960s: **Krokodil band member Walty Anselmo the guitarist and singer** died on Friday night, as his band colleague Düde Dürst told the Keystone-SDA news agency upon request.

Anselmo founded the progressive rock band **Krokodil** in 1969 together with music pioneers **Hardy Hepp** and **Düde Dürst.** They were mainly influenced by the influential electric guitar virtuoso Jimi Hendrix and became known beyond the country's borders.

Anselmo played music in many different styles. Among other things, he played bass in the popular song **“Grüezi wohl, Frau Stirnimaa”** by the Minstrels. The song stayed at the top of the Swiss charts for ten weeks in 1969.

Legendary headliner



Anselmo, born in 1946, grew up in Rüschlikon ZH. At the age of 14 he bought his first guitar. During his apprenticeship as a retoucher he founded his first band and played regularly in Zurich nightclubs.

Anselmo was the only Swiss musician to play as the opening act at the legendary Rolling Stones concert in Zurich's Hallenstadion in 1967 and as the headliner at the two-day monster concert in 1968 with Jimi Hendrix, among others. Anselmo had the honor of picking up his idol at Zurich Airport.

In 1974, Anselmo gave up his professional career as a musician. From then on, he worked as a printer. Krokodil released around ten albums, most recently in 2020 and 2021. For health reasons, Anselmo was only there as a "special guest".

Together with his wife, he recently took care of their bonsai business and lived in Einsiedeln SZ.



Swiss Rock-group at a performance in 1969
Archive-picture: Keystone

EURO 2024

Switzerland : Italien 2:0
What a match! Both Switzerland and Italy delivered a memorable performance in the European Championship.

Expect the Unexpected! EURO 2024 in Germany for one month.

One shot on Goal sends Switzerland in das Tal der Tränen. (valley of tears) One player, Akanji, to carry a country’s agony of defeat for the rest of his life . . . simply too CRUEL!
A Goal that changed **Everything** . . . oh the meaning of one Goal!

Sheer Swiss delight, nail-biting, cowbell-ringing happened in the first round with 7 different Swiss ***Torschützen***: Switzerland beat Hungary 3:1 — Scotland tied 1:1 — Germany 1:1 surprising Soccer-fans Europe calls Football. Swiss magic dominated Italy, winner of the last EURO, in the round of sixteen 2:0.



Exuberant joy for the most brilliant fun EM-super-games ever. Germany, the host country bowed out with a last-minute goal against Spain. Surprise Austria went home in tears, despair beyond belief. Underdog countries excelled and gave us hours of shots at glory, contrast of emotions, near misses, Goalkeepers-brilliance, miracles on grass like the shot by young Jude Bellingham’s last-minute bicycle kick/goal against Slovakia — the hearts of Europe stopped . . . to send England to the Quarter Final and break Swiss hearts. After 90 minutes and 30 minutes extra time, the torture of Penalty kicks decided . . . what excitement until the last shot on Goal.
A country still dreaming. Wake up! You win together . . . you lose together!

Spain EURO Champions 2024, the best team throughout the tournament winning all 7 games.

Club News / Sunshine Committee

‘Alpenrosen‘ . . . Roses of the Alps

“The less we look with our eyes the more we will see with our hearts.” — Lindsey Albrecht



A titanic smile heaven-bound, a time as if someone had taken a tiny bead of pure life set dancing to show me the true nature of life. Tranquil as the glacier’s snow on a path of rocks Alpenrosen grace the way. A tiny rose in bunches, green leaves on brown twigs, a blissful vision on green meadows, sounds of a Bergwelt high up, Hohsaas — an Alp in the Matterhorn region. A time for the mind and heart to awaken, a dreamy aspect of life is a blessing. God’s power endless, a texture of melancholy elevated in mountain splendor, the stormy current of life’s pulsating stream, snow melting in front of my eyes. A link to my youth, a sight of beauty that sends tears of joy, touches the heart, lights up the eyes of imagination, listening to the rushing water of a stream to the valley.
Grateful for being a resident on this earth, memories of an innocent time.
A Swiss mountain-line sparks a remembrance from long ago, in the silence comes a whisper, lets my heart echo the songs of spring in my autumn years. What I miss most in Arizona, is snow-covered mountains on the horizon — snow roses. Immigrants often have one foot in the old country, the other in the new, emotionally pushed and pulled. May I never forget gratitude for both.

Wherever is your heart . . . call home Trudy Wells-Meyer

Congratulation Trudy!

Trudy, one of the First Place Winners; Bellingham, Washington; April 20, 2024.
2023 Chanticleer International Book Contest. Hearten CIBA Award
Uplifting & Inspirational Non-Fiction Stories for the Heart
(26 categories — several First Place Winners in each.)



The award dinner was fascinating, and never to forget. When roaring applause sounds happened in the huge ballroom, from many Finalists I met during the 2- day conference, now all dressed up, as my name was called I ran like a canon shot to the stage (not what I dreamed of doing). The event truly was international, Tony, one winner from Albania lives in London, one in Barbados and last year's overall winner from Australia helped me up the stairs to receive that blue ribbon. I truly live a dream I never had.
There is life after hair . . .



“What you are is God’s gift to you . . . what you become is your gift to God.
Hans Urs von Balthasar (Swiss)

Dear Jass Players,

Another Jass season is behind us. We had 6 great get togethers during this season with very gracious host. I don’t want to miss the opportunity to give Kurt Benninger a big THANK YOU in the name of the 10 players attending. We had a “gmüetliche” afternoon with 2 table - one with German cards, the other with the French cards. The Brats and the other goodies were excellent! Thank you so much.

We won’t be playing until October/November 2024. The provisional schedule is:



November 2024: Susan Oak
December 2024: Max & Elsbeth Haechler
January: 2025: Ueli & Yvonne Zaugg

And as I mentioned in earlier invitations, newcomers and beginners are always welcome. Playing Jass is a great Swiss Tradition! We want to keep it alive.

I wish everyone a great, enjoyable, and relaxing summer wherever it might b. Be safe.

See you next fall.

Ueli Zaugg, Jass Coordinator



Club News / Sunshine Committee



With a great amount of sadness and heavy hearts, we have to let you know that our friend,

Eddy (Edmond) Schaefer

succumbed to his illness and passed away on Tuesday morning, June 18 2024.

We would like to extend our deepest sympathies to Christine and send her our thoughts, love and prayers. Christine, no words can express how sorry we are for the loss of your husband.

Eddy was an active member and organizer of the Tucson Swiss Club, as well as a member of our group in Phoenix.



He was an amazing and special person, full of fun and always willing to help those in need.

He will forever remain in our hearts and memories. We will miss you, Eddy!

Sadly we have to inform you that our member,

Marie Howard

got her angel wings on June 21 2024

She will be deeply missed by her husband Dennis.

On behalf of all Arizona Swiss Club Members, we would like to extend our deepest sympathies to Dennis and send him our thoughts, love and prayers deepest sympathies to the family!





Sadly Nathalie de Fresart and her husband Edouard, are morning the loss of her father
who passed away in Belgium in the Spring.
He would have been 100 years old this summer.

Our deepest sympathies to the families!



Sibylle De Marignac

She had a lil incident on her hand and afterward a hand-surgery in the hospital.

We wish her a quick recovery.





Fall Picnic

Golden Eagle Park, Fountain Hills
October, 20, 2024



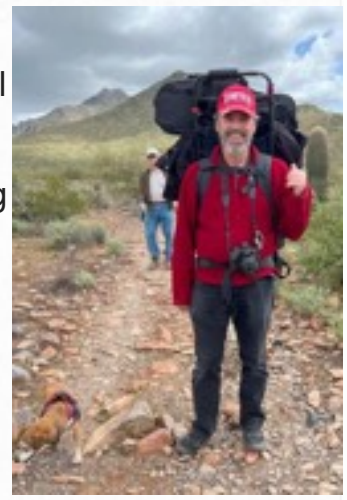
Club News / Sunshine Committee

Swiss and Austrian Club Members Hike
Gateway Trailhead Loop in Scottsdale McDowell Sonoran Preserve





Threatening clouds did not stop eleven members of the Swiss and Austria Clubs. It rained before we left the house. I giggled at Elsbeth Haechler' s words: "I am not hiking with an umbrella." A three-mile, one hundred feet elevation, comprising several trails awaited us on a cool windy Sunday morning on **March 24th**. At times real dark clouds put fear in some of us of getting wet, in the middle of the desert with a zillion different shades of green; nonetheless, the sun came out for a short while, and spring flowers looked spectacular. The highlight of the morning:



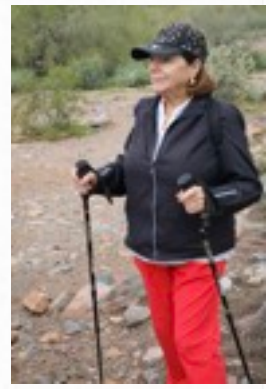
Alain Butzberger serving food he carried on the trail: Bananas, Cookies, Water, etc. He even offered cookies to hikers going by, what fun!!!!

Anyone, ask him sometimes the reason why he really carried such a huge backpack. WOW!

Thank you to Marie-France Ganansia for organizing the hike.













Christmas Party

Orange Tree Resort
Sunday, December, 8th, 2024



Cook’s page
for everyone



Thurgauer Käseschnitten / Thurgauer cheese slices

Sometimes good things are so simple. Like Thurgau cheese slices! The farmer's bread, drizzled with apple juice, is topped with Tilsiter, apples, bacon and onions and then baked.

Ingredients:



- 2 apples
- 8 slices of Thurgau Tilsiter cheese
- 2 spring onions
- 50 ml sweet cider or apple juice
- 8 slices of bread
- Pepper

Instructions:

Preheat the oven to 220° degrees top and bottom heat. Cover the baking tray with baking paper.
Place the bread slices on the tray and brush the slices with apple juice. Finely chop the spring onion.
Wash, halve and core the apples. Then cut into 3mm thin slices.
Cover the bread slices with the apple slices and place the onion on top and then cut the cheese into 5mm thick slices and place on top.
Bake the cheese slices in the middle of the oven for 10 to 15 minutes.

Tip
Place a slice of bacon on top and bake. Slices also taste very good with pears. Serve the slices with a fine green salad.

! En Guete und proscht!



Board Members 2024

President	Roland Ulrich
Vice President	Daniel Fahrni
Treasurer	Alex Reuter
Secretary	Helene Block
Activity Chairs	Susan Oake Amaelia Eckert Haechler
Membership Chair	Sibylle Zaugg-Reuter
Past President	Anthony P. Haechler

Honorary Swiss Consul Dr. Werner Bonadurer
Swiss Consul Emeritus Max Haechler

Committee Members:

Newsletter	Sylvia Brunner Reichen, Editor Trudy Wells-Meyer
Sunshine Committee	Yvonne Zaugg Brigitte Metzger
Historian	Sigrid Kuster
Webmaster	Philippe Reichen
SocialMedia Coordinator	Ivan Livesay
Youth Activity	Sedona Ulrich, Fiona Reuter
Investment Committee	John Thornton, Chair Anthony P. Haechler Sibylle De Marignac
Adviser/Jass Coordinator	Ueli Zaugg

Arizona Swiss Society
Sylvia Brunner Reichen
7101 W. Beardsley Glendale, AZ 85308