

s'Chuchichäschtli

THE SWISS SOCIETY OF BOSTON

President's Message

Dear fellow members of the Swiss Society of Boston,

Welcome to 2015, our 150th year! We are planning a very special, memorable, and very Swiss annual meeting on April 11, 2015.

In 2014, we began an annual essay-based scholarship. The excellent winning essay is on pages 6-7 of this newsletter. We added 41 new members, revived the annual ski trip, and shared great fondue, raclette, and friendships.

So check your mailboxes and inboxes for invitations to all of our events!

Yours,
John Willis, President
john@swissocietyboston.org

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January 2015 | Volume 23 Number 1

2015 UPCOMING EVENTS

SKI TRIP | Friday, January 23, 2015—Sunday, January 25, 2015

Wayside Inn, 3738 Main Street, Bethlehem, NH, and Bretton Woods

Join us for a family-friendly ski weekend in New Hampshire's White Mountains. After a fun-filled day on the slopes at Bretton Woods we will enjoy a traditional Swiss dinner at The Wayside Inn in Bethlehem, where we will be staying. For more information contact john@swissocietyboston.org.

FONDUE DINNER | Saturday, March 7, 2015

St. John's Episcopal Church, 705 Hale St., Beverly, MA. 5:30–8:30 p.m.

150TH ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER | Saturday, April 11, 2015

Hampshire House, 84 Beacon St., Boston, MA.

Cocktails 6–7 p.m. | meeting 7–7:30 p.m. | dinner and entertainment 7:30–10:00 p.m.

Swiss Ambassador Martin Dahinden will attend. Swiss Executive Chef Markus will prepare an all-Swiss dinner. There will be excellent music and a beautiful setting for this very significant anniversary of the Swiss Society of Boston.

BIKE RIDE (OR WALK) | Saturday, May 9, 2015

East Bay Bike Path, RI, followed by dinner. 2:30–6:30 p.m.

KAYAKING ON THE CHARLES RIVER | Saturday, June 20, 2015

Kendall Square, Cambridge, MA, followed by lunch. 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

SWISS NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION | *Saturday*, August 1, 2015

Maynard Rod and Gun Club, Maynard, MA. 12:00–5:30 p.m.

SUMMER OUTING AND PICNIC | Sunday, August 16, 2015

Houghton's Pond, Milton, MA. 11:30–3:00 p.m.

RACLETTE PICNIC | September 2015

Larz Anderson Park, Brookline, MA

The Swiss Society provides the cheese for the Raclette; you bring the trimmings—boiled potatoes, pickles, salad, dessert and beverages.

FALL HIKE | Sunday, October 11, 2015

Sachuest Point National Wildlife Refuge, Middletown, RI. 12:00–5:00 p.m.

An easy walk on a wildlife refuge surrounded by ocean, great bird watching, and the best beach in Rhode Island. From

SAMICHLAUS | December 2015

All Newton Music School, 321 Chestnut St., West Newton, MA. 3:00–5:00 p.m.

A Christmas party in the Swiss tradition. There will be goodie bags and fun for children of all ages, and a special appearance by Samichlaus.

Left: A scene from 2014's summer kayak outing on the Charles River



NEW MEMBERS AS OF DECEMBER 2, 2014

Andrea Aeschlimann
and Bruce Mabbott
Salem, MA

John Banzhaf
Merrimac, MA

Paul and Elaine Belletti
East Walpole, MA

Peter Blaser and Ilona Reinitzer
Litchfield, NH

Monica Bosshard Bernstein
and David Bernstein
Arlington, MA

Daria Chabas
Concord, MA

Caroline and Peter Colt
South Deerfield, MA

Henri Gautschi and
Deborah Bowers
Greenville, RI

Roland Hubscher and
Teresa Hubscher-Younger
Grafton, MA

Josua Jordi
Cambridge, MA

Karin Jost-Paquin and
Kevin Paquin
Marlboro, MA

Aviv and Jennifer Kaufmann
Franklin, MA

Brigitta Lussi and
Jean-Phillippe Theurillat
Chestnut Hill, MA

Robert and Dorothy Marcello
North Attleboro, MA

Hansueli Meyer
Waltham, MA

Matthias and Maren Oberli
Cambridge, MA

Kasper Renggli and
Johanna Frey Renggli
Cambridge, MA

Albert and Kristina Ruehli
Windham, NH

Pascale Schlaefli and
Michael Meoli
Bridgewater, MA

Jean-Phillippe Steullet
and Flore Beuret
Newton, MA

Felix and Ruth Twaallfhoven
Marblehead, MA

Christine and Stephan
Wicky van Doyer
Winchester, MA

Nara and Kevin Zanes
Cambridge, MA

SWISS SOCIETY OF BOSTON 2014

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Marco Perucchi

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Monica DeSalvo

S'Chuchichaestli

The January 2015 issue was edited and produced by Monica DeSalvo and John Willis.

CONTRIBUTORS
Nicolas Avery, Roger Binggeli, Corine Haener and Roman Kern.



FALL HIKE, MT. MONADNOCK, NH
OCTOBER 11, 2014

UPCOMING EVENTS IN RHODE ISLAND AND S.E. MASSACHUSETTS

We have planned two events south of Boston in 2015. The first is biking or walking the East Bay Bike Path on May 9, 2015, at 2:30 p.m. This level path follows the eastern edge of Narragansett Bay from Bristol, RI, north to East Providence, RI. It has panoramic views and varied ecosystems. We will meet in the parking lot on Thames Street and then have a group dinner at Redlfesen's Restaurant in Bristol.

The second event, planned for October 11, 2015, at noon, is a day at Sachuest National Wildlife Reserve in Middletown, RI. The reserve is excellent for bird watching by the ocean. There are plenty of rocks to climb on. After our walk, we will convene at adjacent Second Beach and use its BBQ grills. The water should be warm enough for swimming. This is one of Rhode Island's prettiest sandy beaches.

SPRING EVENT: A VISIT TO THE HARVARD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Did you know that one of the founders of the Harvard Museum of Natural History, Louis Agassiz, was a scientist educated in Switzerland? Or that there is a neighborhood adjoining it in Cambridge MA, named after him? How appropriate then, that 150 years after the Museum's founding, the immediate past president of the Swiss Society of Boston serves as a volunteer tour guide for the museum. Christine Whitebread treated a group of SSOB members, both young and old, to a personalized tour of the museum on May 17, 2014.

Louis Agassiz was born in Canton Fribourg in 1807 and attended university in the cities of Zurich, Heidelberg, and Munich (where he completed his PhD). He arrived in Boston in 1846 from the University of Neuchatel where he was professor of natural history.

Christine Whitebread-Sannemann was born near Zurich, where she was also raised and educated. She arrived in Boston with her husband in 2003 and began serving as a volunteer guide at the museum during the same year.

The first highlight of our tour was the display of a tarantula, the venomous spider, by a Harvard zoology student. She was at ease with it, and the children on the tour had no inhibitions getting "up close and personal" with the furry arachnid. One of the next stops was the gallery of invertebrates, reptiles and dinosaurs, where Triceratops and rare Kronosaurus fossils are housed.

The centerpiece of the museum, the Great Mammal Hall, was constructed under the leadership of Agassiz and opened in 1872, one year before his death. In the Great Hall, Ms. Whitebread treated us to a special exhibit with live horse-

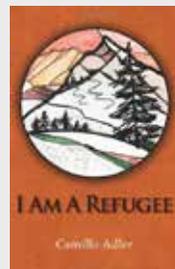
shoe crabs. Did you know that horseshoe crabs are considered to be living fossils, as they are amongst the oldest species on Earth, having originated over 450 million years ago? We also learned that the blood of these creatures is the color blue, and that medical device manufacturers use it to ensure their products are not contaminated by bacteria.

Appropriately, we ended the tour in the rocks and minerals gallery learning about geological matter that has been here perhaps longer than any living thing that we viewed. As we parted ways, we could reflect upon the history of mammals on earth, in contrast with inanimate material, which gave perspective on how fleeting our time on this planet is. For this insight, we had two individuals of Swiss heritage to thank.

BOOK REVIEW

I AM A REFUGEE, by Camillo Adler

Michel Adler, a member of the Swiss Society of Boston, translated his father Camillo Adler's book, *I am a Refugee*, in 2012. Michel sold copies of the book for \$20 at the Swiss National Day Celebration this year, and donated \$5 of every sale to the Swiss Society of Boston.



This book provides an interesting discussion of life in Switzerland during World War II, from the vantage point of an Austrian refugee who had escaped the Holocaust. It is very well written, thoughtful and insightful. In addition to Camillo Adler's memories of Switzerland, it describes his time in the French

Foreign Legion, and about the one person who may have saved his life by helping him and his family escape to Switzerland during the German invasion of France. It was a rare opportunity for one person to be able to make such a difference, and it makes a good read today.



SWISS NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION 2014

MAYNARD ROD AND GUN CLUB, MAYNARD, MA, JULY 27, 2014





RAFFLE PRIZES

Thank you to all our donors for their generous donations:

Swiss International Airlines
One economy class round trip ticket to Switzerland presented by Diana Rietveld-Rockler, Account Manager, Corporate Sales

Lindt
Box of chocolate

Neue Zürcher Zeitung
*(Swiss newspaper)
 Annual iPad/tablet subscription*

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Four \$50 e-gift cards

The Wayside Inn & Riverview Restaurant, Bethlehem, NH
\$50 gift certificate towards dinner

GrandTen Distilling, Boston, MA
One bottle of Gin, one bottle of liqueur, and a small cocktail glass

Flatbread Company
(all natural pizza) \$50.00 gift card

Redbones Restaurant, Somerville, MA
Two gift cards for \$25.00 each

Swissbakers
Two \$20.00 gift certificates and a loaf of Zopf





SWISS SOCIETY OF BOSTON'S ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Consistent with the by-laws of the Swiss Society of Boston in Article 1, Section 2—"The purposes for which the society exists are as follows: for charitable and benevolent work and purposes including such educational purposes as the encouragement of education by the awarding of scholarships..."—the board awarded its first Annual Scholarship in the amount of \$1000 at the Swiss National Day Celebration on July 27, 2014. The winning essay written by Anne-Claire Ramser (pictured left), is printed below.

Does CH stand for Cheese or Chocolate?

SWISS SOCIETY OF BOSTON'S ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNING ESSAY

BY ANNE-CLAIRE RAMSER

Close your eyes. Imagine waking up to the most atrocious and earthshaking, yet vital sound of your alarm clock that goes off every morning at 6:24 a.m.. It rings precisely at 6:24 a.m. because you have calculated that it takes you exactly 96 minutes from the minute you wake up to the minute you arrive in class at 8 a.m.. It is a repetitive, systematic routine you have performed for as long as you care to remember, in a country away from your own. Shaken awake, you take those long, dreary steps to the bathroom, carefully coordinating your outfit of the day before sitting in the back of the school bus for the longest 46 minutes in Osaka's brutal weather and exasperating traffic. In fact, your systematic routine is so well implemented in your head that you no longer think about who you are, why you are doing it, and where you are headed. Who are you anyway? The outfit of the day and acceptance among other peers become the two most important factors in a teenager's world when adopt-

ing the life of a TCK. A Third Culture Kid. A Third Culture Kid is a child that is from one country, but grows up and lives in another country, forming a third culture of their own that combines aspects of both cultures. Today, I am proud to state that I am a TCK.

Switzerland is my home country. But can you really call a country your homeland when you never actually lived there? I am a Swiss citizen, but I grew up in four countries: Vietnam, France, Japan, and now US respectively. Surprisingly enough, I never had the chance to live in Switzerland. If God willing, in Summer 2015 I will be living in Mont-de-Corsier, Switzerland for the very first time in my life, discovering my roots I should have discovered twenty years ago.

Nonetheless, from the bits and pieces of Switzerland I have gathered together over the course of my childhood, I have deduced that

Switzerland is well known for its cheese and chocolate among many other delicacies. One summer ago during a visit while I was looking at some Vacherin cheese for fondue, a store owner in Gruyere once told me, you are either a cheese or a chocolate person. Whether one agrees or disagrees with this statement, it got me thinking. Does CH stand for cheese or chocolate for me? Personally, CH stands for chocolate for me. No matter how good Vacherin cheese, raclettes or croutes are, nothing beats the taste, the smell, the consistency and color of Cailler Chocolate for me. Eating chocolate can personally be one of the most pleasurable things in the world when eaten at the right place, at the right time, with the right people and most of the time, when it is the right chocolate for me: Cailler.

Chocolate for me is great for all occasions. Despite its high dosage of sugar that can result unhealthy in large amounts, I use chocolate as a prize or reward for myself. For instance, growing up, especially in Middle and High School, I would often keep a tablet of Cailler dark chocolate on my desk and everyday, after I finished all of my assignments for school, I would eat a square of that delicious, heart-warming tablet. It made me more prompt to do my homework rapidly, and this method of self-discipline worked really well for me for a very long time, till today in college at Northeastern University. So I did not grow up in Switzerland, but I grew up with chocolate, so a part of me always possessed that sweet-toothed Swiss discipline. Chocolate played a crucial role when I was growing up, and was definitely a part of my journey in discovering who I am today.

On the road of finding one's identity, finding rough patches is far from uncommon. One of my most difficult times in school was learning English when I moved from Nice, France to an American high school in Osaka, Japan. Learning how to read fluently in English was one of my biggest challenges in school. A reason for this is because when I was little my primary language was French. All this changed though when my Dad's ex pat life started during the beginning of

my teenager years. I was behind everyone else in class and catching up seemed like a tunnel with no light at the end.

While learning English may have been one of the most challenging times for me in school, it was not the only one either. Growing up as a TCK was additionally a personal social challenge on a whole entire new level. What is easy for some is not easy for others. This saying was how I felt when uncovering my own identity. When I started high school, I thought I had myself all figured out. I could not have been more wrong. I have learned from experience from one continent to another, that so many things shape who one is and how they turn out to be. Those things include, culture, people, specific situations, the list is endless. With endless possibilities comes endless exploration to find one's self. I must say though, people, out of every other factor, have shaped me more than anything. Growing up in different countries has allowed me to meet people from different regions of the world, each and every single one of them has opened my eyes about the importance of remembering where I come from, and also how important other cultures are in relation to my own.

Over the past few years I have picked up pieces and slices of Switzerland, whether from Swiss friends or from what people say about Switzerland. But I have yet to find out myself next summer. Many people around my age believe they know who they are. But do they really? Do they really know what CH stands for them? I know that I won't just wake up one morning when my alarm goes off and figure myself out. Is it going to take my entire journey through life to find out? I do not have the answers, but either way the best part is, my journey is just beginning. So with that, I ask you, how far in your journey are you, what does CH stand for you?

\$4,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR BUSINESS & HOTEL MANAGEMENT SCHOOL—SWITZERLAND

The Heinrich Meister Future Hospitality Leader Scholarship was created to encourage young people studying or residing in the U.S. to expand their horizons by coming to Switzerland to study hospitality management and become a leader in the global hospitality industry. The \$4,000 scholarship will be applied to the first year's tuition at Business & Hotel Management School Switzerland (BHMS) in any study area.

The Business & Hotel Management School Switzerland is located in the heart of Lucerne, and is a member of the Bénédict Switzerland group of schools, founded in 1928. Its mission is to provide higher education for adults with a desire to succeed. Bénédict School is one of Switzerland's largest

private educational organizations and is educating more than 15,000 full and part time students each year.

At BHMS Lucerne campus, about 700 students per year have the opportunity to prepare themselves for their future management roles in the hotel and hospitality industry. BHMS, in collaboration with Robert Gordon University of Aberdeen, UK and City University of Seattle, USA, offer a Bachelor of Arts degree, an MBA/PGD diploma and a MBA degree.

Applicants must complete a 1,000 word essay about why they have chosen BHMS and how they believe studying at BHMS, and in Switzerland, will contribute to their future success in the global hospitality industry.

The scholarship is awarded to first-time students who wish to apply for admission to BHMS in any area. To be eligible for consideration for this scholarship, candidates must first meet general BHMS admissions requirements. Information can be found on the Swiss Society of Boston's website: www.swissocietyboston.org.

If you are interested in writing and/or editing articles for **s'Chuchichäestli**, please contact John Willis at john@swissocietyboston.org. Please send us your photos of 2015 Swiss Society events for the next newsletter. Thanks!

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