

# REGIONAL NEWS

## UNITED STATES

### Editorial

Dear Readers,



DORIS BERNATH CUNNINGHAM  
EDITOR

*This is the last issue before summer and before we celebrate the birthdays of two great countries: Switzerland and the USA. The deadline for submitting articles for the next issue is August 14. Hopefully that is enough time to get some great photos of your 1st of August celebration to me. I wish you a wonderful and safe summer time!*

■ Are you still receiving the printed version of the “Swiss Review” but would like to switch to the E-Review, receive it sooner, and help us save on printing and postage costs? Register online at [www.swissabroad.ch](http://www.swissabroad.ch)

■ For email and mailing address changes contact your Swiss Embassy or Consulate: <https://www.eda.admin.ch> Click on "Representations"

### Basle, Switzerland: 95th Congress of the Swiss Abroad, August 18 - 20, 2017

Organized by the Organization of the Swiss Abroad (OSA), the Congress of the Swiss Abroad is the annual meeting of Swiss citizen living all around the world. During this get-together, they have the opportunity to review current information, to discuss various subjects and to exchange their own experiences in a friendly atmosphere.

The congress takes place each year in a different area of Switzerland and some 400 compatriots from the whole world come to this event. Sightseeing, entertainment, meeting with authorities and local people

are also part of the program.

The Congress is held in German and French. This year's topic is:

«Inland- und Auslandschweizer: eine Welt!»

«Suisse de l'intérieur et de l'étranger: un seul monde!»

Join the next Congress of the Swiss Abroad in Basle, Switzerland!

Deadline to register is July 18, 2017.

For more information go to <http://aso.ch/en/offers/congress-of-the-swiss-abroad/congress-2017>

ORGANIZATION OF THE SWISS ABROAD (OSA)  
[WWW.ASO.CH](http://WWW.ASO.CH)

### Locarno-Campagna, Switzerland: Search for Heirs

The Court of Locarno-Campagna (Swiss Authority) is looking for information about the following persons:

Bernice Adelina Barloggio (3.11.1913), Edward Henry Barloggio (16.11.1906), Peter Vernon Barloggio (15.7.1920), Walter Albert Barloggio (3.10.1904), Lucille Corda, n. Pura (1927), Vernon Pura (1924), Raymond Pura (1930), Mary Louise Shelhaas, n. Pura (1929), Evelyne Roth, n. Bernasconi (1934), Arlene Bassetti, n. Bernasconi (1941), Matthew-Henry Barloggio (23.3.1900), Celesta Mignola, n. Scamara e Martina Rossi (21.10.1899).

Anyone who can give information regarding these persons, their descendants or heirs is requested to contact the Court of Locarno-Campagna by April 18, 2018.

After this date the heredity will be given to the heirs who are noted.

Court of Locarno-Campagna, Via della Pace 6, 6600 Locarno, Switzerland.

### North Carolina: 1st of August Celebration at the Lake

Join the Swiss Society Club Charlotte on Saturday, August 5, 2017, at Lake Wylie (16600 Red Fez Club Rd., Charlotte, NC) for a festive celebration with happy people and lots of traditional foods.



A record number of guests celebrated last year's celebration comfortably seated under a big porch enjoying the view over the bay.



The kids love playing and getting refreshed in the water of Lake Wylie.

RAHEL KOLLER  
[WWW.SWISSCHARLOTTE.COM](http://WWW.SWISSCHARLOTTE.COM)

## Hawaii: Swiss Club Members Volunteering on a Hawaiian Taro Farm with Swiss Connections

On Saturday morning, March 25th, members of the Swiss Society of Hawaii met at Kapalai Farms in Kailua, Oahu/Hawaii. Kapalai Farms is a beautiful green oasis only about a 15-minute drive from busy Honolulu and a very special place. Once a traditional Hawaiian farm, it had been overgrown by large trees and tropical vegetation. About 10 years ago, the Wilhelm family bought the land, started cutting the trees down and planting taro, a potato-like plant of cultural and



Dean Wilhelm (right) with Kapalai Farms in the background.

culinary importance throughout Polynesia. The most important part of Kapalai Farms is its non-profit organization Hookuaaina ([www.hookuaaina.org](http://www.hookuaaina.org)), a Hawaiian culture-based organic farming program for families and at-risk youth.

For the members of the Swiss Society of Hawaii the visit is even more special, as Dean Wilhelm's father Max was one of the founding members of our organization in 1971. This was our second visit to the



farm, as everybody had so much fun the year before. Last year we weeded one of the taro patches, while this year we prepared a patch to be planted by adding bone meal to each raised bed and covering it with mud. Many taro varieties are grown in raised beds

surrounded by water. While most taro patches get the water from diverted streams and water-ways, a few, like Kapalai Farms, get the water from underground springs, resulting in deeper channels. Those deep mud channels can be tricky to wade in and can provide an almost full-body mud bath as seen in the pictures. After hosing the mud down we had a great potluck that of course included some cooked taro. We will be back next year!

ANUSCHKA FAUCCI  
PRESIDENT OF THE SWISS SOCIETY OF HAWAII  
[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/SWISSOCIETYOFHAWAII](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/SWISSOCIETYOFHAWAII)






Dean Wilhelm showing members of the Swiss Society of Hawaii the different parts of the taro plant. Both the leaves and the tuber are used for cooking and the shoot is used for re-planting.



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**Florida:** Sarasota, Florida and Rapperswil-Jona, Switzerland Strengthen Ties

**HISTORICAL CONTEXT:** The Board President of the Swiss American Club Sarasota, Primo Bader, and the former President of the Sister Cities Association Sarasota, Beth Ruyle Hullinger, began discussions in 2014/2015 to create close links between the two cities. In September 2015 there was the formal presentation of a Friendship Letter at the Town Hall in Rapperswil in the presence of the Consul General of Switzerland, based in Atlanta, Mr. Andreas M. Maager and the Rapperswil City President Mr. Erich Zoller.

Following initial contacts in Rapperswil-Jona, teams were created with the ongoing strong support of the Swiss American Club in Sarasota and the Sister Cities Association of Sarasota. The joint efforts encompass both the newly formed "Verein" (VSC-RJS) in Switzerland, representing the Rapperswil-Jona interests, formed by Rene Faessler, and the Sarasota Sister City Director, Nelly Camardo, who is also Treasurer of the Swiss American Club Sarasota.

**MISSION OF SISTER CITIES ASSOCIATION SARASOTA:** The Sister Cities Association of Sarasota's objective is to develop respect, understanding and cooperation through citizen diplomacy. To accomplish this mission, relationships are developed with people in cities that have cultural, education, tourism and business environments similar to Sarasota's. Working outside the realm of government, but with its support, we encourage and facilitate cultural and education exchanges, business opportunities, and increased tourist interest.

**SWISS VISITS TO SARASOTA:** Within the spirit of the Sister Cities Association of Sarasota's recent initiative with the Swiss City of Rapperswil-Jona, four members of the Swiss Volleyball Team were welcomed on June 9th, 2016, to Siesta Key.

This was followed by separate visits from the Rapperswil Verein's Board Members Prof. Alex Simeon and Mr. Peter Merkli.

September 2016 saw the participation of the newly formed Verein at the Trade Fair event held in Switzerland in coordination with The Technical School of Rapperswil and Edelweiss Airlines which flies between Tampa and Zurich.

Our most recent visitors to Sarasota were a Canoe Team of four from Rapperswil. They enjoyed a barbecue held in their honor at the Sarasota Sailing Squadron hosted by Nelly Camardo with Members of the Swiss American Club of Sarasota, as well as delegates from the Sister Cities Association of Sarasota.

We look forward to continuing the deepening of our ties between the two cities!



Swiss Canoe Team Members from the Swiss American Club Sarasota and Sister Cities Association Sarasota



Swiss Canoe Team with Families

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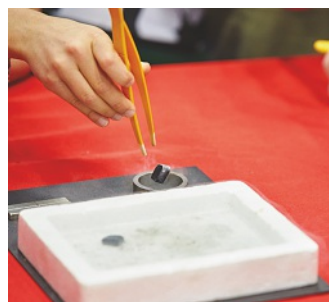
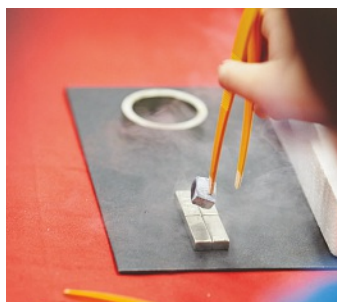
**Massachusetts:** swissnex Boston Presenting Superconductivity at the Cambridge Science Festival

A Saturday in April, swissnex Boston in partnership with the University of Geneva had the pleasure of hosting a demonstration of superconductivity at the Cambridge Science Festival. Although swissnex is a veteran of the festival, having actively participated for the last several years, it was still refreshing to see attendees young and old so engaged in learning more about the pinning and levitating effects of the superconductor. Eyes were open wide as University of Geneva representatives poured the foggy liquid nitrogen into a hands-on experiment where participants could feel the power of the repulsion effects between the superconductor and magnets.

ARTICLE: JENNIFER LAZEA  
 PHOTOS: DAVE GREEN  
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**Illinois: Swiss Club of Chicago**

The Swiss Club of Chicago has a long standing tradition of providing fun activities to bring Swiss and friends of Swiss in Chicagoland together. Every second Friday of the month, the Swiss Club arranges gatherings "Drink with Swiss" (Stammtisch) in restaurants. It is open to anyone who likes to meet and have a good time.

In early summer, we have our "Brunch at the Lake" at Foster Beach.



Mary Heusser, Brian Witzig and Marcus Rechsteiner with their kids

A very warming event where not only registered guests but often complete strangers enjoy the taste of homemade Swiss Zopf, Müesli, Swiss cheese and more under the shade of the Swiss Flag at the shores of Lake Michigan.

The cultural high point of the season is the 1st of August celebration, the birthdate of Switzerland. Every year we have a big turnout as young and old meet to celebrate and indulge in Swiss Bratwurst, Cervelat, homemade salads and cakes while listening or dancing to folklore music and history lessons from Dignitaries and the President of the Swiss Club. The singing of the national anthem is always a very fun part of the celebration. At dusk, it is time to conclude the celebration with a traditional Lampion Parade lead by the sound ("gebimmel") of cow bells. Not only the little ones are waiting for this fun activity but also many adults who grew up in Switzerland as it brings back memories from childhood.



Chloe Zehnder is leading the lampion parade



Lottie Brauchli and Dolores Karp are having a good time dancing



This year's celebration will take place on July 29 at the American Legion, 6140 Dempster St., Morton Grove, from 4 pm until 11 pm.

In late summer, the club organizes an exciting weekend in the Swiss town of New Glarus in Wisconsin. We have fun with activities like canoeing, bicycling and golfing. In the evening we enjoy getting together and indulge in traditional Swiss culinary specialties offered by the many restaurants in town. We should not forget to stop by local stores to stock up on important delicatessen like Landjäger, Swiss cheeses and also Souvenirs from Switzerland.

To find out more about activities of the Swiss Club of Chicago, please check out our web site [www.swissclubchicago.com](http://www.swissclubchicago.com).

HORST ZEMP, PRESIDENT  
ELKE DIETZ SUJDAK, VICE PRESIDENT & MEMBERSHIP



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**Newark, California:** Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club hosted Swiss Folklore Evening

The Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club hosted their annual Folklore Evening on April 8th, 2017. This year the Club honored Life Members born in the 1920s and the Club's retired Swiss Musicians. The afternoon started with a singing program where the Swiss Singing Society of San Francisco, led by Conductor Steven J. Meyer, performed "Wir fahren mit der SBB" and "Bärnbiet". The program continued with the San Joaquin Valley Swiss Echoes Duet, Julie Wagner and Marie Schallberger with Charlotte Ott Cunningham on the accordion,



singing "Dorfchilbi" and "Sie töipele zäme". The Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club was also pleased to hear the songs "Fryburger Chüereihe" (with Soloist Forrest Nolan) and "Guete Sunntig mitenand" performed by the Swiss Singing Society of San Francisco. After the lovely music program, the Club's Life Members born during the 1920s were honored as well as the Club's retired Swiss Musicians. The program was followed by a wonderful Bratwurst dinner prepared by Hanspeter and Sabine Kamm. During the evening the Club and guests danced to music performed by the Mitchell Gander and Ron Scheiber Orchestra.



Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club honorees.



Swiss Club retired musicians honored.

ROSE SATARIANO  
AELPLER GRUPPE NEWSLETTER EDITOR  
AELPLERGRUPPE@GMAIL.COM

**California:** 29th Pacific Coast Swiss Singing & Yodeling Festival, June 22-25, 2017

*Last Chance to Register by May 26, 2017.*



The San Joaquin Valley Swiss Echoes will be hosting the 29th United Swiss Singing Societies of the Pacific Coast (USSSPC) Singing & Yodeling Festival. The 4-day event will take place at the Double Tree Hotel in Modesto (Host Hotel), Modesto Convention Center, Gallo Center for the Arts - Mary Stuart Rogers Theater, and the San Joaquin Valley Swiss Club in Ripon. Approximately 220 - 240 singers from the nine participating singing societies will be singing melodies from their native homeland dressed in colorful costumes of Swiss tradition.

*Festival Schedule*

*Thursday, June 22nd*

Welcome Reception - "A Taste of the Valley"  
6:00 - 10:30 pm Modesto Convention Center

7:30 - 9:00 pm Butcher Block Buffet  
(Music & Entertainment provided by various area groups)

*Friday, June 23rd*

9:30 am - 3:00 pm Gallo Tour & Lunch (limited seating available)  
6:30 pm Doors open for Grand Concert Program

7:00 - 9:00 pm Grand Concert Program  
Our special guest performers will be the Family Rohrer from Sachseln, Switzerland.

9:00 - 11:30 pm Grand Ball (Mitchell Gander & Ron Scheiber Orchestra)

9:30 - 10:30 pm Grand Ball Dinner

*Saturday, June 24th*

11:30 am - 5:00 pm Folk Festival with Lunch and Dinner

7:00 - 11:30 pm Dance (Mitchell Gander & Ron Scheiber Orchestra)

*Sunday, June 25th*

8:00 - 9:30 am USSSPC Delegates Meeting

10:00 - 11:00 am Jodel Mass

11:30 am - 2:00 pm Grand Banquet/Closing Ceremony

For more information go to the website [www.swissongfest2017.com](http://www.swissongfest2017.com) or contact:

HEIDI BETSCHART, USSPC PRESIDENT  
BETSCHARTHM@YAHOO.COM



Special guest performers are the Family Rohrer from Sachseln, Switzerland



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**Texas:** French Culture Festival

Switzerland once again played host to the French Culture Festival taking place in Houston during the month of March, premiering a film at the Alliance Francaise. The reception began at four o'clock and the film, *Le Temps d'Anna*, at four thirty. The premier simultaneously served as a gathering for the Houston Swiss community, French expatriates, and several consuls. It seemed almost too nice a day to sit inside, but as temperatures outside climbed, the audience was swept away by the symphonic visual narration of director Greg Zglinski. A true story, *Le Temps d'Anna*, is not just a love story but a story for and about life. It follows a watchmaker in the 1920s, who develops the first waterproof timepiece and his coming to terms with the tragic illness of his wife. Thoughtfully executed and beautifully shot, the film was well received by cinematic francophiles and novices alike.

Consul General Andreas Maager from Atlanta saw the film at the Solothurn film Festival in 2016 and he recommended it. Consequently, it showed in Atlanta in the fall of 2016. I hope other Swiss organizations will show it, as it was so well received.

For more information visit the website of the film:  
[http://www.swissfilms.ch/en/film\\_search/filmdetails/-/id\\_film/2146991496](http://www.swissfilms.ch/en/film_search/filmdetails/-/id_film/2146991496)

From left:  
 Renaud Viguier  
 Lina Corinth  
 Lindsay Tade



From left:  
 Lynne Aronoff  
 Margrit Young-Zellweger



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**REGIONAL NEWS 2017:**

Number	Deadline USA
1/2017	December 14, 2016
2/2017	February 13, 2017
3/2017	April 17, 2017
4/2017	<b>NO REGIONAL NEWS</b>
5/2017	August 14, 2017
6/2017	<b>NO REGIONAL NEWS</b>

On Website
January 13, 2017
March 16, 2017
May 19, 2017

Mailed from CH
January 20, 2017
March 23, 2017
May 26, 2017

Arrival in US
approx. 1st week of February
approx. 1st week of April
approx. 1st week of June

September 15, 2017
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September 19, 2017
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approx. 1st week of October
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