

**Zeitschrift:** Swiss review : the magazine for the Swiss abroad  
**Herausgeber:** Organisation of the Swiss Abroad  
**Band:** 35 (2008)  
**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:** 10.12.2025

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



I grew up in the Valais/Wallis. There, helicopters were often in the sky, and it was always something exciting. They would transport cows, hanging on a kind of harness, back to lower regions when snowfalls came too early in autumn and left them stranded high in the alps. Helicopters would land on the roof of our hospital with injured tourists, mostly during the skiing season. One memorable year an avalanche buried the railway line and the road to Zermatt. At that time helicopters had to bring down all the stranded tourists, it was quite a sight.

For the last three days, helicopters have also been flying above our house in direction of the San Bernardino Mountains. But they do not bring excited and happy memories. On the contrary, my stomach muscles tighten up, because that can only mean one thing: Fire! A few years back the fire on our hills came so close that we were told to evacuate. So cat, computers, important documents, some clothes and the two of us found refuge at a friend's house. When we came back after two days, the pool was black and everything smelled of smoke, but no other damage. These last three days we could see the smoke but it was much further away. Now it's over and I am breathing easier again, hoping very much that this summer, against all predictions from the authorities, California will be spared.

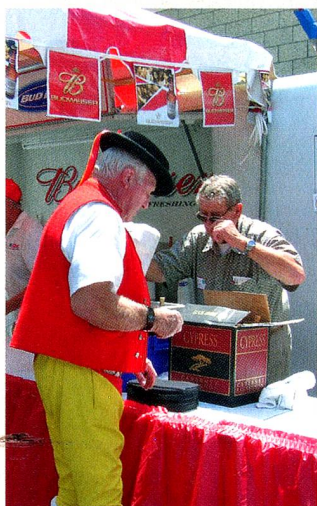


Together with all the people who sent in their pictures, I wish you all interesting reading and a Happy 1<sup>st</sup> of August!

WAL BAUR, EDITOR, REGIONAL NEWS USA

## First of August Celebrations throughout the United States

Swiss Review Readers from all over the United States send you their greetings and wish you a Happy First of August 2008



Paul Mueller getting ready to serve Fred Burri, in Appenzeller costume. Fredy was by far not the only one getting thirsty in Los Angeles



Jeannette Meier (middle, selling raffle tickets) with her daughter Yvonne and son-in-law Kevin Hull sharing their lunch under the big tent in Los Angeles



Naomi Smith from Witton, Connecticut, 6 years old and already a future Miss Swiss

Dear Readers,  
I hope you will have fun looking at these photographs! While not all pictures are of top quality, they do have a lot of sentimental value. Depending on how much you liked them, and if I have enough space, we could do this again next year. So keep snapping pictures and send them to me, together with a very short text, indicating "who" and "where".

WAL BAUR

wbaur@roadrunner.com

### REGIONAL NEWS USA

#### Articles

Please send articles regarding the Regional News USA to

Wal Baur  
2364 Sunset Curve  
Upland, CA 91784-1069

Phone: 909 931 7708

e-mail: wbaur@roadrunner.com

#### Advertising

For all advertising in the Regional News USA please contact

Wal Baur  
2364 Sunset Curve  
Upland, CA 91784-1069

Phone: 909 931 7708

e-mail: wbaur@roadrunner.com

#### Next Regional News

Swiss Review 5/087  
Deadline USA September 5  
Approx. Arrival USA middle of Nov. 2008

Swiss Review 1/09  
Deadline USA January 5  
Approx. Arrival USA Middle of March 2009





These friends from Corona del Mar, California, meet every year and take a souvenir picture



Martha Hope Cabin in Gainesville, Atlanta, provided shelter during a rain shower



Annual Party in Dillon, Montana



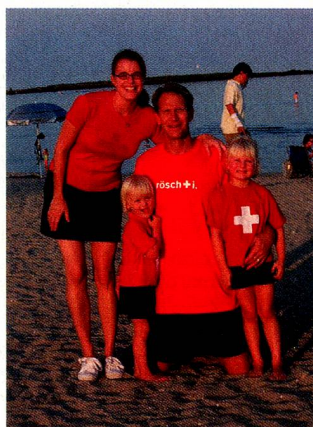
Having fun in Atlanta, after the rain!



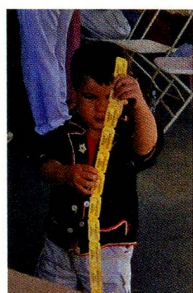
Maximilian Oliver Koster enjoying his first Swiss National Day in Manhattan



The Bachinger Children in Lake Tahoe



In Wilton, Connecticut: Jacqueline Smith with husband Kelly and daughters Julia, 3 and Naomi, 6



Matthew Temple checking his raffle tickets in LA



Children's Lampion Parade in Salt Lake, UT



Gertrude Baumann with year-old granddaughter Tabitha Alicia Baumann





Three talented ladies, extraordinary Alphorn players, entertaining the guests in Jacksonville, OR



Santa Barbara Swiss Club Accordion Players



The nicely fixed-up barn in the historic town of Jacksonville, Oregon, where the Rouge Valley Swiss Community meets.



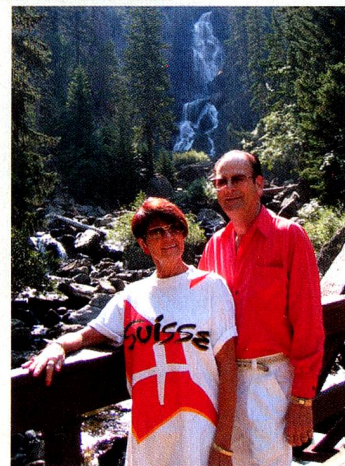
Marina Mendooza in Urbana/Champaign, IL, and her non-Swiss friends who made a special effort to look as Swiss as possible. From left to right: Tim Smith, Katherine Wallig, Andy Lewis, Marina, and Tim Richardson



Aloha from the Swiss Club on Kauai, Hawaii, celebrating 1. August 2007 at Kamalani Beach Park



Herb Litvak from San José, California and great nephew Linus, in Switzerland



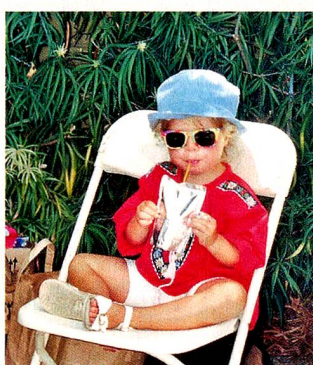
Trudy and Lew Wells in Steamboat Springs, Colorado



Tina Zürcher-Kainer on her balcony in Cocoa Beach, FL, with the same lampions for the past 50 years!



Father and child and little prince or princess on a chair, both in Los Angeles



The Bernese Mountain Dogs are always part of the scene at the Swiss Park in Whittier/Los Angeles/CA





Never too early to start training crossbow shooting: Wade and Knox Chadwick, age 6 and 8. They live in NYC.



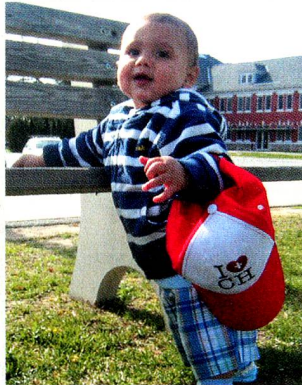
Michael Hasz enjoying his Bratwurst



Daniela Hasz and her family: John, Chantal, William, Daniela and Michael. They actually got to be in Switzerland for the 1st of August and had a great time eating Bratwurst and having lots of fireworks.



Osi Bragger (Swiss Club of Northern Nevada Vice President), grilling bratwurst, with Hansjorg (red shirt) & Jacquelyn Leurner (blue dress) and some guests.



Tanja Agrawal-Leber's son Nicholas (born June 21, 2007) at the Campus of the University of Maine, in Orono, Maine



One happy camper! Kurt Stettler, who was instrumental in organizing the new Swiss Club of Northern Nevada



A merry bunch at a traditional picknick in Tulsa, Oklahoma.



From left to right: #1 ?, Dorli Senn, Betty Waldman, Peter Koch, Lillian Orsak

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



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

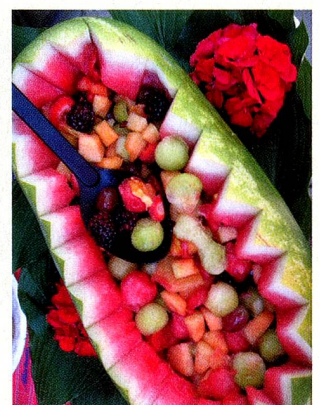
VISIT OUR RETAIL STORE:

Continental Sausage  
250 Steele Street  
Denver, Colorado 80206

VISIT OUR WEB SITE:  
[www.continentalsausage.com](http://www.continentalsausage.com)



Can you smell the aroma of this grilled sausages in Tulsa, Oklahoma? The fruit-salad filled watermelon is equally tempting.





## Council of the Swiss Abroad

### - Continuation -

Final part of the series about the delegates representing the Swiss in the United States



### Ursula Furrer

Born in Muri AG - Switzerland  
Swiss Origin: Schongau/LU  
Lives in - Chicago IL  
Profession - Past: Account Executive for Swissair. Present: licensed Realtor associated with Koenig & Strey Real Estate, Chicago

Elected Deputy Delegate: 1996  
Representing the Swiss living in the Midwest: North & South Dakota, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Minnesota, Nebraska, Ohio and Wisconsin.

As reason for accepting this assignment, Ursula indicates: "The Swiss Abroad need a voice in the Swiss Government as many return to Switzerland after a few years abroad - and the Council for the Swiss Abroad is the venue.

I try to attend at least one session per year."

URSULA FURRER  
utfurrer@aol.com



### Hans Lenzlinger

Born in Unterwasser/St. Gallen  
Lives in New Glarus, WI  
Profession:

Hotel/Restaurant Manager  
Elected in 1987  
Travels to Switzerland for every spring session if possible  
Hans says: "I live in a part of the United States that has the largest concentration of Swiss and Swiss descendants. Swiss immigrants founded New Glarus in 1845. Swiss culture is still very much alive and strong. We celebrate with several festivals every year, like the Wilhelm Tell play; Heidi Festival; our August 1<sup>st</sup> Volksfest; and every other year, the Cheese Days in Monroe, WI. We host countless Swiss travel groups every summer. We are also home of the Swiss Cultural Center of North America, and the Don Tritt Library. I'm personally involved with many Swiss organizations in the region, and strive to mitigate any concerns and problems Swiss-Americans encounter with Swiss connections."

HANS LENZLINGER  
hotel@newglarushotel.com

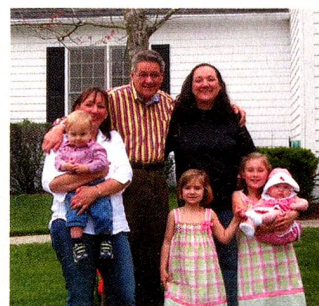


### Marianne Richardson Rochat

Born in Vaulion/VD  
Swiss Origin: Le Chenit and Le Lieu, Vallée de Joux  
Lives in Orangevale, County of Sacramento, California  
Profession: Retired Sales Person  
Elected in 1991

Marianne wrote: "I participate at the August session of the Council for the Swiss abroad. This gives me the opportunity to visit different areas of Switzerland and enjoy the delegates who come from 65 countries. I represent the Swiss community in Northern California and the North West of the US. I volunteered for this position because I feel it is a great organization. The Organization of the Swiss abroad guided by great support from the Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs has given women married to a non-Swiss the opportunity to pass on the Swiss nationality to their children and now we are also able to vote in our home country. I hope you all take advantage of this privilege. Consult the Embassy or your Consulate if you have any questions or problems regarding the right to vote."

MARIANNE RICHARDSON  
lesvineuves@sbcglobal.net



### Hermann Gammeter

Born in Aarau/AG  
Swiss Origin Signau BE but grew up in Granichen/AG  
Lives in Atlanta, GA  
Retired Hotel Executive  
Elected to ASO 1984 to 1990 and 1997 to present

Presenting the South East.  
About himself, Hermann says: "I used to travel 2-3 times a year to Switzerland, but since retirement I live April to September in Weggis LU and October to March in Atlanta.

After I was asked to participate, I felt I would like to do this. To stay connected to Switzerland and also to keep up to date. I always had a great interest in cultural and economic happenings of Switzerland. It is extremely important to know what is going on at home, even if we live in a foreign country.

Over the past 46 years I was always involved with the Swiss Clubs where I worked and lived. I was fortunate to have moved 28 times on 3 continents. My participation with Swiss Clubs was in Singapore, Hawaii, Germany, Atlanta and many other cities. My 2 daughters and 4 grand kids are also Swiss citizens; it is vital that we never give up our roots.

Working with different cultures in numerous countries has reminded me that being Swiss is a great advantage. We Swiss should always cherish our heritage."

HERMANN GAMMETER  
hgammeter@aol.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  
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

Chocolates  
Marmalade  
Rivella  
Ragusa

Caotina  
Raclette & Cheese  
Swiss Specialties & more

*The Swiss Bakery*

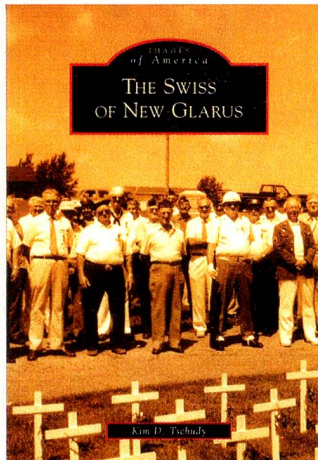
How to contact us:  
Tel. 703 891 2744  
Fax 703 891 2745  
info@TheSwissBakery.com  
www.TheSwissBakery.com



## Book Reviews

### *The Swiss of New Glarus*

by Kim Tschudi



This book is a title in the Images of America series, issued by Arcadia Publishing, that celebrates the history of American towns, regions, and groups in photographs. The author has assembled some 127 pictures that feature the history of New Glarus, and he has identified them in captions that reflect the intimate knowledge of a native. He arranged his rich harvest of photographs in seven chapters, each being introduced by a brief and concise introduction: In the Beginning, Farming and Agriculture, The Railroad, In Service of the Country, Around Town, Entertainment, and the Wilhelm Tell Pageant. "The genesis of this book," the author explains, "came from requests over the

years for a reprint of my father's 1970 New Glarus Photograph Journal."

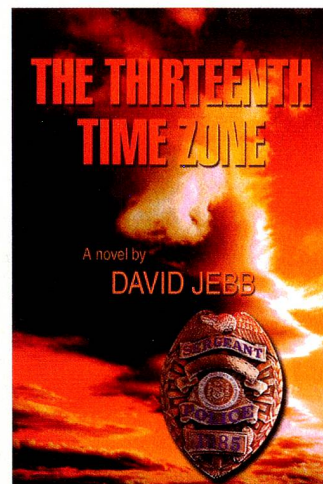
Kim Tschudi knows his town well, is truly proud of his Swiss heritage, and he is even prouder of being an American. Although a reader might present the background of the New Glarus people somewhat differently, the work beautifully features a Midwestern rural town's evolution and unique character, and it is a valuable addition to Swiss American history.

Available at Amazon.com and in bookstores

LEO SCHELBERT

### *The Thirteenth Time Zone*

by David Jebb



An easy to read adventurous and somewhat biographical odyssey around the world. The author seems to have a knack for finding religious sects that help him along on his rockstrewn road. The final stage of his journey is Switzerland where he finds a woman and eternal love. He married his beautiful Swiss girl and both live again in San Diego, California where the narration of the book started.

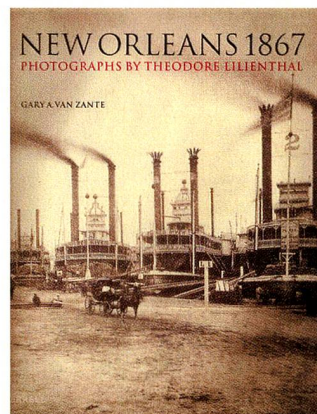
The book can be purchased for \$ 17.95 at the website [www.thethirteenthtimezone.com](http://www.thethirteenthtimezone.com) where you can also find much more information about the author and his book.

JACOB BAUR



### *New Orleans 1867 - Photographs by Theodore Lilienthal*

By Gary A. Van Zante



The book contains photographs by Theodore Lilienthal, now in the Napoleon Museum in Arenenberg, Canton of Thurgau, Switzerland. The photographs of New Orleans constitute the first photographic survey of any American city. They were originally exhibited at the Paris Exposition of 1867 and came into the possession of Napoleon III. They were preserved but unknown outside of the Museum until 1995 when they came to the attention of Mr. Van Zante who was then the curator of the Southeastern Architectural Archive of Tulane University. The pictures were made two years after the end of the Civil War and were intended to advertise New Orleans and its recovery after the war.

In 2000 the photographs were exhibited at the Tulane University Art Gallery and the New Orleans Museum of Art and are now presented in this handsome book. It is available at Amazon.com and in bookstores.

WAL BAUR

### *Meerfeuer*

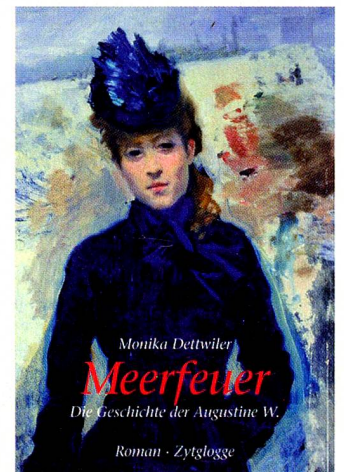
von Monika Dettwiler

**(This review is in German, as this book is only available in German.)**

„Meerfeuer“ ist die Geschichte Monika Dettwiler's Urgrosseltern vor dem Hintergrund des amerikanischen Sezessionskriegs und des Schweizer Kul-

turkampfs der 1870er Jahre.

Die Amerika-Solothurnerin Augustine lernt in ihrem Heimatjahr Rudolf kennen. Die Katholikin und der (reformierte) Freigeist aus Bern verlieben sich, aber Augustine muss nach New Orleans zurücksegeln, in die Wirren des amerikanischen Sezessionskriegs. Acht Jahre lang fliessen Briefe und Gedichte über das Meer. Augustine und ihr Vater werden als Schweizer in New Orleans in problematische Loyalitätskonflikte verwickelt. Nach der Heirat hat Augustine kaum Zeit, sich vom turbulenten New Orleans auf die enge Stadt in der Schweiz umzugewöhnen: Sie gerät in einen Kampf, der sie tiefer trifft als der amerikanische Krieg. Augustine



steht auf der Seite der romtreuen Katholiken, als deren schärfster Gegner im Berner Grossrat ausgerechnet Rudolf auftritt. Der Schweizer Kulturkampf in den frühen 1870er Jahren und die kriegsähnlichen Turbulenzen im Berner Jura werden zum Prüfstand der jungen Ehe. „Meerfeuer“ ist der zweite Teil der Saga um die Berner Familie Niggeler; der erste, „Berner Lauffeuer - Roman zur Gründung des Schweizer Bundesstaates“, stand 1998 fünf Monate lang auf der Schweizer Bestsellerliste.

Bestellung:

[http://www.zytglogge.ch/fs\\_buchprogramm.html](http://www.zytglogge.ch/fs_buchprogramm.html)  
[www.monikadettwiler.ch](http://www.monikadettwiler.ch)



## Pennsylvania The Philadelphia Orchestra simultane- ously in two Countries

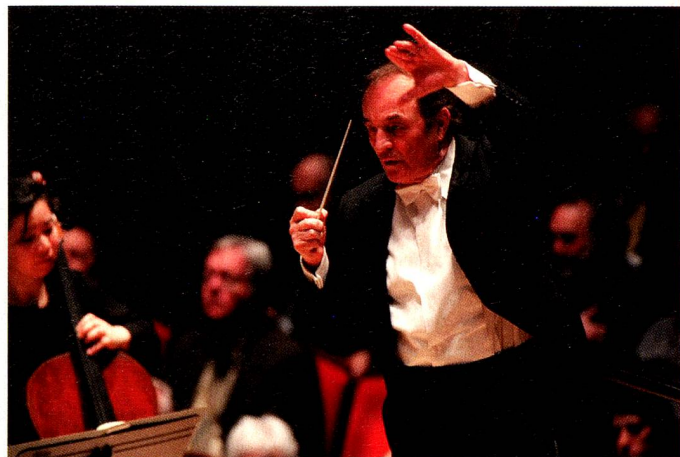
Bundesbrief Society Plays Major  
Role in Helping to Build Bridge  
Spanning Atlantic

The Philadelphia Orchestra built a musical bridge between the USA and Switzerland on Friday, February 22, 2008, rendering its emotional performance of "An Alpine Symphony" by Richard Strauss in the Philadelphia Kim-

mel Center.

The audience of Swiss and Americans had been able to watch the Philadelphia concert simultaneously on Friday at 2pm Philadelphia, and at 8pm Swiss time via a live Internet feed, directly to a concert hall at ETH in Zurich. Both audiences gave the American orchestra a standing ovation following its program and two encores - yearning for the clank of cowbells and the whistle of alpine wind.

When Philadelphia Orchestra di-



Maestro Charles Dutoit, from Lausanne, Switzerland, conducting the "Alpine Symphony" by Richard Strauss

Photo: Chris Lee/The Philadelphia Orchestra Association.

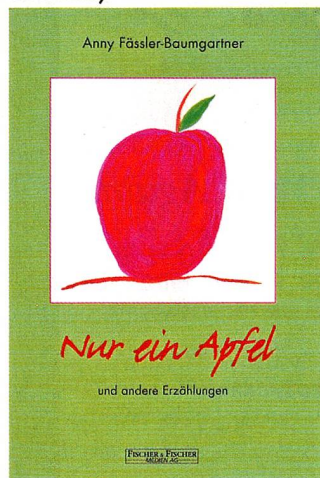


View of the entire Philadelphia Orchestra, here under the direction of Maestro Christoph Eschenbach, Philadelphia Orchestra Music Director.

Photo: Jessica Griffin/The Philadelphia Orchestra Association

## Book Review, continued Nur ein Apfel

Anny Fässler-Baumgartner  
(This review is in German, as  
this book is only available in  
German.)



„Es gibt in jedem Leben Begebenheiten, die aus diesem oder jenem Grund einen sehr starken Einfluss auf uns ausgeübt haben. Sie sind die besonders glänzenden Steine im bunten Mosaik des Lebens.“

## Nevada - Swiss Club of Northern Nevada:

Our second annual Swiss Independence Day celebration will be on Saturday, August 2nd. We will play the DVD of the President's speech, and rejoice with all our friends. It will be held at Osi Bragger's home in Reno, NV beginning at 3 p.m. Please contact either Osi Bragger at mo2golfers@aol.com or 775-852-1621, or Kurt Stettler at electricsswiss@yahoo.com or 775-359-3190.

Anny, 1939 in St. Gallen geboren, beschreibt in diesem Buch Begebenheiten aus ihrer Kindheit, Jugendzeit und frühesten Vergangenheit. Wer in der Schweiz aufgewachsen ist, wird sich beim Lesen oft sagen können „Ja, so war es“ und eine heile Welt wieder entdecken.

Das Buch kann für \$ 15.00 direkt bei der Autorin bestellt werden:

Anny Fassler  
2001 English Rd.  
Rochester, NY 14616

WAL BAUR

A to Z Travel Planners  
Swiss Owned and Operated  
Full Service Travel Agency



Belair Charter flights  
All Major Airlines  
Car Rentals & Rail Passes

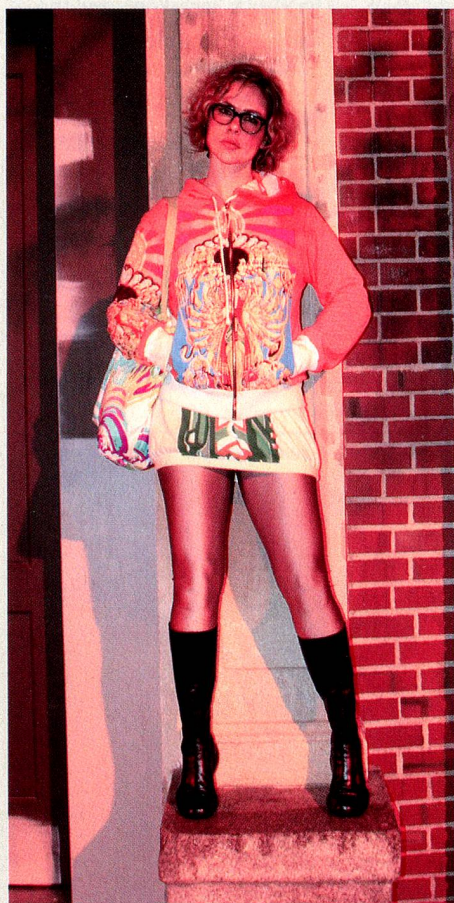
A to Z Travel Planners Call: 800-261-9960, 408-363-9966  
5533 Snell Ave. #100, San Jose, CA 95123 CST# 101376940



## New York Idil Vice

### Making Fashion in Manhattan

The young girl from St. Gallen emigrated at age 25. Disappointed with her career in graphic design, and encouraged by a boy friend that kept talking about New York, that's where she went. Born of Turkish parents, Idil Doguoglu soon changed her name to Idil Vice (it just sounds like Edelweiss) to emphasize her Swiss origin. She didn't really intend to go into that direction, it kind of just happened! She always liked fashion and was looking for something that allowed her to express herself. "I must have hit the right spot," she says, "because I was really naïve and just



Idil Vice wearing one of her own creations

started showing my designs." After only two weeks she was able to present her own creations in a show. Today, Idil is 41 years old, employs seven persons full time and

about 40 persons part time. She counts Madonna, Sarah Jessica Parker and the singer/icon Gwen Stefani among her clients. Prints from well-known people are typical for her present fashion. Bob Marley, Elvis or Slash, the guitarist from Guns N' Roses figure on her tops or skirts. Idil was not only lucky in business, but also in love. For the past three years she has been married to the photographer Carl Posey whom she met at a fashion photo shoot. All the pictures in this article are from him. Idil Vice models are available in various Department Stores and Boutiques. Prices range from 40 Dollars

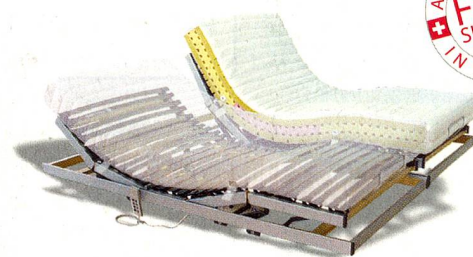
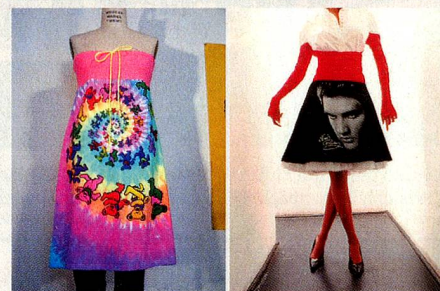
to 700 and more. See her fashion at [www.idilvice.com](http://www.idilvice.com). The newest venture is Idil's Online Shop, open since last March. Check it out at [www.idilvicefashionrocks.com](http://www.idilvicefashionrocks.com).

WAL BAUR

Above two models from the "Fashion Rocks" Collection.

To the right: "Greatful Dead Spiral Dress" and "Elvis Petticoat Skirt"

All pictures by Carl Posey



## 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.

SWISS SLEEP SYSTEM, JUNE 2008/1003



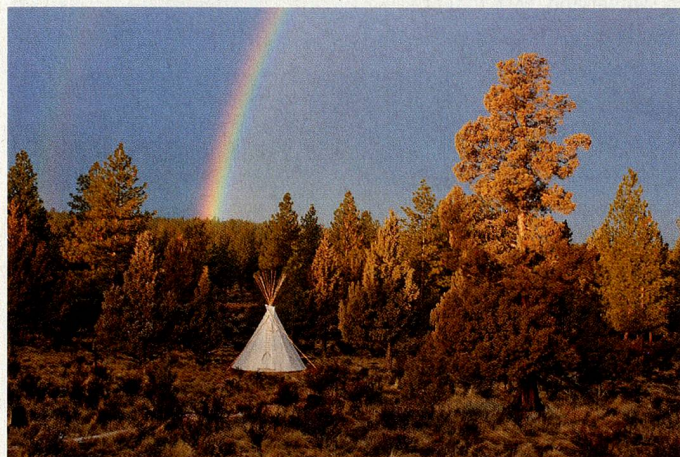
## Oregon Living close to nature

### Swiss Straw Bale House

Christian & Regula Heeb, from St. Gallen, Switzerland moved permanently to the Resort City of Bend, Oregon in 1998. Drawn by the relative liberal community, the unspoiled great outdoors and the convenient location close to Americas West Coast, they bought a 40 acre

waste product like straw, whose insulation factor is simply phenomenal.

The interior and exterior shell of Rancho Las Hierbas, as the house is called, was finished in stucco to give it a modern Southwest feeling. It is not hooked up to the grid. All energy is created on site by photo voltaic cells. There are cells for hot water as well. Propane is used for cooking and sometimes



The unspoiled landscape close to Bend, Oregon

piece of high desert on the edge of Bend. The secluded property, tucked in a cul de sac, is bordered on two sides by the Deschutes National Forest. It has great views of the majestic Cascades Mountains. The volcanoes of the Sisters, Mount Bachelor and even Mount Jefferson can be seen from the site.

#### This is their story:

"True to our calling to live close to nature we decided to have as low an impact on the land as possible. In 1998 we built a straw bale house in the center of the property. While there is a regular wood frame to the house, all the walls are actually filled with straw bales. This construction type takes less wood than regular construction and uses a

in the winter for hot water generation if there isn't enough sunlight.

Radiant floors heated by propane are only used if we are not at home during the winter months. If we are at home, we heat the whole house with wood firing in our masonry heater, which also functions as pizza and bread oven. It is similar to a European "Kachelofen". Most days during winter the oven needs to be lit only for some hours in the late afternoon. The southern exposure of the large living room windows further helps keeping the house warm. We decided initially to just use sixteen solar panels with 75 Watts each. Now of course there are much more efficient panels available. While we still work on

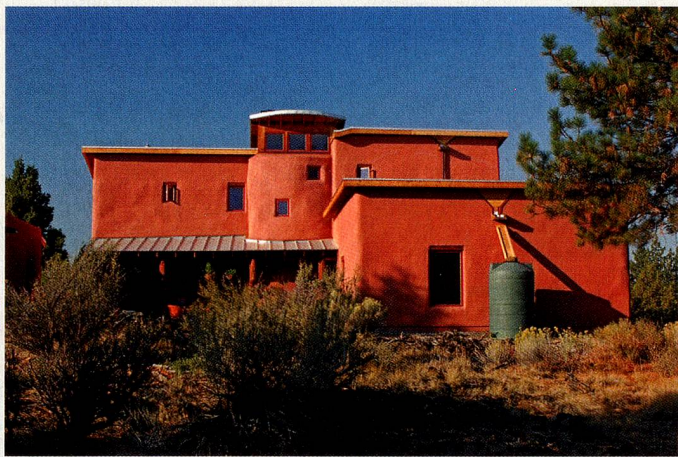


The sun shining through the large windows on the South side of the house helps heating the rooms in Winter. Notice the eagle checking out the photographer!

our computers, we are renowned travel and nature photographers and most of our work is done digitally. We had to change our life to adjust to a low energy use. The computer screens, the washing machine and the fridge are all low energy. We have no hair dryers or cloth dryers. Hanging the laundry outside is the best way to dry it in Bend. In the high desert this takes hardly half a day. There is never an unnecessary lamp turned on. All light bulbs are energy efficient.

mountain lion."

Christian & Regula Heeb have been traveling the world for major European and US publishers for 20 years. After time spent in the deserts of Australia, Africa and the USA, they decided to leave Europe behind. Christian says: "Switzerland is a beautiful country that works. There is really not much to be said about it in a negative way besides that there was not enough space for us. Where in Switzerland could we have found a 40 acres pro-



The small windows on the North side of the house minimize heat loss. Rainwater run-off from the roof is collected for re-use.

We don't use digital alarm clocks or any other little energy suckers.

Since the natural surroundings of the house were left untouched, herds of mule deer nibble just outside the large glass windows at their favorite food, the bitter brush. Golden mantled ground squirrels, chipmunks and the elusive bobcat frequent the immediate surroundings, as do coyotes and the occasional

perty in a pretty natural state and built a house on it?"

Christian Heeb is a proud member of the Society of American Travel Writers. His images are represented through fine photo agencies worldwide. His own database has over 18'000 images. To see the pictures and read more about Rancho Las Hierbas or to contact the Heeb's, go to: [www.heebphoto.com](http://www.heebphoto.com)

CHRISTIAN & REGULA HEEB

### 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**



## Florida

### Timing is everything

Patrick Puton was born in Switzerland, the land of watchmaking. His mother was a watchmaker. His father became president of Rolex in the United States. And now he is founder and president of Excel Time Service, a year-old company in Coral Gables that repairs mechanical and quartz watches. All his highly skilled watchmakers are Cuban, including master watchmaker Federico Rodriguez, who at age 63 has 45 years of watch repair on his résumé.



All the highly skilled watchmakers are Cuban. Their workbenches face North. "Northern light is important for a watchmaker - no glare and it doesn't get too hot!"

The young company specializes in repairing Rolexes, but it also repairs watches by Cartier, Omega, Longines, Rado, and Hamilton, along with many other brands, including Cuervo y Sob-



Patrick Puton, founder and president of Excel Time Service, a year-old company in Coral Gables, Florida

rinos, a Cuban watch.

Buying luxury watches has been popular for 20 years, with sales of luxury brands jumping 16

percent in the past year alone. For owners of expensive watches, maintenance is important. "Just because you own a Mercedes Benz doesn't mean it doesn't

need service." That's where Puton's business comes in. Puton, 46, opened in the Alhambra Tower in September 2006, after nearly a year of assembling the unique work space that watch-

makers require. His nearly 2,000-square-foot space on the 12th floor faces north. "Northern light is important for a watchmaker," he explains. "And it's not so hot." The workbenches, made locally, are modeled after the traditional watchmaker's bench

in Switzerland, with indented arm rests that help keep the watchmaker's hands steady.

It is a job that cannot be rushed. It might take three or more hours. The average repair bill is \$250, varying according to the complexity of the problem.

Puton expects revenue to reach \$450,000 by the end

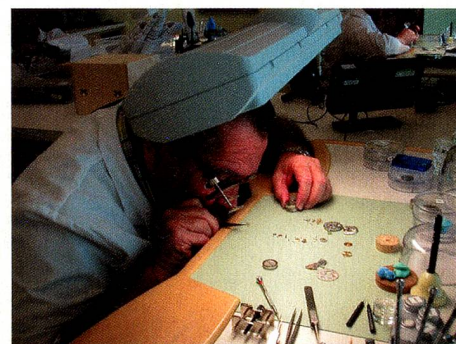
of this year, and he plans to expand his space. He wants to add more watchmakers to his staff and perhaps, sometime in the future, to franchise Excel. For more than 20 years, Puton has specialized in watches. He served as a senior executive at Rolex Watch USA, and was a

project manager for Rolex of Canada. He also served as a management consultant and later senior executive to the luxury group LVMH (Louis-Vuitton-Moët-Hennessy). But Puton never studied watchmaking. "I did take a watch apart once," he admits. He didn't say whether he put it back together again.

EXCERPS FROM AN ARTICLE BY

JO WERNE

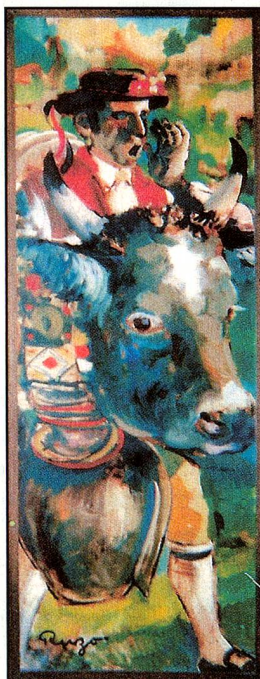
SPECIAL TO THE MIAMI HERALD



Workbenches, made locally, are modeled after the traditional watchmaker's bench in Switzerland, with indented arm rests that help keep the watchmaker's hands steady.

Contact:

Patrick Puton, President  
Excel Time Service, LLC  
121 Alhambra Plaza, Suite 1205  
Coral Gables, FL 33134 USA  
Tel. (305) 460-0019  
Fax (305) 460-0084  
pputon@exceltimeservice.com  
www.exceltimeservice.com



### Available

**Appenzeller  
Senn  
Original Oil  
by Ruzo**

**54 x 146 cm**

**(www.ruzo.ch)**

**estimated  
value  
SFr. 40,000.-**

**Fax offers to  
973) 992-9660**



### The Squire Tarbox Inn

1181 Main Road  
Westport Island, ME 04578  
207.882.7693; 800.818.0626  
innkeepers@squiretarboxinn.com  
www.squiretarboxinn.com

### "A little Switzerland in Maine"

Historic Inn and Farm  
dating back to 1763.  
Relax in the peace  
and tranquility away  
from the madden-  
ing crowds but close  
enough to enjoy the  
attractions of the  
Mid Coast Area



## Washington Treading lightly on the land

Cooper-Hewitt's annual awards  
honor projects with strong ties  
to nature.



"Rolling Huts", the award-winning guesthouse on wheels

An architect who built guesthouses on wheels and the landscape team behind a sculpture garden at the Getty Center are among the winners of the annual National Design Awards announced beginning of May by

the Smithsonian's Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum in New York. Swiss architect Tom Kundig, a partner in the Seattle-based firm Olson Sundberg Kundig Allen Architects, was cited by the award jury for work that includes the Rolling Huts, guesthouses on wheels in Mazama, Was-



The three-story steel cabin on stilts in Mazama, Washington, that can be completely shuttered with the turn of a hand crank

hington, designed to maximize views while treading lightly on the land. Another notable project in Mazama is a three-story steel cabin on stilts that can be completely shuttered with the turn of a hand crank. "Levers, racks, gears, outsized hinges and wall-size shutters improbably glide into place to frame sublime natural vistas," said juror Mark Robbins, dean of the Syracuse University School of Architecture. "The dual American obsession of industry and

nature summed immaculately in the smallest folly."

For more information on the awards, go to [www.cooperhewitt.org](http://www.cooperhewitt.org).

EXCERPT FROM AN ARTICLE IN THE  
LOS ANGELES TIMES BY  
BETTIJANE LEVINE.

Swiss Review published a full-page article about Tom Kundig and his work in # 2/07 and wishes to congratulate him on winning this award.



# Roberts

## European Imports

### Your Swiss Store in the USA!

Be ready for summer entertainment, seasonal  
Swiss Festivals, and Swiss Independence Day

#### 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 308 when ordering special summer savings items)

Shop our internet catalog at:

## WWW.SHOPSWISS.COM

Watch our web site for monthly specials!

Call or write for our free 40-page catalog!

Toll free: (800) 968-2517

Send email requests to: [info@shopswiss.com](mailto:info@shopswiss.com)

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



Hats...

Swiss  
T-Shirts



Children's Lederhosen



Traditional Dress for all occasions...milking jackets, vests, childrens and adults dirndls (call for dirndl styles and sizes), accessories & more!



Bräzeli Irons for summer treats



Halltex towels and accessories





## Swiss-American Chamber of Commerce

The Swiss-American Chamber of Commerce organizes various events on current topics and with interesting speakers all over the United States.

Please find below a list of events organized by our individual chapters.

### Los Angeles

#### Nov. 19 – Raclette Dinner

Topic: Social event

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location:

Mezzanine at the Towers, 19800 Mac Arthur Blvd., Irvine, CA 92612

Contact: vicki.burkhard@burkhardconsultingservices.com

For more information:

[http://www.amcham.ch/events/m\\_los\\_angeles.asp](http://www.amcham.ch/events/m_los_angeles.asp)

#### Monthly: Swiss Network Stammtisch in Orange County

Topic: To be determined

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location:

Mezzanine at the Towers, 19800 Mac Arthur Blvd., Irvine, CA 92612

Contact: vicki.burkhard@burkhardconsultingservices.com

For more information:

[http://www.amcham.ch/events/m\\_los\\_angeles.asp](http://www.amcham.ch/events/m_los_angeles.asp)

### New York

#### July 26 – Swiss National Day Celebration

Topic: Social event

Time: To be determined

Location: To be determined

Contact: info@amcham.ch

For more information:

[http://www.amcham.ch/events/m\\_new-york.asp](http://www.amcham.ch/events/m_new-york.asp)

### San Francisco

#### September 11 – Business Forum San Francisco

Topic: To be determined

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: Swissnex

Contact: info@amcham.ch

For more information:

[http://www.amcham.ch/events/m\\_san\\_francisco.asp](http://www.amcham.ch/events/m_san_francisco.asp)

#### September 18 – Business Forum South Bay

Topic: To be determined

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: Silicon Valley Bank

Contact: info@amcham.ch

For more information:

[http://www.amcham.ch/events/m\\_san\\_francisco.asp](http://www.amcham.ch/events/m_san_francisco.asp)

#### October 9 – Business Forum San Francisco

Topic: To be determined

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: Swissnex

Contact: info@amcham.ch

For more information:

[http://www.amcham.ch/events/m\\_san\\_francisco.asp](http://www.amcham.ch/events/m_san_francisco.asp)

#### November 20 – Business Forum South Bay

Topic: To be determined

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: Silicon Valley Bank

Contact: info@amcham.ch

For more information:

[http://www.amcham.ch/events/m\\_san\\_francisco.asp](http://www.amcham.ch/events/m_san_francisco.asp)

For additional information and for our latest events please visit our website, [http://www.amcham.ch/events/m\\_events.asp](http://www.amcham.ch/events/m_events.asp)

REMO ANKLI

[remo.ankli@amcham.ch](mailto:remo.ankli@amcham.ch)

### Oklahoma

#### FC Basel

#### Celebration in Tulsa

Saturday May 10, 2008, the day of the Swiss Soccer Championship Finalissima between FC Basel and Young Boys Berne, the Swiss Club of Oklahoma was scheduled to have their traditional monthly Jass Abend at Eugene and Patricia Hodels

lovely home. Well, it turned out to become an event of spontaneous celebration and joy after the well deserved victory of our favorite team FC Basel. The glasses were heaved to this success, the Stimmung was great and some had ex-

tra luck in playing cards, some others not.



Swiss friends of Oklahoma having a good time

For any one Swiss rooted person in Oklahoma, South Kansas and Western Arkansas, we welcome you to join a great group of very diverse friends to enjoy some good and fun time together five times a year and monthly if you like to Jass.

ANDRE SIEGENTHALER  
PRESIDENT SWISS CLUB OF  
OKLAHOMA  
[Sigi21@cox.net](mailto:Sigi21@cox.net)

## 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 10165-1027  
Tel: (212) 949-9465 Fax: (212) 949-9557  
E-mail: [FactsTax@aol.com](mailto:FactsTax@aol.com)



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](mailto: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](mailto:laxoffice@transcontainer.com)  
[www.transcontainer.com](http://www.transcontainer.com)

SWISS Contacts:  
GONDRAND AG  
Industriestrasse 10  
8152 Glattpburg  
Tel. +41/ 1 828 6830  
Email: [c.tintori@gondrand.ch](mailto:c.tintori@gondrand.ch)  
[www.gondrand.ch](http://www.gondrand.ch)

We are committed to Expertise, Reliability, and Customer Service