Arizona Swiss Society

VALLEY ECHO

Newsletter

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SUMMER / FALL 2026



Delémont / Jura

Spring Picnic, Desert Breeze Park, Chandler, AZ
Sunday, April 12th 2026

The new board and President Daniel Fahrni did a fine job on a cooler, windy, and cloudy Sunday in April, yet not hot (a bonus). Perfect weather for an afternoon of European Gemütlichkeit for about 80 attendees.

With grateful hearts, thank you to all our volunteers and the many hands; your contribution and time spent are valued by members and guests. A shout-out to Alain Butzberger for always putting the Swiss flags up at the Picnic events, and the Swiss signs are appreciated to find the place. Merci Alain!

The convenient set-up at Desert Breeze Park helps all the volunteers to display the wonderful home-made food and desserts brought by Swiss Club members for a successful potluck event. Anthony, with his Swiss apron as usual in charge of Bratwursts and Cervelats, Thank you, Anthony! The *Apple Wähe/ Kuchen, with Hazelnuts on the bottom, so Swiss and wonderful,* some of us wondered who made that??? with mini-Bern flags? Danke to everyone for the amazing choices of food prepared for the Swiss lunch. Daniel Fahrni's first speech as our new President, (during the time those Swiss Wursts were cooking'), was enjoyed by everyone. Daniel's Grüezi t-shirt was the hit of the day!



















See you all next time.

Trudy Wells-Meyer







Message from the President



Dear Members and Friends of the Arizona Swiss Society,

Is it really already time for another Message from the President? It feels like we were just gathering for our Annual Membership Meeting, yet somehow we have already reached the halfway point of the year.

One of the highlights since my last message was our Spring Picnic in April. After an unusually hot spell leading up to the event, Nature smiled on us with perfect picnic weather. It was wonderful to see such a great turnout and to spend the afternoon enjoying good food, great conversations, and, of course, the obligatory Cervelats and Bratwurst. Events like these are a great reminder that while our Swiss heritage brings us together, it is the friendships we build that keep us coming back.

Speaking of bringing people together, many of us have been following the FIFA World Cup with great interest. **Switzerland's remarkable run to the quarter-finals** gave us plenty to cheer about, and although the journey came to an end against Argentina, our Nati represented Switzerland with determination, resilience, and pride. Congratulations to Argentina, and thank you to our Nati for an outstanding World Cup.

While our events are the most visible part of the Society, a great deal also happens behind the scenes. Your Board has been working on several initiatives aimed at broadening the Society's appeal and ensuring it continues to thrive for years to come. Earlier this week, we sent all members a short questionnaire to help us better understand what you value most and where you would like to see us grow. If you have not already done so, I encourage you to take a few minutes to complete it. The more responses we receive, the better informed our decisions will be. We look forward to sharing more as these initiatives take shape.

Our next opportunity to get together will be our **Swiss National Day celebration on Sunday, August 2**, at Bottles & Boards in Gilbert. The invitation has already been sent, and I hope many of you will join us as we celebrate Switzerland's birthday together.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who makes our Society what it is. Whether you serve in an official Board or Committee role, volunteer behind the scenes at our events, or simply step in whenever an extra pair of hands is needed, your generosity of time and effort is what keeps our Society vibrant and welcoming. Thank you for everything you do for our members and friends. It is truly appreciated.

I look forward to seeing many of you on **August 2.**

Warm regards,

Daniel Fahrni
President

Spring Picnic





























Youth Activity Page











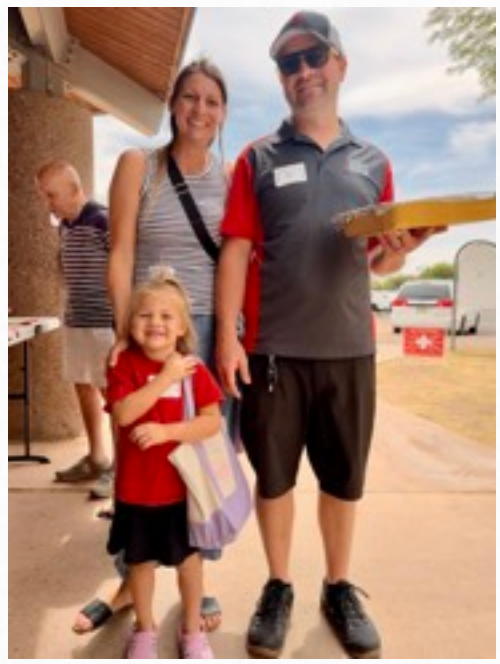












Culture & Activities in Delémont, Jura

Delémont (German Delsberg) an ancient town mentioned in 737, is the capital of the Canton Jura, and is located in the Northwest of Switzerland, on the border with France. The population of the city is 12682 habitants.



There is a lot to discover in the old town of Delémont: walk from the Mühlentor mill gate along the old city wall to the castle with the baroque garden and the guardhouse. At the church square, marvel at the bell tower of the Saint-Marcel church and the wonderfully restored buildings. A popular photo subject is the Rue du Nord, which leads to the Wolfstor. Have you discovered all five figure fountains on your tour – for example, the Virgin Fountain or the Lion Fountain?

Chapells du Vorbourg



Les origines du Vorbourg se perdent dans la nuit des temps. Dans les environs se trouvaient, pense-t-on, des fortifications remontant probablement à l'époque romaine. La tradition donne à penser que c'est au XIe siècle que remonte la construction d'une chapelle sur l'emplacement du choeur actuel du sanctuaire; le château auquel il appartenait était propriété des comtes d'Eguisheim. Elle rapporte que la chapelle fut consacrée en 1049 par le pape saint Léon IX, pape de 1049 à 1054 , ressortissant lui-même de cette famille d'Eguisheim.
Au cours des siècles qui suivirent, la chapelle et le château subirent à plusieurs reprises, des déprédations du fait de la nature, spécialement lors du tremblement de terre du 18 octobre 1356 qui détruisit la ville de Bâle.



The origins of the Vorbourg are lost in the mists of time. It is believed that fortifications dating back—in all likelihood—to the Roman era once stood in the vicinity. Tradition suggests that the construction of a chapel on the site of the sanctuary's current choir dates back to the 11th century; the castle to which it belonged was the property of the Counts of Eguisheim. It further recounts that the chapel was consecrated in 1049 by Pope Saint Leo IX—Pontiff from 1049 to 1054—who was himself a member of the Eguisheim family.Over the centuries that followed, both the chapel and the castle repeatedly suffered damage caused by natural forces—most notably during the earthquake of October 18, 1356, which devastated the city of Basel.

Musee Jurassien



Located in the heart of Delémont, the Jura Museum of Art and History is a place full of character. Sitting on the old town's ramparts, its buildings are part of an architectural ensemble dating back to the 18th and 19th centuries.
Jurassic, Tête de moine, end of the world... A permanent exhibition based on stereotypes and symbols of Switzerland's youngest canton sheds light on the events and environments that have left their mark on the region and its inhabitants.
The museum also houses various collections, including the oldest known decorated crosier in the world and storerooms containing several reserve collections.

Hiking around Delémont



Mountaineering routes around the District de Delémont traverse a landscape dominated by the Jura Mountains, featuring wooded slopes, deep valleys and striking limestone formations. The region offers a wide variety of ascents—ranging from challenging climbs to high vantage points—providing diverse experiences for mountaineers. These routes often lead to panoramic vistas and wind through varied terrain, including open ridges and dense forests.

Tête de Moine AOP



Its origins date back to the 12th century at the Bellelay Abbey. In the late 18th century, the name for this cheese variety—Tête de Moine (French for "monk's head")—was established. In 1978, the association of Tête de Moine producers was founded. Since 2001, the designation "Tête de Moine, Fromage de Bellelay" has been registered as a Protected Designation of Origin (Appellation d’Origine Protégée, AOP).

Traditionally, Tête de Moine is not sliced, but rather shaved into wafer-thin layers. Since 1982, a special patented tool—the *Girolle*—has been available for this purpose. It typically consists of a round wooden base featuring a vertical spindle in the center and a handle. The cylindrical cheese is placed centrally onto the spindle; however, the rind must first be cut away from the top of the cheese—a step that bears a faint resemblance to a *tonsure*, the shaved patch on a monk's head that gave the cheese its name. By using the handle fitted onto the spindle, one can then create rosettes of finely shaved cheese. This increased surface area serves to accentuate the cheese's flavor. As the cheese is shaved, the rind detaches at the edges and crumbles away. The shaving device was named after the appearance of these rosettes, which resemble chanterelle mushrooms (French: *girolle*).

Victorinox Factory Store Delémont





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The original Swiss Army Knife™ is displayed in the permanent design collection at the Museum of Modern Art in New York.



Switzerland's Ice Hockey Dream 2026



One shot — one goal — one moment of brilliance — Lightning hit Switzerland on Sunday, May 31st and ended the dream of Gold. Finland's shot to Glory changed everything! (in overtime) Oh, the meaning of one Goal . . . Silver . . . again. A glorious failure. 'Things' do come in 3's . . .
For 2 weeks, in Zürich and Freiburg, a country united, Switzerland dancing on cloud nine, the Red and White kept winning (1 game
9:0)
Gold on everyone's minds and hearts. Not to be! Will Switzerland continue to wonder if coach Patrick Fischer had brought Gold with his beloved team, and his unfortunate scandalous exit had not ruined a belief in the media?
(Click on the link below):
https://weltwoche.ch/daily/fall-patrick-fischer-die-weltwoche-konfrontierte-alle-sponsoren-und-partner-der-swiss-ice-hockey-federation-hier-lesen-sie-die-antworten/

The Team Trikots and amazing shirts, the sea of red and white — fans going wild — will never fade.



Fussball-Weltmeisterschaft 2026
World Cup 2026 in America, Mexico, and Canada

A 5-week global event, the hopes of nations, 48 teams/ countries. Soccer, the world calls Football, the beautiful game, daily on regular TV for everyone to be a part of the World's biggest Party. Every 4 years, the meaning of one goal on display . . . the colors of the world dancing, tidal wave celebration versus despair. Tears of victory — Tears of defeat. Tiny countries — Giant dreams. One shot can lead to glory while continents hold their breath.

"Passion at the World Cup is not measured by the steps you run down a field; it is measured by the heart that beats for your country." — Pelé

Saturday, June 13th, in Santa Clara, CA. Switzerland played Qatar. Score 1:1. Second game: Thursday, June 18, in Inglewood, CA, Switzerland /Bosnia and Herzegovina, 4:1, Manzambi Johan, 20 years old scored 2 goals and Vargas, both substitutes sent in after 71 minutes, still 0:0, changed everything. Third game, Wednesday, June 24, in Vancouver, Canada, Switzerland / Canada, 2:1 Round of 32 against Algeria, 2:0 (same stadium in Canada) **16** countries left: Switzerland breaks Colombian's hearts, wins 4:3 in penalties. (in Vancouver)

Quarter-Final! 8 countries. A historic event: Last time in 1954 Austria beat Switzerland 7:5. (highest scoring thriller/game until today). July 11th in Kansas City, Switzerland / Argentina and giant Messi; 3:1 in extra-time, doesn't show how close the Swiss were. (without Johan Manzambi the new scoring Swiss Wunderkind hurt in training, so was Ruben Vargas) A referee's call can change EVERYTHING! Embolo, that was a dive!



You win as a country . . . you lose as a country. The pride for the **Swiss National Team** lives on; may the Soccer/Fussball Gods smile upon you in 4 years: **DANKE** for all the excitement and memories that belong to us all and even reached the **Bundesrat Präsident Guy Parmelin!**

Many **no calls** remain a mystery, as well as **bad calls**. The US knows: a team's dramatic collapse In no country was 'that' a red card! *The journey is the reward* .

Spain /Argentina, the magic of Messi. What a dream final!

Congratulations to SPAIN! Prize: Champions of the World

In 2030 we will cheer again during this emotionally connected festival that unites the world.
The eyes of the Globe can't wait.

Trudy Wells-Meyer

Club News / Sunshine Committee

During the Winter-Spring Season each months one of the members host us for our Jass.

All the time it is such a pleasure. Last time we were 12 players at 3 tables, 2 played with French carts, the other table used German cards. some were lucky, some unfortunately lost. Gabi spoiled us with delicious food and many different drinks. Some enjoyed eating the macaroni pasta with original historic wooden Swiss spoons. What a treat.





As always mentioned in earlier invitations, newcomers and beginners are always welcome. Playing Jass is a great Swiss Tradition! But we need young and older new players to participate.

Ueli Zaugg, Jass Coordinator

























Club News / Sunshine Committee

May 11, 2026

Dear Jass players,

A successful Jass season is behind us and we have to wait till fall to play again. But we could end the season with another great Jass Party at Sibylle de Marignac's home in Peoria. She was a great host and we all enjoyed it. Thank you so much Sibylle for hosting us and making us welcome at your home.

We had a special surprise at the Party with Dora Gruber's 90th BIRTHDAY!! HAPPY BIRTHDAY Dora. Hopefully you can make it to many more Jass Parties! It is always a special treat to have you playing with us! From all the Jass players we send you the best wishes for many healthy years to come.



I wish you a great summer wherever you may spend it. If you "have" to stay in the Phoenix area – stay cool! If you travel – stay safe!

I will be in contact again sometime at the end of September with updates on the next Jass season 26/27. If you would like to host, please let me know. New hosts are always welcome! So are beginners and other experienced new players.

Best wishes,

Ueli Zaugg, Jass Coordinator

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Club News / Sunshine Committee

Happy Birthday!

Duri Arquisch looking fabulous at 90



Duri, born in Lumbrein, Graubünden Oberland, in Romansch Surselva, celebrated 90 years on April 27th, 2026, in California with his family.

Duri Arquisch and Rosemary, members of the AZ Swiss Society, live in Gold Canyon, AZ.

Chef in well-known hotels in Switzerland: Suvretta House St. Moritz, Baur au Lac and Dolder, Zürich, London Hilton and Amsterdam to name a few and Sheraton Hotels in America, Duri arrived in the USA in 1965 (in Arizona since 2005).
The Swiss Club Members wish Duri good health, sunshine in his heart and all the best of everything.



Keep smiling!

Historian Sigrid Kuster

What does Historian really mean? (Sigrid Kuster, Historian, listed in the yearly directory) Here is the answer:



Sigrid Kuster grew up in Ueberlingen am Bodensee, member of the Swiss Club at least since 1992. Sigrid inherited the title. Emma and Luigi Bon, Public Relations Historians, started to collect AZ Swiss Society history as early as the 1960's. (all in boxes at Sigrid's house) Jennifer Kuster was Historian from 1999 to 2002, Sigrid the following year, collecting information if deemed important. (Dolf, Sigrid's husband, President of the Swiss Society from 2001-2002, passed away in 2015.)

Now that Sigrid had to downsize and move to Clarendale, in Phoenix, to a smaller apartment with a view, where will the history boxes end up? Thanks to Susan Oake's help, at the Club's storage. **Danke Sigrid for all your time and care.**

Sigrid and Trudy at the picnic in April at Desert Breeze Park with shirts alike

Club News / Sunshine Committee

It is with heavy hearts, we share that our dear friend,

Christine Schaefer,

passed away peacefully surrounded by family on June 18th, 2026.



We will remember Christine's grace, compassion, generosity and unwavering devotion to family and friends. In a touching reflection of the extraordinary bond she shared with Eddy, Christine passed away on the same date as her beloved husband, who preceded her in death two years ago.

We find comfort in believing they are together once again. Christine will be deeply missed and forever remembered by all whose lives she touched. Our heartfelt condolences go out to her family, friends and loved ones.

Christine, you will never be forgotten.

Tucson Swiss Club and Arizona Swiss Club members

We Welcome New Members

Doug Rooney, Scottsdale
Christian Hillman, Tuscon
Heidi Wolf, Phoenix



First of August

Swiss National Day Celebration
August 2nd, 2026





Fall Fest

Sunday, October 25th, 2026
Colden Eachle Park, Fountain Hills





Swiss-Recipes Page
for the young at heart



Toétché jurassien

Swiss Wähen: This specialty from the Jura region is also known as "St. Martin's Tart" in the Canton of Jura



Ingredients for 4 people

Yeast Dough

400 g	flour
15 g	yeast crumbled
5 Tablsp	milk

Put flour in a bowl, make a well in the center, mix yeast and milk in the well to form a thin paste, dust with a little flour, let stand until the paste foams (approx. 30 min).

1 Teasp	salt
30 g	butter in pieces, softened
1 dl	milk, lukewarm
1.5 Tablsp	cherry brandy

Add the salt and all ingredients up to and including the kirsch. Knead into a soft, smooth dough using the dough hooks of a hand mixer. Roll out into a round shape (approx. 30 cm in diameter) on a lightly floured surface, then place on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Prick the base thoroughly with a fork. Cover and let rise at room temperature for approx. 45 minutes.

Filling

2	eggs
3 dl	double cream
0.5 Teasp	salt
1 prise	Safran

For the custard, whisk the eggs with double cream and Safran, then spread over the dough.
Bake: approx. 25 minutes in the middle of an oven preheated to 220°C. Remove and let cool slightly.

Tip: The **Toétché jurassienne** tastes best lukewarm.

Sächsilüüte - Sechseläuten Zürich



Sechseläuten is a centuries-old tradition to herald the beginning of spring in Zürich. Besides guild members attired in historical costumes, the festival is characterized by music ensembles, horses, flowers, flags, and the Böögg. Nowadays, the Böögg is even the main protagonist: the pyre with the snowman figure on top is set alight when the clock of the St. Peter church strikes 6 pm. The faster his head – which is filled with fireworks – explodes, the finer the summer will be. At least that's what the people of Zürich say. This year the head exploded exact after **12 minutes and 48 seconds**.

History of the Festival



Back in the 16th century, the City Council – which at that time comprised exclusively members of various Zürich guilds* – resolved that in summer, work should stop an hour later than in the winter months. It was decided that on the first Monday after the vernal equinox, the second largest bell of the Grossmünster should ring out at 6 pm precisely to proclaim the beginning of spring. From this day until late fall, the working day would be one hour longer. "Sechseläuten", or "Sächsilüüte" as it is called in local dialect – which literally means "the six o'clock ringing of the bells" – has been celebrated ever since.

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Past President	Roland Ulrich
Treasurer Foundation	Anthony Haechler

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