

Arizona Swiss Society

VALLEY ECHO



Newsletter

www.arizonaswissociety.com



SUMMER / FALL 2023



Fribourg

Spring Picnic

at Desert Breeze Park,
Chandler, April 15, 2023

On a warm day, about 100 members and guests
attended. We all had a lot of fun.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members and Friends of the Arizona Swiss Society,

We had an amazing Spring Picnic thanks to all the helpers and volunteers, specially to Susan, who all the time organizes an outstanding event for all our members.

I will be your president until next February when Roland Ulrich will step up to this position.

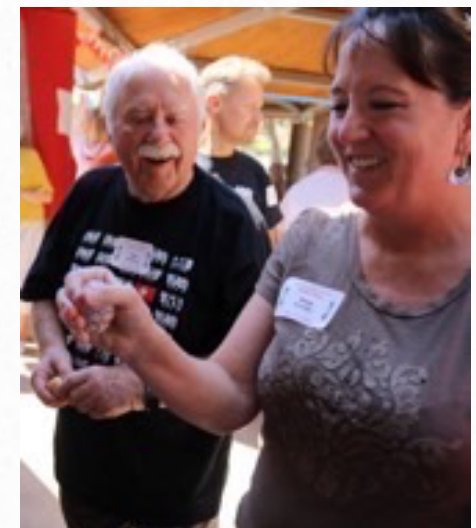


This Picnic was different this year; our new “Youth Activity” chairs **Sedona Ulrich** and **Fiona Reuter** made a brilliant start with organizing the children's activity. Special thanks especially for the idea of greeting our youngest new members **Sebastian** Mendoza (5 months) and my Grand-Child **Ashton** Eckert Haechler (3,5 months) with a drawn, written and signed welcome letter. Sedona and Fiona handed the letter to the proud parents.



Sedona Ulrich and Fiona Reuter read their welcome letter to the parents

As last year the famous “**Eiertüdscheten**” was very well received and created many smiles. The great-colored eggs are made with nature color. The winner was a guest, Rom from France.



Sebastian Mendoza and Ashton Eckert Haechler with their parents

The Haechler's, 4 generations together; Elsbeth and Max, Anthony and daughter Amaelia, with Adam and their son Ashton

Unfortunately I can not attend the **First of August celebration** on **July 30th** but I wish all Swiss Members a wonderful time and memorable celebration, at the Martin's Auto Museum in Glendale. I will be thinking of you in Switzerland and celebrating with my parents in Interlaken.

With kind regards,
Anthony P. Haechler, President

Spring Picnic

Temperatures cool enough in the shade under the Ramadas, a potluck event with favorite dishes by members; Bratwurst and Cervelats provided as usual by the Swiss Club, and the unique home **beer-brewer by John Rudolph**, son of Wood and Jeanne Rudolph (free to members paid by the Club, a tradition for many years). Also John's son at work assisting. They always brew several different quality beers for the event. The first time the Club provided home-brewed beer was ten years ago at the Boyce Thompson Arboretum State Park in 2013. Even Elsbeth Haechler, not a beer drinker, tasted the brown brew and had to admit this is good! Thanks to all the members for taking these great pictures, what fun memories to have.



Here are a few comments by members on a perfect spring Arizona picnic day; Marianne Sacarisen, "The picnic was fun! I hear close to 100 people. Weather perfect, great temperature." Susan Oake, "Wonderful picnic!" Rose Marie Sieger, "There was so much food, and all was very good. All the deserts – it was incredible!" Brigitte Metzger, "Fun at the Swiss Picnic! Lots of people, good food, and drink!" Sylvia Brunner Reichen, "It was great at the Spring Picnic. A lot of people showed up and also children". Wood Rudolph, " We missed you (Trudy and Lew) at the picnic. Had a great turnout, about 95 there. Max and Elsbeth now have a great-grandson. Amelia has an itty bitty one."



Elsbeth and Max's family again brought amazingly colored easter eggs for the Eiertütschen, the exciting Swiss custom, enjoyed by many grown-ups as well as kids. They were so beautifully colored that some took the eggs home without destroying them. Anthony hoped that all eggs were not just thrown away but enjoyed by eating them!!!! Guilty anyone???



Culture & Activities in Fribourg



Fribourg is the capital of the Swiss canton of Fribourg. The town was founded as Freiburg in 1157 by Berthold IV, Duke of Zähringen. Its name is derived from German frei (free) and Burg (fort). Its most ancient part is conveniently located on a former peninsula of the river Sarine, protected on three sides by steep cliffs. The easily defended city helped the Dukes of Zähringen to strengthen and extend their power in the Swiss plateau in the area between the Aare and Saane/La Sarine. It is the center on the culture border between German-speaking and French-speaking Switzerland.



Fribourg Old Town features over two hundred original Gothic façades. This makes it one of the biggest remaining medieval settlements in modern Europe. Wandering the narrow lanes is a highlight of any visit.

There are a dozen historic fountains in Fribourg. These feature columns that support important and historic biblical or allegorical figures, such as Jean Tinguely's Jo Siffert Fountain.

Fourteen bridges also characterize the townscape, and each is unique in design and appearance. ~

Église et Couvent des Cordeliers / Church and Convent of the Cordeliers



The convent of the Cordeliers "Sainte Croix", in Fribourg, is the oldest convent of the Franciscan family still active in Switzerland.

The church has a very high-level medieval interior layout:

- 66 of the oldest stalls in Switzerland (1305)
- Altarpiece of the Master with a carnation from 1480
- Furno altarpiece from 1509-13, one of the most valuable altarpieces in Switzerland.
- St. Anthony of Padua Altarpiece, Hans Fries, 1506

At the end of the 14th century, work on the choir, the nave and the convent was undertaken, and gave the whole its final appearance. The Couvent des Cordeliers has recently been renovated and offers rooms for seminars and accommodation for pilgrims to Santiago de Compostela.

Les Georges Festival



Faithful to the city's summer events, the Festival Les Georges welcomes Swiss and international artists every year.

The festival consists of six evenings of music and offers a wide range of pop, rock, song, electronic music and jazz, presenting local and Swiss groups, but also international headliners. The event is intended for a wide audience and offers entertainment, competitions, and games on the sidelines of the musical programming.

A program specially designed for families is also offered, free of charge, on Saturday afternoons. Dates; Monday 10 July 2023 – Saturday 15 July 2023

Jean Tinguely / Niki de Saint Phalle



Jean Tinguely was a Swiss sculptor best known for his kinetic art sculptural machines. Born in Fribourg, Tinguely grew up in Basel.

The Espace Jean Tinguely - Niki de Saint Phalle is a stroke of luck: In the high-ceilinged rooms of the disused Fribourg tram depot, erected in 1900, in the heart of town. The memory of the place takes on a poetic dimension in dialogue with the work of Tinguely. The visitor discovers, among other things, a masterpiece by Jean Tinguely: the "Altarpiece of Western Abundance and Totalitarian Mercantilism" (1989/90), or the 22 reliefs entitled "Remembering" (1997/98) by Niki of Saint Phalle.

Funiculaire de Fribourg

Tous les fribourgeois et fribourgeoises le connaissent car c'est l'une des curiosités de la ville. La ligne a été ouverte en 1899 et relie le Centre-Ville à la Basse-Ville.

All people from Fribourg know it because it is one of the city's curiosities. The line was opened in 1899 and connects Downtown to Lower Town.

Le Funiculaire de Fribourg, classé monument historique, est unique en Europe... c'est effectivement un des seuls qui carbure aux eaux usées de la ville, dont il se sert grâce à un système de contrepoids.

Les grincements et cliquetis de la crémaillère de la machine centenaire valent évidemment le détour, d'autant plus que celle-ci vous emmènera au plus profond de l'âme de la ville : le Funiculaire a été et reste aujourd'hui encore le trait d'union entre la Basse-Ville et le Centre de Fribourg... l'histoire et la modernité... tout un symbole !

The Funicular of Fribourg, classified as a historic monument, is unique in Europe... it is indeed one of the only ones that runs on the city's waste- water, which it uses thanks to a system of counterweights.

The creaking and rattling of the cogwheel of the century-old machine is obviously worth the detour, especially since it will take you deep into the soul of the city: the Funicular was and still remains today the hallmark of Union between the Lower Town and the Center of Fribourg... history and modernity... quite a symbol!



Le Grand Boulevard – Belluard

The large boulevard was constructed in the year 1490. The old artillery fortress remains with the Munot of Schaffhausen (built after 1563) the only work of this type preserved in Switzerland.

In Fribourg, it is the last of the three boulevards in the damaged part, to the north and west of the city. It is composed of a tower, the "Curtils novels" (new gardens), dating from 1400, then rebuilt, shortly before 1500, in a large molasse apparatus of high technical perfection. In the 17th century, loopholes were adapted to new artillery techniques.

In the shape of an inverted U, the boulevard is about 35 m thick. Two wooden galleries subdivide the semi-circular part into two floors.



In this historic enclosure, major events such as the Belluard-Bollewerk Festival and the Open-air Cinema are held each year. The Belluard is at the moment closed due to work.

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

Meet Vivian Stearns-Kohler / Visual Artist



On SHOUTOUT ARIZONA Vivian was published and they shared her passion.

“My earliest recollection is that I always was a creative, expressive individual. Even during my professional career, I always found time to take art classes and create. In retirement I have developed my artistic repertoire to include fused glass, oil and acrylic paintings, pastels, watercolor, pottery, wearable art/home décor, jewelry making and painting with paper. Additionally, I have written and published four children’s books and illustrated two of them. In another words, I am a multidisciplinary visual artist! Every day you will find me spending time in my atelier (art room), which is my happy place.

I am a “fearless” artist. When I initially started my art journey, I was terrified of a blank canvas or a new technique. As adults, we want everything to be perfect. Now, after putting in many hours of “sweat equity”, I “see” new possibilities everywhere. By being open to my surroundings and impressions, allows me to try new techniques and not remain stuck in a particular style, medium or subject matter.

Vibrant color, interesting shapes and new mediums/ techniques are what inspire me. I am rather taken aback by how I can create in one medium and translate it into another. For example, I design wearable art and home décor from my artwork.



My creative repertoire now includes fused glass, oil and acrylic paintings, pastels, watercolor, pottery, wearable art/home décor, jewelry making and painting with paper (aka quilling). In another words, I am a multidisciplinary visual artist!

It is important to me that I express myself through my art. Creating art is as necessary to me as the air I breathe.”

Vivian



Tina Turner passed away on May 24th, 2023, at the age of 83

As an American-born singer who became a Swiss citizen, she lived in Kuesnacht on the beautiful Lake Zuerich, in Switzerland. Tina Turner, was one of the most successful singers of all time. Thanks to her unique blend of R&B, soul, pop and rock music, she has been able to build an impressive career over several decades. She was not only a singer but also an actor. We will miss her.



Youth Activity Page

I loved the picnic so much. But next time maybe better hiding spots for the eggs 😊. I also liked seeing the babys. And playing with Isabella and Sedona!

Our "Jugend" Team has been busy planning lots of fun activities for the kids. Also we had the traditional Swiss "Eiertutschen" (egg cracking) contest for both kids and adults, which was a big hit, **Fiona and Sedona's** first great start with children's activities.

Fiona's letter above to the members shows how she enjoyed their activities and how proud she is to be involved.

Sedona's words about the Picnic: "The spring picnic was a blast and I had fun organizing the games for the other kids with Susan and Fiona. Thank God for Susan. She is amazing and helps us a lot. Without her it would have not been possible. "



**Swiss and Austrian Club Member's last Hike before the Heat,
Fountain Overlook Trail, in Fountain Hills, AZ
April 23, 2023**

It was an easy lovely 2.5 miles trail with an overlook to the Fountain Hills Lake. After the hike and the walk around the lake we had a nice chat with a cool drink in the Italian café.



Club News / Sunshine Committee



Happy Birthday

A mile-stone birthday celebration
— 100 years —
will happen on August 27, 2023 for
Urs Schwank



at
"Morningstar"
Assisted Living
16800 E. Paul Nordin
Parkway,
Fountain Hills, AZ
85268
(his phone: 480 692
6995)



If anyone would like to send a card or call
that would be wonderful for Urs!
Danke!

We Welcome New Members

Harris Faith and Mike, Scottsdale
Honzak Reinhard and Ingrid, Phoenix
Maisonette Hanny, Phoenix
Mendoza Danielle and Callum with Sebastian, Peoria
Selna Cecilia, Flagstaff
Selna Gabrielle and Kiroglu Faruh with Shelby and Raymond, Phoenix
Selna Ramond and Patricia, Clarkdale
Walsh Herta, Phoenix



Upcoming Event

October 22nd, 2023
Golden Eagle Park, Fountain Hills

Fall-Fest

RESERVE THE DATE



Children's page and young at heart

Bergsuppe aus Fribourg / Soupe de Chalet / Mountain Soup from Fribourg

Anyone who has gotten hungry from long hikes can strengthen themselves with the hearty mountain soup. The recipe is a real treat for the palate.

Ingredients for 6 Portions

- 50 g stinging nettle
- 50 g spinach
- 1 pack Gruyère cheese (diced)
- 10 pieces of potatoes
- 2 pieces of onion
- 1 liter of milk
- 2 l of water
- 1,5 dl cream
- 1 pinch of salt
- 200 g pasta



Preparation

1. Cut the potatoes into large cubes and chop the onions. Then bring both to the boil in a saucepan with the salted water and milk.
2. Cut the stringing nettle and spinach into small pieces and add to the soup. Cook the soup for about an hour. Add the pasta shortly before the end of the cooking time (about 10 minutes before).
3. Finally, add the cream. The soup is no longer allowed to boil, but only warmed up.
4. Cut the cheese into cubes and leave in soup bowls, then pour over the soup and serve it hot.

Tips for the recipe

Also tastes great if you cook a piece of bacon in the soup

Enjoy!

Board Members 2023

President	Anthony P. Haechler
Vice President	Roland Ulrich
Treasurer	Sibylle De Maignac
Secretary	Helene Block
Activity Chairs	Susan Oake Amaelia Eckert Haechler
Membership Chair	Sibylle and Alex Zaugg-Reuter
Past President	John Thornton



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	Vivian Stearns Kohler
Youth Activity	Sedona Ulrich, Fiona Reuter
Investment Committee	John Thornton, Chair Anthony P. Haechler Sibylle De Maignac
Adviser/Jass Coordinator	Ueli Zaugg

Arizona Swiss Society

Sylvia Brunner Reichen

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