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# REGIONAL NEWS

## UNITED STATES

### Editorial

Dear Readers,

*it was great to receive so many contributions from you and the Swiss clubs throughout the U.S., but I had a difficult time to fit them all in this issue. The selection of photos was particularly challenging since there were so many great ones to choose from.*

*I would like to expand the U.S. edition by 4 pages from the 8 it currently is to 12. For this to be considered by the ASO, I would have to add some*

*advertising to help support the publication. If you can think of an organization or company who might be interested in promoting their services or products to the Swiss community in the U.S., let me know.*

*There's no regional U.S. edition in the November issue of the Swiss Review. The next regional issue will be published at the end of January 2019. Please note that contributions for the January issue are due December 30th.*

*I wish you a pleasant fall and peaceful Christmas season.*

DORIS BERNATH CUNNINGHAM  
EDITOR

### Member of the Council of the Swiss Abroad (CSA): Tom Neidecker

Please note that the correct email address for Tom Neidecker is TOMPNI@ATT.NET. He is the delegate for the following areas: AR, AZ (Tucson area), CO, LA, NM, OK and TX.

### Orlando, Florida: Chef Michael Pythoud

Chef Michael Pythoud is a talented and great personality who, every day, wears proudly his name tag "Michael - Neuchatel - Switzerland" making a positive impact in the life of hundreds of chefs, sous-chefs and people and by sharing his passion with guests from all over the world.

Michael Pythoud was born in Neuchatel, Switzerland, in 1958. Sharing his mother's love of food, he decided at age 6 to become a chef, and at age 15 apprenticed in a family-owned restaurant near Bevaix. After three years, he began traveling the globe to gain experience in hotel kitchens. He worked at the palatial Grand Hotel du Parc in Villars and the Noga Hilton International Hotel in Geneva, the Hilton hotels in Abu Dhabi and Manila, and at the Vista International Hotel at the World Trade Center in New York City.

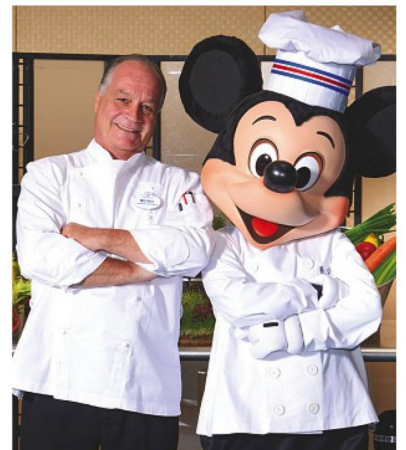
Michael Pythoud's ambition and creativity led to an extraordinary career with The Walt Disney Company starting in 1990. He was the first chef on staff at Disneyland Paris before it opened and developed more than 1,800 recipes to be offered at 30 food-service outlets at the park's five hotels and its entertainment center. Working from a test kitchen, he prepared and photographed every dish to provide guidelines for incoming chefs. In 1994, he moved to Orlando as executive chef at Disney's Contemporary Resort to develop concepts such as the California

Grill and Chef Mickey's, both successful restaurants today. He was asked to oversee Epcot® kitchens and was part of the team who initiated the EPCOT® International Food and Wine Festival in 1996. In 2005, his responsibilities as executive chef included the Disney Hollywood Studio, Animal Kingdom Theme Park, Downtown Disney, Disney Wide World of Sport and the Water Parks. In 2008, the "Bocuse d'Or USA", a biennial chef championship, was held at EPCOT® and, at the request of Chef Paul Bocuse himself, who sadly passed away recently, Michael became Walt Disney World's liaison. Since 2015, Michael Pythoud is the Culinary Director of Walt Disney World Deluxe Resorts, overseeing more than 100 food and beverage locations and nine deluxe resorts including The Grand Floridian and the well-known Victoria & Albert restaurant.

He is also a member of the Advisory Board of the prestigious Auguste Escoffier School of Culinary Arts (<https://www.escoffier.edu/blog/announcements/look-disney-culinary-program-michael-pythoud/>) and a member of the Advisory committee of the Valencia College in Orlando.

These are only a few examples of what Michael Pythoud accomplished so far. At the age of 60, he's still passionate about his work, striving to leave a legacy of discipline, creativity and passion for the profession.

SANDRA VUITEL  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA



Chef Michael Pythoud and Mickey



L to R: Chef Jerome Bocuse (Paul Bocuse's son), Chef Michael Pythoud, Remy (the rat), Chef Paul Bocuse and Chef Daniel Boulud at the Gala dinner at Epcot® for the Disney movie Ratatouille



## World Cup Soccer 2018

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### Arizona: Tucson Swiss Club

The members were cheering the Swiss soccer team during the World Cup at one of our local pubs near the University of Arizona.

Our celebration of Switzerland's 727th birthday took place at Mt. Lemmon on the outskirts of Tucson. Check out more pictures on our club's website at [www.TucsonSwissClub.com](http://www.TucsonSwissClub.com)



EDDY SCHAEFER  
TUCSONSWISSCLUB@GMAIL.COM  
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### Minnesota: Twin Cities Swiss American Association (TCSAA)

The Annual General Meeting was held at the beautiful Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in Chaska, west of Minneapolis. The attendance was good and before lunch we had the pleasure of a visit from the Edelweiss Alphorn Duo who played some nice melodies. After lunch we concluded the business part in a short time. Like in the past years, all current board members were re-elected and with Peter Grand a new director was appointed to the TCSAA board. Markus Gaelli presented the finances and we can say, we have a good foundation. After the meeting many of the members visited the beautiful gardens.



We celebrated the 1st of August celebration on the 4th of August. We can't be enough thankful for the family Trechsel who invited us again this year to their home where we could have a traditional bonfire. We thank Pius Hollenstein, Rene Vanoni, Patrick Kruegel, Stan Zimmerman and Laurie Trechsel for the hard work to build the fire. The weather on the 4th was just perfect; warm, no rain and no mosquitoes. We could welcome 81 adults and 5 children to the event and we enjoyed the Brats, Cervelats and hot dogs grilled by an outstanding crew (Phil Zeller, Rene Vanoni and Andre Wanzenried) and great tasting bread baked by our member Emil Kolb. After listening to the speech of our Swiss President Alain Berset we sang the National Anthem. For the traditional Tombola, we had the support from Buehler and many members donating prizes. Within minutes all Loeslis were sold out and many of the members including some children got very nice prizes. Before it was too dark, the fire was lit and we enjoyed this moment. I'm sure many of us are looking forward to next year's celebration.






These two events are our signature events and we always welcome new members. For more information on upcoming events, visit our website at [www.tcsaa.us](http://www.tcsaa.us)

MARKUS HOESLI  
BOARD MEMBER TCSAA  
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### Northern California: Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club

The Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club hosted the annual Swiss National Day Celebration on August 4th organized by the United Swiss Societies of Northern California. The event was held at the beautiful picnic grounds at Swiss Park in Newark, CA. Many guests came to celebrate the 727th anniversary of Switzerland, to eat Swiss food, and to listen



and dance to Swiss and German music. The festival also gave children a chance to wrestle Swiss style, participate in a Swiss flag parade, and see Bernese mountain dogs in action. The Swiss Park had a kids' zone with fun games and activities for the children along with a bounce house. Exhibits featured Swiss Heritage, the San Francisco Pier 17 Swiss Consulate, Swiss Tourism, and the Swiss Business Hub.

The United Swiss Societies and Lugano Swiss Bistro provided guests with a wonderful lunch of either roasted chicken, vegetable Spätzli, or Swiss bratwurst. Pastries were sold to the delight of everyone by Swiss Delices Bakery. Arthur Brogli yodeled while playing his accordion, the Swiss Echoes Choir sung beautiful Swiss hymns, and music by Ed Sciarini and Art Nicola was enjoyed by all. During the afternoon "The Internationals" performed dance music.

Our San Francisco Bay Area Consul General gave the 1st of August address to all those in attendance. The afternoon concluded with a raffle. The Grand prize, donated by Switzerland Tourism, was two



Swiss Travel Passes in First Class. A couple of cash prizes were also donated along with many other prizes.

ROSE SATARIANO  
NEWSLETTER EDITOR  
AELPLERGRUPPE@GMAIL.COM

### New York: Swiss Benevolent Society of New York

60 guests celebrated the 1st of August at a luncheon at the Mont Blanc 52 restaurant. They enjoyed Swiss specialties like Veal Emincé Zurichoise, Veal Bratwurst with onion sauce, Veal Cordon Bleu, Spätzli and Rösti.



CHRISTINA YILDIZ  
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### Idaho: Treasure Valley Swiss Group

Some of us get together monthly for a lunch outing, but the big event is held on the first Sunday of August at noon at the Ivywild Park in Boise. We just really enjoy this potluck. There are always traditional foods, some people are really good at bringing the same dish every year, so it's fun to look forward to that. Everyone is encouraged to bring some items for the auction. There are usually only a handful of people who do, but it's enough to raise the funds for the park rental, picnic supplies, etc. Marie, the sweet lady who started it all years ago, also organizes a lottery with fun inexpensive items. Then we sang a few songs in Swiss-German and one or two in French.

If you're interested in our club, please check out our Facebook page under Idaho Swiss or contact Heather Bitsch at heatherbitsch@gmail.com.



CLAUDIA WALTER  
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## Florida: Swiss American Club of Miami announces launch of new name, logo and tagline



July 2018 – Almost 1 year after introducing a completely new website, the Swiss American Club of Miami revealed a new look to its community. Including a shorter name “Swiss Club Miami” and a new tagline “Where Cultures Gather, since 1941”, the rebranding reflects the evolution and

expansion of the Club. In fact, the objective of the 6-month project was to create a more friendly, modern look and feel while remaining true to its roots - developing and preserving the Swiss heritage and traditions as well as promoting Swiss culture in South Florida.

This is a very exciting change for us and it marks a new milestone for our Club. We are not an old-fashioned Club, but a place to connect, exchange, and enjoy gathering.

With the help of graphic designers Carol Jamault and Sergio Campante, the Board unanimously chose a fun and unique design with a Swiss font and Swiss design elements.

Look out for more updates on our website as we continue to innovate and gather within our Swiss community and friends!

ANNE-CLAIRE MINET-ENRIQUEZ  
MARKETING & SOCIAL MEDIA  
SWISS CLUB MIAMI  
WWW.SWISSCLUBMIAMI.ORG

## Florida: Swiss Club Miami

The Swiss Club Miami had its Swiss National Day celebration at Fritz & Franz on Aug 5th with a record attendance of 161 people. It proved to be a spectacular event with lots of new faces who all came to celebrate the 727th Anniversary of Switzerland.

The party got off to a great start with the apéro (a delicious Swiss wine from the canton of Schaffhausen) being sponsored by a member of the club. The raffle table was filled with lots of wonderful prizes from our sponsors! People were standing in line for raffle tickets and they were all gone in no time. To be won was a 2 night stay in San Francisco, another stay in Zuoz/Switzerland and several weekend stays in Curacao. Another 95 prizes were waiting for the lucky winners and a BIG THANK YOU goes out to all the many sponsors!

During the brief welcome speech everyone was welcomed including our special guest the Honorary Consul of Switzerland in Miami, Ferdinand Kurt, and our past presidents Karolina Galvez, Karin Andersen and Hannah Rabenseifner.

A big THANK YOU went to our present Board members, Mariana Wachter, Roland Bandelier, Patrick Luthy and Astrid Artho who worked on the registration during her vacation in Switzerland. This event would not have happened without the support and the great work of our team. Not to be forgotten of course are the other board members Anne-Claire Minet, Christian Gschwind and Nicole Unternaehrer who were all on vacation, but who had also helped in preparing the event. Thanks also to our volunteers Thomas and Alexis selling the raffle tickets and our ex-board member Urs, our professional photographer Bea Morell and Olga for taking photos, Alessandra, Nikki and David for helping where help was needed.

Former TV news anchor Constance Jones stepped up to thank our sponsors and she was followed by the official National Day 2018 greetings for the Swiss abroad by the President of the Swiss Confederation Alain Berset. Everyone got up to listen to the National Anthem sung by the Zurich Choir Boys which produced a tear or two in some people's eyes! That changed when it was announced that the buffet was open and while standing in line, it was a great opportunity to chat with your compatriots. Dessert had a distinctive Swiss touch with delicious Pralines and Appenzeller Biberli.

A special photo memory could be taken at the photo booth which was very much liked by both kids and adults. And of course, our special Kids Entertainer Steve did a great job to keep our youngsters busy and happy. Like every year, the highlight of our celebration was the Lampion Parade with all the children. Even the parents joined in with the kids!

So altogether, we again had a great time this year and everyone went home with a smile!

BEA SCHMIED, PRESIDENT  
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### Texas: Swiss Community of Texas

The "Swiss Community of Texas" had three major events this summer, starting with a weekend in Fredericksburg from June 1-3. North Texas members met with Central and South Texas members, which also included folks from the former "Swiss Society of South Texas", and a Swiss family from Louisiana and California. A welcome dinner at the Auslaender Restaurant in Fredericksburg helped everybody to get acquainted. The next day, after a hearty breakfast at the German Bakery, the city sightseeing Trolley bus tour with a very knowledgeable guide was a highlight of the program, followed by a



wine-tasting and a Vintage Car Show. The fun-filled evening at "The Club" at Baron's Creek Side Resort with a Swiss

dinner (Aelplermagronen and salad) rounded off the day. Entertainment was provided by Swiss singer Silvie Rider and her husband, the famous Red Young. The resort owner Daniel Meyer even played a special bluesy tribute on the Alphorn for us! Most people went home the following day. The ones who stayed went for a hike to the Enchanted Rock Park, the Fort Martin Scott Museum, the Pioneer Museum, or just enjoyed a few more hours in the historic city.

For our Swiss National Day, we organized two events: a Fireworks Cruise for the Dallas-Fort Worth area on July 27, and lunch for the Austin area on July 29. Both celebrations were well received and enjoyed by many!



MARIE-LOUISE NORTON  
PRESIDENT  
WWW.SWISSCOMMUNITYTEXAS.ORG  
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### Pennsylvania: New Helvetic Society of Philadelphia

The New Helvetic Society celebrated the 2018 Swiss National Day on July 28th at the Vereinigung Erzgebirge in Warminster, Pennsylvania. The colorful Swiss Canton flags decorated the venue to set the right mood for a perfect National Day celebration. The festivities started with a speech by Daniela Kovalcik, President of NHS. The members and their families enjoyed the celebrations, wearing red Swiss shirts and other Swiss garments. Traditional music played in the background while people danced and children enjoyed Slack line walking and other games after a swim in the club pool. After listening to a message to the Swiss Abroad from Swiss President Alain Berset, the attendees participated in singing the Swiss National Anthem. Everyone enjoyed the Fleischkäse dinner along with delicious deserts while listening to live music. The celebrations ended with children taking part in a Lampion parade, bon fire and singing of Swiss folklore songs.

Please check out the activities of Swiss Club of Delaware Valley at our website [www.myswissclub.org](http://www.myswissclub.org)



DAVE SINGH  
NHS BOARD MEMBER  
WWW.MYSWISSCLUB.ORG

### Oregon: Portland Swiss

The 101st Portland, OR, Schwingfest was held on Saturday, July 14, at the Grossen Peaches farm in a beautiful alpine setting in Helvetia, a suburb of Hillsboro. 16 Buebe, Junior and Senior wrestlers from Oregon, Washington and Switzerland competed. Swiss food, Swiss music and Swiss dancing added to the event. A golf tournament was held the day before. You are cordially invited to attend next year.



JOANNE ODERMATT  
SECRETARY  
WWW.PORTLANDSWISS.ORG



## Illinois: Swiss Club of Chicago

The Swiss Club of Chicago kicked off the summer event season with the "Brunch by the Lake" at Foster Beach on Father's day June 17th. Everyone enjoys this event, especially on a beautiful sunny Sunday. Families gather to enjoy home-baked Zopf, homemade Bircher muesli, a great variety of Swiss cheeses, cold cuts, and other delicatessen. Kick back, relax and having a fun time is the motto for this event. Since we were right by the beach, many brought their swimsuits and took a refreshing swim in Lake Michigan.

We were blessed that we could celebrate the Swiss National Day Celebration on July 28th by marvelous weather and with great attendance. The folklore music entertained us, the kids had fun in the bouncy house and the air was filled with sounds of people having a great time. As soon as the cervelats and brats came off the grill, our guests flocked to the buffet table where we served homemade salads and for dessert we served a large variety of home-baked cakes from different regions of Switzerland. Our bakers enjoyed that their labor of love was so well received!

At dusk we concluded the celebration with a traditional Lampion parade lead by the sound (glöggel) of cow bells. Adults were waiting for this fun activity as much as the little ones, as it brings back childhood memories growing up back home in Switzerland.

The weekend of August 10-12, it was rumored that there is a new Swiss Colony sited at the banks of the Sugar River near New Glarus.



That's right, the Swiss Club Chicago went camping during this year's Canoe weekend! It was "de Hit!" A beautiful, fun and sunshine filled 3-day weekend! We even cooked Fondue on our camping stove! On Saturday we went on our canoe trip down the Sugar River. Everyone, from adult to kids to dogs, had a blast. We all voted YES to do this again next year!

Please check out our website [www.swissclubchicago.com](http://www.swissclubchicago.com) to find out more about the activities of the Swiss Club of Chicago, or sign up for the Newsletter so you receive emails with future event invitations.



ELKE SUJDAK  
VICE PRESIDENT  
[WWW.SWISSCLUBCHICAGO.COM](http://WWW.SWISSCLUBCHICAGO.COM)

## Arizona: Arizona Swiss Society

Thanks to all for putting on a successful and fun First of August party. Could the original three communities in 1291 possibly imagine that we would celebrate their confederacy 727 years later in a state called Arizona over horse shoes and pétanque?

Sibylle de Marignac graciously opened up her home. The house was just perfect for the well-attended event and had all the outside space needed for horse shoes and pétanque.

Kurt Schittli and Susan Oake were the activity chairs and did an excellent job in managing the event including taking reservations, shopping, setup, DJ'ing, and even KP (kitchen duty). Helene Block came early to set up, hospitably receive guests and manage the name tags, as well as act as in loco Treasurer. Our new member Patrick Bolliger was a great tournament manager for horse shoes. Gabriel Zinsli inspired the teams and created a fun atmosphere for all of the participants who played pétanque (boules/bocce). Many members helped the above so that we could celebrate the Confederacy in style.



JOHN THORNTON, PRESIDENT  
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## Florida: Swiss American Club of Southwest Florida

On Sunday, July 29, we received the message, that the Bonita Bay Private Beach was CLOSED because of the Red Tide. The committee was able to save the day and found a new venue by Monday: Ponce de Leon Park in Punta Gorda. We informed the members and despite the longer drive it was a HIT. Everybody liked the new place and Petrus spared us the rain.

The Board members arrived early to set up for the party. Soon Swiss flags were waving in the light breeze and Swiss music played in the boom box. We were ready for the 727th birthday of Switzerland!

The president, Maria von Atzigen, poured the wine for the Apéro which was sponsored by the Club. The grill masters made sure everybody got their Bratwurst just the way they wanted. The Swiss bread from a local bakery was also well received. This was indeed another memorable Independence Day celebration.



To view reports of our monthly events, visit our webpage [www.swissamericanclub.com](http://www.swissamericanclub.com).

ROSMARIE STROTHER  
SECRETARY  
[WWW.SWISSAMERICANCLUB.COM](http://WWW.SWISSAMERICANCLUB.COM)





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## Louisiana: Swiss American Society of New Orleans (SASNOLA)

The Swiss American Society of New Orleans celebrated Swiss National Day with an evening of, well, Rock and Bowling at Rock N Bowl's in New Orleans. With approximately fortyfive fellow Swiss compatriots, friends and family, we enjoyed several hours of lively conversation, friendly, semi competitive bowling and dancing to the music of the Jerry Embree Swing Band.

Other activities during the evening included a "Swiss Trivia" quiz prepared by our President, Robert Stickney. Prizes for highest scores were awarded to Rolf and Ann Interbitzen.



Having received a door prize at last year's August 1st party, Ann exclaimed that she's definitely going to keep coming because she keeps winning! Second place was awarded to Joey and David Luder and third place went to Eric and Marie Ravussin for their excellent knowledge of

all that is Swiss.

Our Honorary Consul, Alexandra Mora, organized a raffle where Alice Sue Reese won a "Swiss Mix" bag of goodies and for the second time that evening David Luder walked away with another prize.

We enjoyed "typical" bowling alley fare of pizza, chicken wings, mozzarella sticks, boudin balls chicken tenders and fries. The real treat though were the petit fours and cookies decorated with the Swiss flag.

Earlier this summer on June 14, we were privileged to host an early evening welcome reception at the home of our president and our secretary, Robert and Jean Stickney, honoring the Consul General of Switzerland in Atlanta, Mr. Peter Zimmerli, Trade Commissioner Swiss Business Hub USA, Atlanta Branch, Ms. Kimberly Schulman, and the Head of Economic and Financial Affairs Division of Switzerland in Washington D.C., Mr. Daniel Freihofer. We savored crabmeat



L to R: Walter Wolf  
John Geiser III (past  
Honorary Consul)  
Alexandra Mora  
Kimberly Shulman  
Daniel Freihofer  
Peter Zimmerli  
Robert Stickney

ravigote, crawfish pies, shrimp and pasta salads, deviled eggs, chicken and andouille jambalaya, pecan pralines, macaroons and petit fours amongst other traditional New Orleans fare and sipped on Pimm's Cups, French 75's, water and wine. It was by all accounts a splendid time shared with friends!

Just a few days later, a large group of us, including children and some dogs, got together at the Port Orleans brewery to root for Switzerland as they faced Brazil in the draw for 2018 World Cup Soccer



in Russia. It was an exciting match that ended in a 1-1 tie. As always, we enjoyed local fare provided by Stokehold restaurant located inside the

brewery that crafts its food to pair with the house beer. Their patty melt is made with real Raclette cut on a traditional Girouette raclette cheese slicer.

Fun fact: Did you know that New Orleans was once the brewing capital of the South? Swiss immigrant Louis Fasnacht and his brother Samuel opened the first brewery in New Orleans in 1852.

On July 21, a few of us met up at The Prytania theatre, the last surviving single screen theatre in New Orleans, to watch "Final Portrait". This wonderful film explores the offbeat friendship between James Lord, an American writer and art-enthusiast, and Alberto Giacometti, famous Swiss sculptor and painter, born in Borgonovo in Graubünden's southern alpine valley, as seen through Lord's eyes.

Through out the month of August, we were excited to participate for the first time in "Auctions in August" sponsored by the Gulf Coast Bank & Trust thanks to our member Don Schwarzenbach, a relationship banker at Gulf Coast. As a nonprofit organization it affords us an opportunity to raise money by donating items to be auctioned off through the bank. 100% of the proceeds from the sale of the items donated by our members benefits the Swiss American Society of New Orleans.

We are looking forward to our annual holiday luncheon in early December and to any impromptu gatherings we may have between now and then.

JEAN STICKNEY  
SECRETARY  
[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/SWISSNOLA](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/SWISSNOLA)

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4/2019	NO REGIONAL NEWS
5/2019	
6/2019	NO REGIONAL NEWS

On Website  
January 23, 2019

Mailed from CH  
January 31, 2019

Arrival in US  
approx. 3rd week of February