

**Zeitschrift:** Swiss review : the magazine for the Swiss abroad  
**Herausgeber:** Organisation of the Swiss Abroad  
**Band:** 34 (2007)  
**Heft:** 3  
  
**Anhang:** Regional news : USA

### **Nutzungsbedingungen**

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

### **Conditions d'utilisation**

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

### **Terms of use**

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

**Download PDF:** 22.08.2025

**ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>**

## Editorial

Dear Readers

My brother and his wife were visiting from Switzerland. Besides showing them the sights in and around Los Angeles, we took them to a trip that went mostly through Arizona, from Wickenburg to Sedona, to Monument Valley, Grand Canyon and back via Laughlin. Monument Valley was a first for us too. I was absolutely thrilled by the wide vistas, the imposing rock formations and the light. Mother nature even brought on a spectacular storm with some hail, thunder and lightning in the evening, followed by a perfect sunrise the next morning and a sky with just a few white clouds to bring out the blue even better. What a great country we have the privilege to live in!

Obviously, we want to keep nature as original as possible, that's why we are environmentally conscious. Check out the article on the "Bio-Haus". Ties between the US and Switzerland are the theme of a scholarship program and the visit of a Guggemusig. And as usual, we have news from Swiss clubs, such as a large gathering in Sacramento and smaller ones elsewhere and somebody looking to make new friends. And should you have a touch of "Heimweh", well, just mark your calendars to visit Portland/Oregon next year for the Swiss Singing and Yodeling Festival.

WAL BAUR, EDITOR, REGIONAL NEWS USA



Regional news 1

### REGIONAL NEWS USA

**Next Regional News  
(last ones for 2007):**

# 5/2007

Copy deadline: August 16

Mailing date: Sept. 26

Estimated arrival in US: End of Oct.

**For advertising or to send  
articles, please contact:**

Wal Baur

2364 Sunset Curve

Upland, CA 91784-1069

Phone/Fax: (909) 931 7708

e-mail: wbaur@adelphia.net

### Classified Ads

#### Lustige Witwe

Mitte 60, Sonoma Weingegend, sucht Hausgefährten/Partner, einfach weil leben, wohnen oder reisen zu zweit schöner ist als allein. Raucht gerne hie und da eine Pfeife. Interessenten wenden sich bitte an:

HillRose@earthlink.net.



# Roberts

European Imports

**Your Swiss Store in the USA!**



#### Dress for all Occasions:

Milking Jack-  
ets & Vests,  
Children's  
Lederhosen, T-  
Shirts, hats and  
accessories.  
Call about our  
selection of  
Dirndls.



Lampions, Swiss flag  
and Canton banners,  
flags, and shields



Bräzeli Irons for your  
Summer Treats



**Be ready for Swiss Independence Day  
and Seasonal Swiss Festivals**

#### Special Summer Savings:

• **Children's Lederhosen - 25% off in-stock sizes**  
"Kids" suede leather shorts, loden green or gray with  
contrast color trim. Boys or Girls unisex sizes.  
(mention Code 307 when ordering special summer savings items)

**Shop our online catalog at:**

**WWW.SHOPSWISS.COM**

**Check our web site for monthly specials!**

**Call or write for our  
free 36-page catalog!  
Toll free: (800) 968-2517**

**Send email requests to:  
info@shopswiss.com**

102 Fifth Avenue, P.O. Box 156, New Glarus WI 53574 • (608) 527-2417





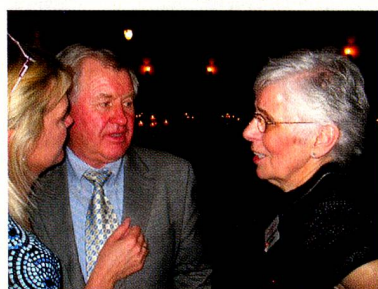
## California Sacramento Swiss Celebrate Anniversaries

The Sacramento Swiss celebrated their anniversaries with an elegant banquet (an every 5-year occasion) on March 10, 2007 at the Croatian American



Steven Fox, René Sommer and Susan Fox  
Alphorns, Martin Gisler, Fahnenschwinger

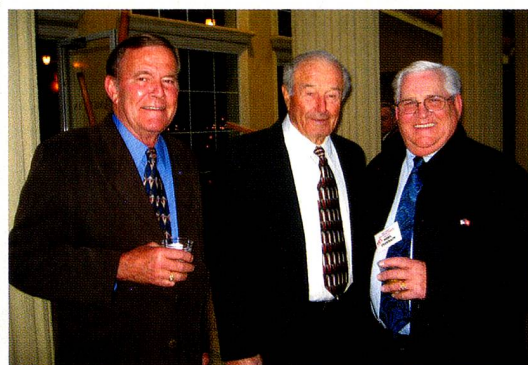
Cultural Center in Sacramento: The Sacramento Helvetia Verein, established the 13<sup>th</sup> day of March 1892, 115 years; Sacramento Swiss Ladies Society came into existence 30 years later on May 11, 1922, 85 years; and the United Swiss Lodge of California, Sacramento, celebrated their 26<sup>th</sup> anniversary. USLOC is the umbrella organization for the Sacramento Helvetia Verein and the Sacramento Swiss Ladies Society. There was a historical photo display of previous banquets and events, including the Sacramento Helvetia Vereins' 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet photo and a copy of the program, both from 1912. The Sacramento Helvetia Verein and Sacramento Swiss Ladies



Anita Kassel, Swiss Ladies Society; Gary Burch, President, Sierra Swiss Club, Truckee, CA; Kathryn Omlin, President, Sacramento Swiss Ladies Society.

Society were originally formed by the early Swiss arrivals to socialize and help each other; and to help newcomers arriving from Switzerland become established in their new country and environment. Disability and death benefits were available for active members. Emphasis is now

mainly social to keep and pass on to younger members and their families an appreciation of being SWISS, sharing Swiss history, traditions, and Swiss food enjoyed at monthly meetings and events such as the May Spring Picnic and Augustfeier Picnic held at a rural park in Woodland, California. Other events are the Metzgete held the first Saturday in November at the Turnverein Hall in Sacramento, a Christmas Party in



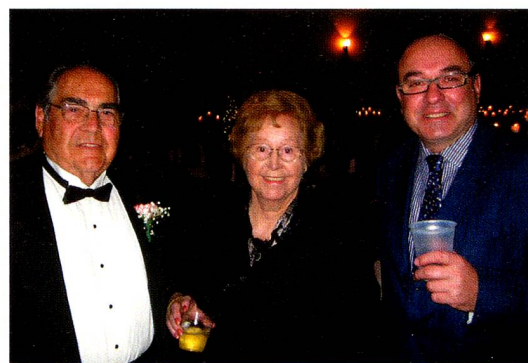
Robert Immoos, Helvetia Verein; Louie Beeler, San Joaquin Valley Swiss Club; Noel Flecklin, President, Sacramento Helvetia Verein

December with accordion music, a supervised crafts table to occupy the children in creating items to take home, a luncheon of specialty cold cuts with salad, and a visit from Santa Claus. The Guests of Honor for the March 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet were Consul General of Switzerland, San Francisco, Jean-François Lichtenstern and his wife, Marylène. Members

were welcomed to the park-like setting by the Alphorn Trio René Sommer, Steven & Susan Fox. Walter Grob entertained with his accordion during cocktail hour. The Parade of American, Swiss and Cantonal Flags was an au-

dience pleaser. Tony Raymann's Edelweiss Band participated with music for the Flag Parade, which included the American, and Swiss National Anthems and later

played dance music enjoyed by all. Lisa Ward Dillier performed her favorite Swiss Yodels, and there was a Fahnenschwingen tribute by Martin Gisler with back up from the Alphorn Trio. A special touch to the evening was the dinner hour entertainment provided by Swiss friends from the Carmel area: Richard and



Ferdinand Morant, Helvetia Verein; Marianne Richardson, President, United Swiss Lodge of California, Sacramento and US West Coast Representative for the Swiss Abroad; Jean-François Lichtenstern, Consul General of Switzerland, San Francisco.

Larry Denier, accordions, Dave Dally, Violin, and Margie Dally, cello. They perform on occasion at the Lugano Swiss Bistro in Carmel. The 50-year and honorary members were presen-

ted corsages and boutonnières. Katherine Omlin, President of the Sacramento Swiss Ladies



Dave Dally, part of dinner hour entertainment, from Carmel, CA.

Society and Noel Flecklin, President of the Sacramento Helvetia Verein remembered the deceased members. Consul General Jean-François Lichtenstern addressed the audience with good news



Lisa Ward Dillier, Yodel-Soloist, a member of the Sacramento Swiss Ladies Society and well known on the Pacific West Coast and Switzerland for her Swiss entertainment.

from Switzerland and expressed appreciation for the long history of the Sacramento Swiss Clubs. It was a poignant and joyful evening of celebration, the elder and younger members sharing their Swiss heritage and all vowing to be at the next 5-year celebration in 2012.

Members came away from the party with a small red and white floral arrangement topped with a Swiss Flag as a remembrance of

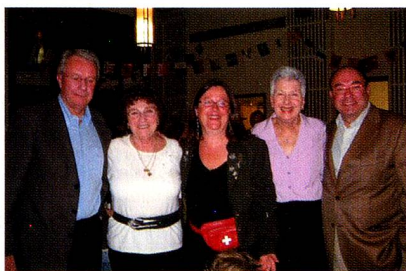
(Continued on bottom of next page)



## The Honorable Swiss Ambassador Urs Ziswiler – surprise guest at annual “Fondue Fête” of the Cercle Romand in San Francisco

The Circle Romand organizes this fun event on a yearly basis in March. But the guests of the Swiss colony of the Greater San Francisco Bay area include Swiss-Americans hailing from all parts of Switzerland. We'll thank right here the following active Romands: Jean-Pierre Mercanton, President and Chef of the evening – nowhere a better Fondue than this one! His wife Renée, then former President, reservations taking and always hard working Germaine Decker, Linda Maillard set-up and Raffle tickets! And each of these lively personalities does count on a good number of more helpers. Our American neighbors Mike

n'Mary used to Raclette at our home – looked forward to this Fondue invite. And couldn't stop raving about it. We spotted Consul General of Switzerland Jean-Francois Lichtenstern and his wife Marylène. The tall, very charming and smiling gentleman they introduced to me was no other than the Ambassador of Switzerland in Washington, DC - Urs Ziswiler. The Representative of Switzerland in the USA – visiting not only with



f.l.t.r.: Urs Ziswiler, Ambassador of Switzerland to the United States of America, Renée Mercanton, wife of President and Chef of the Fondue evening Jean-Pierre Mercanton, Marylène Lichtenstern, Germaine Decker, former President of Circle Romand and soul of this event, and Consul General of Switzerland in San Francisco Jean-François Lichtenstern.

the Swiss-American Chamber of Commerce members and Government Officials, but also took

time out from his busy schedule to meet and truly engage in conversations with practically all the guests at this Cercle Romand 2007 event. Listening to Ambassador Ziswiler was easy. A truly down-to-earth politician. He told me later that he grew up in the Canton of Aargau in a landscape builder family. “My shoes were used to soil and outdoor environment then – and I still don't shy away from soil and practical life style today”. A joyful event it was, indeed.

Made even more enjoyable by Tony Raymann and his Edelweiss Band. Less Polkas – more Musesettes and Swings! The dance floor was packed at all times. The raffle was fantastic – we went home with won wine bottles, even with “Brätzelis” baked by Germaine and she won the Sherry Cake, my Ruedi personally baked for this Tombola ... And how about that for Good Luck?

TEXT AND PHOTO: GABY H BURKERT  
GRUEZIWOHL@AOL.COM

## US and Swiss Tax Planning and Consulting

US income tax returns - Swiss Income Tax Returns  
Claims for Refund of Swiss Withholding Taxes

## Solving Tax Problems of Swiss in the USA

Swiss Certified Accountant, MBA, CFP, EA  
with extensive US and Swiss tax experience

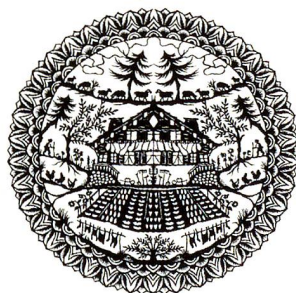
**Caspar Spescha, Facts & Consulting Inc.**  
60 East 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, New York, NY 10165-0639  
Tel: (212) 949-9465 Fax: (212) 949-9557  
E-mail: FactsTax@aol.com

## Sacramento Swiss... continued from previous page



Close-up of banquet table setting

## Sacramento Swiss Anniversary Banquet



March 10, 2007

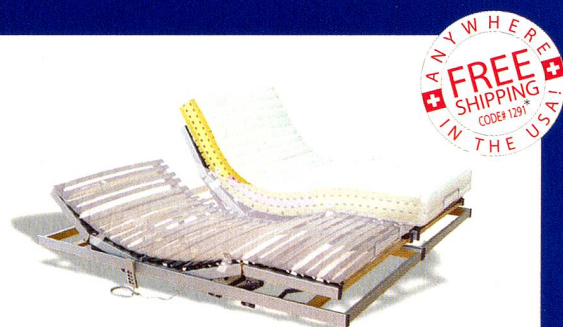
a special Swiss evening. Committee Chair of the event was Elena Scheiber Fippin. Anita Kassel, Vice Chair, Anton Peter, Treasurer, Pietra Peter, Secretary, and committee members Leo Fassler, Edward Lambert and

Sonia Susac assisted her.

TEXT: ELENA SCHEIBER FIPPIN  
CHAIR, SACRAMENTO SWISS  
BANQUET COMMITTEE

E-MAIL: E.FIPPIN@EARTHLINK.NET

PHOTOS: ANTON PETER



## Sleep the Swiss Way. Again.

Return to the quality sleep you are used to, no matter where you live in the U.S.A. Now, the energizing **Swiss Sleep System** is here to bring you the comfortable, healthy sleep you had back home.

Get to know the **Swiss Sleep System** and its line of products at [www.SwissSleepSystem.com](http://www.SwissSleepSystem.com) or call 1.866.SWISS99. We'll make you feel right at home.

**SWISS SLEEP SYSTEM.**

*Good Night. Good Day.™*

*Für ä tüüfä gsundä Schlaaf. Pour un sommeil sain et profond.*

\*Free shipping in the continental USA with this code.



## Georgia

### What has been happening in Atlanta?

A lot! We had our annual Fondue evening with over 80 members. There was no cheese left over. It is wonderful to meet everybody again after the Holiday Season and share stories. We also had our first experience with a table just for the youth and it seemed that they enjoyed

making new friends. Later that month the ladies met for a Fasnachts-Lunch with some fun. On March 24th we held our General Assembly at the Carter Center. We wanted to do something different and this location was perfect. Our President Helen Freiermuth did a powerpoint presentation to see what we did during the past 12 months. She also served for the last time here



After the Fondue: Our youth table playing cards and making new friends

at the SAS in Atlanta due to her relocation to Canada. We would like to say "Herzliche Dank für Alles und ganz viel Glück!"

I cannot say it enough, she did a wonderful job over the past 3 years as our President and prior also as a Board Member! I know I have big shoes to fill, but since everybody else from the Board was re-elected we sure will be fine. As you read these lines we will have had a wonderful Hike/Picnic event behind us and are looking forward to our 1st of August celebration (August 5th at Martha Hope Cabin in Gainesville).

For more up to date info about us check out our website <<http://www.sasatlanta.org/>>[www.sasatlanta.org](http://www.sasatlanta.org/) . We look forward to hearing from you or meeting you at one of our



Tanja and Helen: New and the old presidents



Can you guess who is who?

upcoming events!

TEXT: TANJA ALEMANY, PRESIDENT

FOTOS: ASTRID WILKENS

SAS ATLANTA

[WWW.SASATLANTA.ORG/](http://WWW.SASATLANTA.ORG/)

## Oregon

### New Swiss Group

Bend, Oregon has formed a Swiss/American (and German) group and it is growing. We meet once a month for lunch or dinner. Lunch usually

just the women meet. This time we all were invited to the lovely home of Petra and Gregg Kaiser. We enjoyed food, drink and many good stories. Anyone in

this part of the woods is invited to join. Just call Claudine at (541) 317-1236, we would love to meet you.

CLAUDINE ZWARTVERWER,

MESSAGE@

SUNRIVERTELECOM.COM



The group met at the lovely home of Petra and Gregg Kaiser (2nd and 6th, standing, from right to left)

## Nevada / California

### Looking for Swiss in the Reno/Lake Tahoe Aerea

- Are you Swiss and living in the Reno/Lake Tahoe Region, Nevada- or California-Side?
- Would you like to meet socially from time to time?
- Do you miss talking Schwyzer dütsch?
- How about an informal get together to celebrate First of August?
- How about a Jass?

If you answered yes to any one of these questions, please contact

KURT STETTLER

PHONE (775) 359 3190

E-MAIL: [ELECTRICSWISS@YAHOO.COM](mailto:ELECTRICSWISS@YAHOO.COM)

© Belair Airlines AG

## A to Z Travel Planners

Swiss Owned and Operated  
Full Service Travel Agency

Belair Charter flights  
All Major Airlines  
Car Rentals & Rail Passes

A to Z Travel Planners Call: 800-261-9960, 408-363-9966  
5533 Snell Ave. #100, San Jose, CA 95123 CST# 101376940



## Illinois

### Swiss Carnival Band in Chicago

Last November, for the third time in five years, the 15th Magnificent Mile Lights Festival in Chicago featured the Noggeler Carnival Band (Noggeler Guugemusig) from Lucerne, Switzerland. The Noggeler were again the only foreign attraction in the festival. In 2002 and 2004, the Rebbiboels Carnival Band from Payerne (Canton Vaud) participated in the festi-



The Noggeler "Guugemusig" also performed under the popular Cloud Gate Sculpture at Millennium Park

val, also as the only foreign group. The Noggeler were a very special sight in the immensely popular Festival, traditionally held the weekend before Thanksgiving. It kicks off the Holiday Season with a fantastic parade with many Disney characters along Chicago's North Michigan Avenue, one of the great shopping avenues of the world.

The Greater North Michigan Avenue Association (GNMAA) had invited the Noggeler to the Magnificent Mile Lights Festival. Many local Swiss associations and some organizations in Swit-

zerland also supported their stay in Chicago. The lead organizer of the Noggeler Chicago visit was the Lucerne Committee of the Chicago International Sister Cities Program. Since the Noggeler hail from Lucerne, and Chicago and Lucerne being sister cities since 1998, it seemed a natural fit and a special occasion to work together.

In addition to their enthralling music-making and their gorgeously colourful costumes representing the four seasons of the year, the Noggeler brought four

Lucerne Carnival Guild Masters (Zunftmeister) as special ambassadors from Lucerne to the Festival Parade. The Guild Masters marched in the parade as the "opener" to the Noggeler double-decker bus. The vehicle was beautifully decorated and proudly displayed many Swiss flags. It was enthusiastically greeted by nearly one million spectators along the parade route. Across the United States, millions of TV viewers followed the Parade on the WGN live broadcast and watched as the holiday lights were being lit by Mickey Mouse, cheered on by



The Noggeler Carnival Band from Lucerne at the Magnificent Mile Lights Festival Parade last November in Chicago

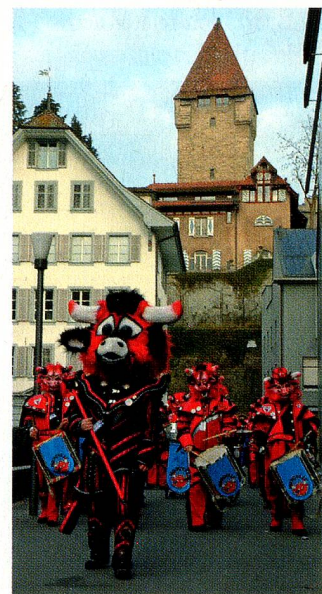
the many floats in the parade and particularly by the Noggeler Carnival Band and their catchy tunes.

The Band also visited Walter Payton College Preparatory High School, Chicago's Sister City School to Lucerne. In addition to bringing the students an authentic flavour of the Lucerne Carnival, the Noggeler also answered the many questions the students had regarding carnival and other traditions in Switzerland. Later they performed under the popular Cloud Gate Sculpture at Millennium Park and at Pioneer Court. The Swiss community in Chicago and their friends were invited to the Noggeler Good Bye Party at Mother Hubbard's in Chicago. Their music surely brought back many treasured memories of carnival in Switzerland to the many Swiss in attendance.

A Chicago delegation of the Lucerne Sister Cities Committee visited Lucerne during this year's Carnival in February. Besides strengthening the ties between the two Sister Cities and discussing ideas for future projects, there were many

opportunities for the Chicago delegation to enjoy the Lucerne Carnival from an insider's point of view. Perhaps the biggest surprise in store for the Chicago guests were the Noggeler in their new

carnival costumes: Benny the Bull. What a great vista to see more than 60 Noggeler in Chicago Bulls costumes in the Carnival parades! Not only was this a most heart-warming welcome



60 Noggeler in Chicago Bulls costumes at the Lucerne Carnival

to the Chicagoans but also a great sign of friendship from the Lucerne Noggeler to Chicago.

TEXT: MARGRETH TRÜMPI MARTIN

LUCERNE COMMITTEE

CHICAGO SISTER CITIES

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

PHOTOS: MATTHIAS LIPS



TRANSPORTING  
• Household goods  
• Automobiles  
• Airfreight and Ocean

Service from New York and California to Switzerland via  
DIRECT CONTAINER SERVICE NY TO BASEL

#### USA Contacts:

TRANSCONTAINER TRANSPORT INC.

East Coast - 39 Broadway, Suite 3001

New York, NY 10006

Tel. +1(212) 425 2278 or 1 800 582 0230

Email: nycoffice@transcontainer.com

West Coast - TTI Forwarding

320 Pine Ave, Suite 408

Long Beach, CA 90802

Tel. +1(562) 437 4210 or 1 800 325 3811

Email: laxoffice@transcontainer.com

www.transcontainer.com

#### SWISS Contacts:

GONDRAND AG

Industriestrasse 10

8152 Glattbrugg

Tel. +41/ 1 828 6830

Email: c.tintori@gondrand.ch

www.gondrand.ch

We are committed to Expertise, Reliability, and Customer Service

We offer a very large selection of delicious  
Swiss Sausages, Landjaeger, Buendnerfleisch, Cheeses,  
Chocolates, Thomy Mustards, and more.

Old World  
Flavor

CONTINENTAL  
SAUSAGE  
HANDCRAFTED SINCE 1869

Gourmet  
Sausage

WHOLESALE  
& MAIL ORDER:

Continental Sausage

911 E. 75th Avenue

Denver, Colorado 80229

Local 303-288-9787 or toll free:

866-SWISS-FOOD | Fax 303-288-9789

VISIT OUR  
RETAIL STORE:

Continental Sausage

250 Steele Street

Denver, Colorado 80206

VISIT OUR WEB SITE:

www.continentalsausage.com



## Minnesota

### Welcome to "Das BioHaus": Proof that Sustainable Building Design is Comfortable and Achievable Right Now!

Americans currently comprise 5% of the world's population yet produce 25% of global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. And when it comes to buildings in the United States, buildings and building-related activities contribute a whopping 38% to all CO<sub>2</sub> emissions – even more if you add industrial and transportation-related activities.

As an architect with over 30 years experience in the Swiss, German and U.S. marketplace, I'm committed to doing my part to impact these alarming facts. I believe that American leadership in designing and building better buildings would not only be welcomed by the global community, it's now become a necessity.

We need to build new models of sustainable, comfortable buildings that the rest of the build-



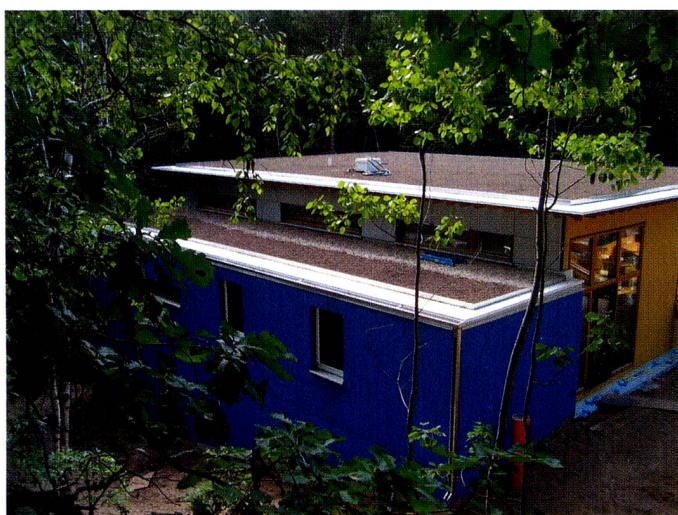
Main exterior view of first certified Passivhaus in North America: Waldsee BioHaus.

ding industry can learn from and replicate in their own designs. We at Intep have specialized in this field of integrated planning, building performance and sustainable design and primarily serve educational institutions in the U.S. – an important focus area for this effort.

For example, let me introduce you to the most energy efficient building ever built in the U.S. – "Das BioHaus" at Concordia Language Villages, part of Concordia College, in Bemidji, Minnesota. It's the first-ever certified PassivHaus building that uses 85% less energy than the Minnesota energy code allows – the equivalent of a 150-mile/gallon car!

Designing and constructing a building like this for the first

mental improvement was a calling. Our team followed the trail of extreme-energy efficiency blazed in Europe by the Passiv-Haus standard in Germany and the Minergie-P standard in Switzerland. We worked with local contractors and most of the technology and building materials used were available in the U.S. with the exception of the windows, the heat recovery system for ventilation and a new insulation material called vacuum insulation panels, which we used for the first time in construction here in the U.S. The cost of the building was limited to the available fundraising abilities of Concordia Language Villages and exceeded a normal budget for a building of



View of BioHaus from the treehouse.

### Call for heirs

Maria **Däster-Stähli**, born on July 3, 1918, citizen of Aarau and Murgenthal, residing in 5000 Aarau but also living at one time in Suhr, died on October 7, 2006.

According to art. 555, Al. 1 of Swiss Civil Law, a call for heirs is ordered.

The authorities are looking for the legal heiress with unknown address

**Suzanne Jacqueline Stähli**, born on August 5, 1954, civil status unknown, citizen from Netstal, GL, and unknown residence but believed to be living in the United States.

This heiress is requested to contact the authorities Gerichtspräsidium Aarau, Kasinostrasse 5, Postfach, CH 5001 Aarau, Switzerland not later than by **March 11, 2008**, providing written proof of identity and residence. After this date, the inheritance can be distributed, except in case of legal complaint.

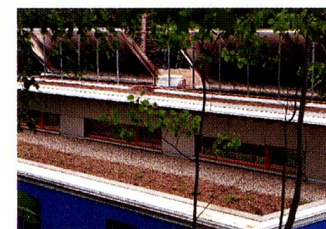
Aarau, March 1, 2007

The Presidency of the Court, Aarau



Solar panels which are part of a sophisticated solar hot-water system that meets the high volume hot-water needs of Waldsee BioHaus.

time in an extreme cold climate like in northern Minnesota was challenging, to say the least. But for me, this challenge of making a leap and not an incre-



Extensive green roof of Waldsee BioHaus that serves to retain rainwater, reduce the risk of erosion and act as a heat buffer during the summer.

this type by less than 30% – unheard of in the realm of demonstration or pilot projects. And to top this off – "das BioHaus" also set a new standard for occupant comfort: that translates into a pleasant indoor environment with fresh air, no noise or draft at minus 40°C in the depth of winter here in Minnesota! Living more comfortably and sustainable at the same time is a reality not a contradiction and it is possible today! I believe it's time to leverage more of these benefits in the U.S.

I hope you'll visit "das BioHaus" online at [waldseebiohaus.com](http://waldseebiohaus.com) and my own site at [theperfectbuilding.com](http://theperfectbuilding.com) where I write about the educational projects I'm working on, including a new non-profit organization I'm creating called The Green Bridge.

STEPHAN TANNER

STANNER@INTEP-10.COM



## Oregon

### Portland Sängersfest, July 17-20, 2008

The Portland Jodelklub Edelwyss singers are busy preparing to roll out the welcome mat for the 26th Pacific Coast Swiss Singing and Yodeling Festival to be held in Portland, Oregon, July 17 - 20, 2008. In addition to the participation of the 10 member societies, special talent has been recruited from Switzerland.

**Heinz della Torre** lives in Sachseln, Kanton Obwalden. He plays the trumpet, alphorn, büchel, flügelhorn, and cow-horn. He is a member of the Orchestra of the Tonhalle Zurich, the Lucerne Symphony Orchestra and the Musikkollegium Winterthur. Heinz also enjoys teaching at a number of music schools. He will lead a workshop on Thursday, July 17 for alphorn players wishing to improve their skills. Those interested in participating should apply to Swissfest 2008, P.O. Box 1955, Corvallis, OR, 97339. You must provide your own alphorn. Each day of the Sängersfest Heinz will give performances that will delight you, and he will sit in with our local Swiss dance bands.

**Willi Valotti** lives in Nesslau, Kanton St. Gallen. He is well known in Switzerland for his lifetime involvement with Swiss folk music. He began his music education when a young boy studying the accordion, then moving on to the piano, contrabass, cello, and schwyzerörgeli. Also, he studied arrangement

and composition at the Schaffhausen Conservatory of Music. Over the years he has played with many folk music bands (Ländlerkapelle) the most famous of which was the Heirassa. At present he is a member of three bands: Willi's Wyberkapelle, Kapelle Alderbuebe and Trio Item and is the director of the Jodelklub Männertreu Nesslau-Neu St. Johann.

The **Jodelklub Innertkirchen**, from Kanton Bern, will be sending several of its members. They have consistently scored in the first tier at adjudicated yodel festivals in Switzerland. They are well known for their beautiful harmony and crisp, clear yodeling.

#### Get ready to laugh!

The Sängersfest will open Thursday evening, July 17, with a no host cocktail followed by a scrumptious dinner. After dinner our own Jodelklub Edelwyss and the Jodelklub Innertkirchen will perform followed by the musical brilliance of Heinz della Torre and Willi Valotti. Then the fun begins with an uproariously hilarious skit performed by the Jodelklub Edelwyss players. The remainder of the evening will be

danced away to the music of the Swiss Alpiners accompanied by Heinz and Willi.

#### Grand Concert with Theater!

The Grand Concert will be held Friday, July 18. In Switzerland there is a format for concerts that is used often, called "Konzert mit Theater". In this format,

parade of huge cowbells and to Muotathal to hear a wild yodeling battle-of-the-sexes. Their last day in Switzerland is spent in Berne at the National Folk Music Festival, where they hear a grand finale of yodeling and singing accompanied by alphorns and accordions.

#### Fun at the Park!

On Saturday, July 19, the festival moves to the Club Paesano Cedarville Park in Gresham where each singing society will present a short program of songs and yodels. There will be a typical Swiss parade (Umzug) with national and singing society flags, flower and bell festooned brown Swiss cows, marchers ringing huge cow-bells, singers in their traditional Swiss costumes, alphorns, traditional whip cracking. A concert of alphorns playing in 8 part harmony and performances by Heinz della Torre and Willi Valotti will punctuate the festivities.

Throughout the day there will be food venues featuring traditional Swiss delicacies. In the evening, Swiss bands from the West Coast, with Heinz and Willi, will provide music for dancing.

#### A Sad Goodbye.

A grand banquet on Sunday, July 20, and the passing of the flag of the United Swiss Singing Societies of the Pacific Coast to the next host society will signal the close of the 2008 Portland Sängersfest.

Watch for ticket and hotel details in the Swiss Review - issue #5, 2007, The New Swiss Journal, Swiss on the West Coast and in the festival programs of your local club.

BOB ULRICH, FESTIVAL PRESIDENT  
BOBULRICH@EARTHLINK.NET



songs are presented within a skit, or series of skits, and often involve humorous situations. The Jodelklub Edelwyss has decided to present a Grand Concert "mit Theater". In a "Concert with Theater" there are many more opportunities for individual participation. There will be solo, duet, and small group parts that involve all voices.

The theme of the concert is that of two tourists wandering through Switzerland listening to the folk music of the many regions with their special languages and dialects. The adventures of the tourists include an Alp Chilbi, where there is dancing, singing, büchel and cow-horn music, a Kinderchörli and a solemn Alpsäage. The tourists also travel to Appenzell to watch a

## SwissShade + Security, Inc.

### Peace of Mind with Style

#### Custom made European Windows and Doors

- Tilt & Turn operated - Folding Doors - Lift & Slide Doors
- Security Levels from Burglarproof to Bullet Resistant
- Built in Wood, Aluminum, UPVC or Bronze & Aluminum Clad
- Built to your exact specifications by European Master Craftsmen and then shipped directly to your site. At that time, we send a Factory Installer to help with & supervise the installation

[www.SwissShade.com](http://www.SwissShade.com)

HCR 2 Box 499 N-Tucson - AZ 85735 - 520 822 1982

**Swiss Gourmet**

*We carry the food and spices you miss from Switzerland.*

Aromat® Knorr® salad dressings Thomy® mustards  
Olive oils and vinegars, Meats and Sausages  
Milka and Rittersport chocolates, and so much more!  
These and many other European specialties available at...

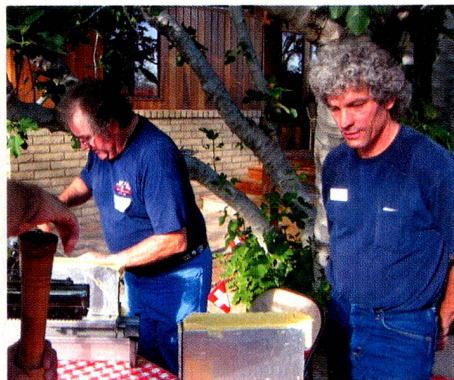
[www.swissgourmet.org](http://www.swissgourmet.org)



## Arizona

### Student Exchange between Scottsdale and Interlaken, Switzerland

On Sunday, April 22, 2007 Swiss  
Consul Emeritus Max Haechler



Jean-Pierre Dupuis (left) and Kurt Schittli, both from the Arizona Swiss Society, preparing Raclette for the guests

and his wife, Elsbeth were hos-  
titing at their Paradise Valley  
home the Farewell Garden Party

of the 15 visiting Students from  
the Gymnasium Interlaken and  
their Arizona host families. A  
total of 60 guests enjoyed Swiss  
Folklore music, Veal Bratwurst  
and Raclette Cheese. Scottsdale  
Mayor Mary Manross honored

the foreign visitors  
by her attendance  
and expressed her  
thanks to them for  
helping to connect  
Scottsdale with com-  
munities around the  
world and to ex-  
change both social  
and economic ideas  
or concepts.

This annual student  
exchange was initia-  
ted by Max Haechler  
in 1999 with the es-

tablishing of the official Sister  
Cities Relationship between  
Scottsdale and Interlaken, Swit-



Welcome with cowbells for the Swiss Students at the Phoenix Airport



## The Swiss Bakery

**RIVELLA is back in the USA**  
Bigger then ever, new 0.5 lt. bottle  
[www.TheSwissBakery.com](http://www.TheSwissBakery.com)

## SWISS MOVING SERVICE

TO AND FROM ANYWHERE IN U.S.  
SWITZERLAND OR WORLDWIDE

- Personal service and individual advice
- Door to door service for household goods and motor cars, by ocean or by air
- Consolidation service to New York, California, Canada and Australia

### Swiss Office

SWISS MOVING SERVICE AG  
In der Luberzen 19  
CH-8902 Urdorf Zurich/Switzerland  
phone: +41/44/466 9000  
fax: +41/44/461 9010  
[info@swiss-moving-service.ch](mailto:info@swiss-moving-service.ch)  
[www.swiss-moving-service.ch](http://www.swiss-moving-service.ch)

### U.S. Office

OVERSEAS BROKERS, INC.  
111 Great Neck Road  
Great Neck, NY 11021  
phone: (516) 773-6100  
Toll free: (800) 752-1102  
fax: (516) 773-6103  
[info@overseasbrokers.com](mailto:info@overseasbrokers.com)



Farewell photo of entire Interlaken and Scottscale Student Exchange group: Max Haechler on the left next to Anne Pickhard, Interlaken Teacher and Kelly Harris, Scottsdale Teacher. On the extreme right, Scottsdale Teacher and Group Leader, Lisa White.

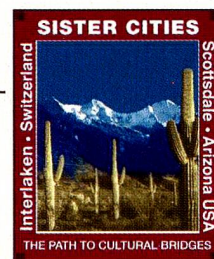
zerland. While those  
exchange students  
and the host families  
build everlasting  
friendships, they also  
become true Amba-  
sadors for their re-  
spective countries.  
Many long term reci-  
procal visits by the  
host families have  
been generated  
through the initial  
student visits. Max  
Haechler organizes  
annual fundraisers to  
support in part those  
international student  
exchanges.

MAX HAECHLER



Anthony Haechler jr. and Doris Torres from the Arizona Swiss Society grilling Bratwurst and Servelats

Logo for the Sister  
Cities Exchange Pro-  
gram between Scotts-  
dale and Interlaken.  
It depicts the Jung-  
frau Alpine Region  
in the background  
with Saguaro Cactus  
in front.



## Wine, beer and spirits from Switzerland

Over 50 wines from Romandie and Ticino. Appenzeller beer.  
Original Willisauer spirits. Shipping to many states.

608-437-2771

[www.swisscellars.com](http://www.swisscellars.com)

**Swiss Cellars**

## Call for heirs

Relatives in Switzerland are looking urgently for the following persons:

- Johann Zimmermann-Farland, born December 16, 1899, last known address in the year 1957: Midnight Pass Road, Siesta Key, Sarasota, Florida, USA, presumed deceased and
- Daughter Elisabeth Jean Zimmermann, born September 16, 1926 in USA, address unknown.

Native place: Vitznau / Switzerland

Johann Zimmermann-Farland used to live at  
Stollberggrain 9, Lucerne.

If you have any information, please contact the address below, not later than by July 1, 2008:

Edith Laurent-Zimmermann

Vergers-les-Gottaz 9, 1110 Morges / Switzerland

Phone/Fax (011 41) 21 801 10 15, e-mail: [edith.laurent@bluewin.ch](mailto:edith.laurent@bluewin.ch)