

REGIONAL NEWS

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Editorial



Dear readers,

At the last ASR meeting in Berne in March the retiring ASR delegate for Southern Africa, Peter Müller, introduced the two nominees who will succeed him, Marcie Bischof from Cape Town and Hans-Georg Bosch from Pretoria. They will officially be welcomed in August and we will introduce them both in the next issue of Swiss Review. I wish them both a good start as ASR delegates and say "Thank you" one more time to Peter Müller for representing Southern Africa for 35 years with so much dedication.

All the best,

GISELA PIERCEY
Editor Swiss Review Southern Africa

Last ASR meeting

As your retiring delegate had just completed a stint of 35 years of being one of the voices speaking for Swiss in Southern Africa, a presentation was shown by him at the last March ASR meeting in Berne, highlighting the changes that had taken place during this period.

ASR President Eggly paid tribute to the Southern African contribution. For a copy of it please contact Peter Müller. Your delegate had also invited the new nominees, Marcie Bischof and Hans-Georg Bosch. Unfortunately, Mr. Bosch was unable to attend, but Mrs. Bischof was applauded to succeed the undersigned. In consultation with the aforementioned new delegates, it is proposed that a small apero featuring South African wine will be offered to

the new office bearers prior to lunch on 16 August.

On reaching 65 in September, Ruedi Wyder will be retiring as ASO & ASR Director after serving admirably for 26 years. As your delegate, I have not only come to value his friendship, but also his sage advice. He has noticeably changed the scope and depth of activities that ASO perform for Swiss Abroad. The undersigned would like to pay tribute to his tremendous contribution that he has given our community. The August meeting will elect a successor.

At the last meeting, an interesting presentation on Statistics was presented. It is interesting to note that in the 33 years since 1980, the total number of Swiss Abroad worldwide has increased annually, resulting in a doubling from 354 000 in 1980 to 716 000 at the end of

2012. The breakdown of this number at the end of 2012 is as follows:

Europe 61,8%, America 24,6%, Asia 6,4 %, Oceania 4,3%, Africa 2,9%.

At the end of 2012, the 11 biggest Swiss communities were:

France 186 615, Germany 80 715, USA 76 330, Italy 50 091, Canada 38 959, UK 30 452, Spain 24 157, Australia 23 633, Israel 15 970, Argentina 15 767, Brazil 14 976.

The 11 countries comprising Southern Africa, with a total of 11010 Swiss Abroad, does not rank amongst the top 12 communities worldwide. Angola 96, Botswana 68, Lesotho 11, Malawi 18, Mauritius 634, Mozambique 166, Namibia 326, Zambia 108, Zimbabwe 260, South Africa 9 284, Swaziland 39.

The next ASR & Congress meeting will be held in Davos mid August. You are invited to attend. The theme of the Congress is "Switzerland and Globalization". The undersigned will be formally handing over his mandate to his elected successors, to whom he wishes a successful term of office. It has been a privilege and honour to represent you.

PETER MÜLLER
(sargro@bluewin.ch)
Delegate for Southern Africa

Consular visits of the Regional Consular Centre Pretoria

After a first round of successful visits to the whole consular district last year, the Regional Consular

Centre is happy to offer Consular meetings again in Mauritius and Durban this year.

Please take note of the following schedule:
Kwazulu Natal (Durban) 11.–13.11. and Mauritius (Quatre Bornes): 18. – 20.11.

Swiss citizens will have the opportunity to apply for a Swiss passport but can also attend to any other consular business. Please use this opportunity to make direct contact with a representative of the Regional Consular Centre. Please check if and for how long your current Swiss passport is valid. As we cannot guarantee yet that the next visit will take place in 2014, we suggest that passports with a validity of less than 12 months by the end of November 2013 be renewed using the facility we offer on these visits, unless you already plan a trip to Pretoria. If you wish to order a new passport you have to present yourself personally at the meeting due to the biometric data that has to be registered. Swiss citizens registered in the country or province mentioned will receive a letter with detailed information about the venue a few weeks before the visit. It is, therefore, important that you register your current e-mail address and/or your postal address. You can do that by sending an e-mail to: southernafrica@eda.admin.ch .

Regional Consular Centre in Pretoria: E-mail: southernafrica@eda.admin.ch
Tel. +27 (0) 12 452 06 61,
Fax +27 (0)12 346 26 05

Farewell from Irene Flueckiger

Dear Compatriots, dear readers

After having spent four years in South Africa, it is time for me and my husband Peter to say goodbye. Moving every four years is part of the professional life of a diplomatic and consular officer. There are postings one is more willing to leave than others. Cape Town, however, certainly belongs to the exclusive postings where it is a real privilege to serve and where one would wish to stay as long as possible.

Looking back at my four year tenure in Cape Town, different thoughts come to my mind. The most memorable experience was certainly the Football World Cup in 2010. As Switzerland participated in this event, it became even more exciting for us. To assist the Swiss fans, a mobile consulate was set up for the first time. It has been a spectacular event which was so well organized and hosted by the South Africans and which brought

joy, optimism and a positive spirit to the people and to the country.

There are almost four thousand Swiss people living in my consular district which covers the Northern, Eastern and Western Cape as well as Namibia. On my trips to these regions, I had the pleasure of meeting some of you. Naturally, the encounters with the Swiss living in and around Cape Town were more frequent especially with the members of the Swiss Business Circle and the members of the Swiss Club. The Swiss people I met are active in a wide variety of professional fields such as research, manufacturing, trade, financial services and real estate, tourism and the hospitality industry, health care, agriculture and, last but not least, in the field of philanthropy. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all those who have been supportive in the last four years during official visits of Swiss delegations to Cape Town, such as members of the Swiss parliament, the President of the Swiss National Council,

Ms. Pascale Bruderer, and the two Secretaries of State, Mr. Mauro dell' Ambrogio and Yves Rossier. Sharing your professional experiences in South Africa, is important to us.

What will I miss most? It is certainly the breathtaking view of the Atlantic Ocean from my office and my home, the fresh sea breeze, the wine lands, the

excellent Cape-tonian cuisine and good wines – and of course – many dear friends. This is reason enough to come back for short visits to escape the long winters at my next posting in Stuttgart.

Heartfelt greetings and best wishes to all of you and your families.

IRENE FLUECKIGER



Fête nationale Suisse 2013

Le club Suisse de Maurice a le plaisir de vous annoncer que la fête nationale Suisse 2013 aura lieu a Albion cette année. Les membres seront informés personnellement. Pour les Suisse non membres plus d'informations des Juillet 2013 au prés du président E-Mail : fureralois@intnet.mu

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The restaurant offers *Swiss fondues* in winter every Friday evening from 21 June. Open Tuesday-Sunday 10am-4pm, 021 8555033 or restaurant@eikendal.co.za. From October - February the popular Jazz evenings will resume every Friday evening from 5-8pm.

Eikendal Vineyards are open every day for wine tastings of our award winning wines, cellar tours, vineyard walks, conference/ function facilities and fly fishing. 021 8551422 or info@eikendal.co.za.



Save up to 35% on your stay at Eikendal Lodge! We are offering mid-week and weekend promotions, from 1 June - 31 August. Includes a continental buffet, English breakfast, complimentary wine tasting at our cellar, as well as a bottle of Eikendal wine upon arrival!

See eikendallodge.co.za for unbeatable discounts between November and January. Eikendal is a Swiss family owned vineyard situated on the R44 road between Somerset West and Stellenbosch and offers breathtaking views of the mountains, vineyards and distant ocean/False Bay.

IMPRESSUM

Delegates of the Organisation of the Swiss

Abroad for Southern Africa: Peter Müller

T +41 62 893 2906, F +41 62 893 2907, sargro@bluewin.ch, P.O.Box 123, CH-5103 Wildeggen

Editor of Swiss Review Southern Africa: Gisela Piercey, P.O. Box 408, Kenton-on-Sea 6191, South Africa, Phone 0466482632 Fax 0866020489, gisela@africantravel.com. (This is the last Southern Africa issue in 2013):

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Swiss Club Info

JOHANNESBURG:

Swiss Society Helvetia,
31 Moerdyk Ave, Vorna Valley,
Midrand, Chairman:
Mario Valli, 082 451 8040;
office: Debora Lanz, T/F
0118053039, C 0826516152,
office@swissclubjhb.co.za,
www.swissclubjhb.co.za,
Swiss Country Club Rest.
«The Courier», Wolfgang Wollauz,
T/F 0118053040, C 0825610063,
Tue-Sat 11-21h30 Rest./kitchen,
11-24h Bar, Sun 10-17h,
T/F 011 805 3040,
C 082 561 0063, www.dining-
out.co.za «The Courier»

SWISS NATIONAL DAY

CELEBRATIONS, Sunday 4th of
August. Our Clubs of Society:
Afro Gugge, Amicale Suisse
Romande, Boccia, Skittling Club.
Associated Groups: Swiss Choir,
Swiss Rifle Club, Swiss Golf,
G.S.N.A.

Senior Swiss Circle meets every
2nd Saturday of the month for
Lunch. Swiss Ladies meet every
4th Thursday of the month for
lunch; Swiss Rifle Club
Johannesburg:
The Swiss Rifle Club
Johannesburg shoots every 4th
Saturday of the month, starting
at 09h00, 27/07, 24/08 & 28/09.
We usually shoot two different
programs a day. We shoot with
Swiss Rifles, which are provided
by the club. Ammunition is also
supplied at a cost of R2.50 per
round. We start at 09h00 and
keep going until everybody has
finished. The day ends with a
bring and braai. If you need
more info, do not hesitate to
contact the club's secretary
Daniel Wyser on 082-5699146

PRETORIA:

Swiss Society Alpina, Hans-Georg
Bosch, President, T 0123478310,
C 0825510222, swissclub.pta@
hbosch.com, Biffy van Rooyen,
Secretary.
Facebook group:
Swiss Club Alpina.
There will be the following major
events during the year: Fondue
Evening in June, National Day
Celebrations on 27th July and Year
end function in November.
Further details can be obtained
closer to the events by sending
an email to swissclub.pta@
hbosch.com

CAPE TOWN:

Swiss Social & Sports Club,
Bill Peters Road, Green Point,
www.swissclub.co.za.
PRESIDENT:
Stefan Pflocks, stefanp@execsonthemove.co.za
T 021 715 2703, C 082 920 9351
VICE PRESIDENT:
Nicky Rodrigues
nicky.rodrigues@za.
sabmiller.com
T 021 658 7276, C 072 218 5759
SECRETARY: Marcie Bischof
mwbischof@telkomsa.net
T 021 554 0176, C 082 925 2280

The club remains open every
Wednesday and Thursday
evening for dinner. If you are not
on the data base to receive the
"catering newflash" please
contact the club at
catering@swissclub.co.za or on
+27 21 4348405.

Active sub-sections are the Rifle
Club, Cycling Club & Tennis Club.
The ladies continue to meet
monthly – last Wednesday of
every month. For more
information on the above sub-
sections, please contact
info@swissclub.co.za or
André Häberli, Membership &

Advertising, Phone +27 (0)21
551 48 98 , Skype andre.haberli,
Fax +27 (0)86 532 80 02 ,
Cell +27 (0)76 933 03 04
Our newsletter is distributed via
email and postage (as per
request), but regular updates
can be obtained on our website
at www.swissclub.co.za

NATAL:

Hanspeter Graber,
T/F 031 568 2457,
C 083 262 6107,
hangsg@saol.com; Philippe Lanz,
Secretary, pl@
swisscontact.co.za,
C 082 4932673

JASS EVENINGS: Westville
Country Club, Link Rd, Westville
(first road on the left when
travelling from the Pavilion exit
towards Westville). As before the
Jass evening takes place every
second Friday evening of the
month 18.00 for dinner. 19.00
start Jassen: 14/6, 12/7, 16/8,
13/9, 11/10, 8/11, 13/12/2013
(prize jassen).

TARGET SHOOTING: Dave Nicol
Shooting Range, Nottingham
Road, KZN Midland starting at
9.00 am: 22/6, 28-30.6 Swiss
Interclub-Wilhelm Tell Trophy
Shoot, 27/7, 24/8, 28/9, 26/10,
23/11/2013.

OTHER EVENTS: 28-30 June
Schützenfest, 20/7 Cheese
Fondue Evening, 4/8 Swiss
National Day, 15/9 Green
Bowling, 20/10 Outing (to be
advised), 17/11 Ten Pin Bowling,
8/12 Year End Braai, 25/1/2014
Swiss Film Evening,
16/2 Ten Pin Bowling, 9/3 AGM.

PORT ELIZABETH:

John Diener, President,
PO Box 5608, Walmer 6065,
T 0413792421, the_dieners
@bluewin.ch; comm.member
Mark Krebsler C 0823281098,

T w 0413671422 Yvonne
Bruehwiler, secretary,
C 0834408130

EAST LONDON:

c/o Christine and
Paul Stiffler,
T 0437483542, C 0837008846,
C 0832874324,
christinestiffler@
telkomsa.net

FAR NORTH:

Michael Holford
Contact No.
C: +27 83 229 3787
Postal Add: P.Bag X2465
Louis Trichardt 0920,
Secretary: Suzanne
Holford-Salchli
Suzanne.holford@gmail.com

NAMIBIA:

Peter Hess, President,
T+26461252943,
C+264811246890, e-mail :
phess@iafrica.com.na,
Kurt Neuenschwander,
Vice President
C +26811279388

SWAZILAND:

Ruedi Hofer,
Calabash Rest.,
T (h) +2684161095,
T (w) +2684161187,
C +2686028545,
calabash@swazi.net

ZIMBABWE:

Oscar Rothen,
4 Blue Haze Lane,
Umwinsdale, Harare (Physical)
P.O. Box CH 837 Chisipite,
Harare. C +263772241537,
H +2634861702,
lorothen@zol.co.za

MAURITIUS:

Club Suisse de Maurice,
Secrétariat: Alois Fürer,
Comet Street 19, Roches Brunes,
Beau-Bassin, T 466-2014
furalois@intnet.mu



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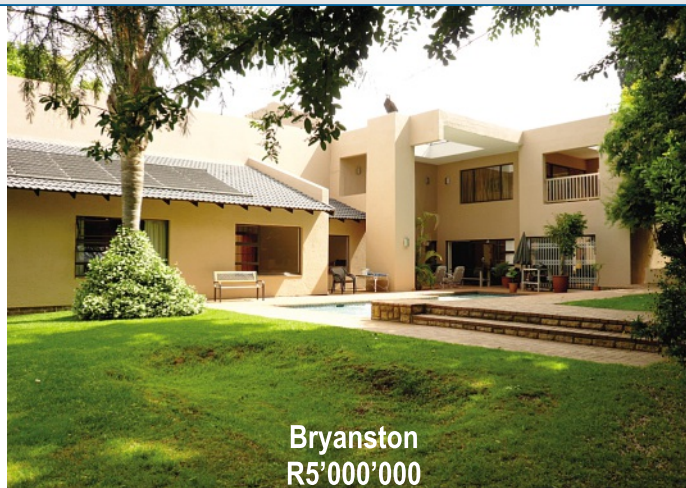
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C.E.A. FETC: NQF4, C.R.S. (USA)
Cell 082 4444 700

Helene Scherrer

C.E.A. FETC: NQF4, C.R.S. (USA)
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