



2023

Swiss Presidents Report for USA

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Recommended Citation

Müller, Barbara (2023) "Swiss Presidents Report for USA," *Swiss American Historical Society Review*: Vol. 59: No. 1, Article 15.

Available at: https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/sahs_review/vol59/iss1/15

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Members enjoying a guided walking tour in Basel, Switzerland.

Swiss Presidents Report for USA

Dear Members of the SAHS,

Membership is a key concern to us and unfortunately this year we have lost three members here in Switzerland. One due to death, Dr. Lucie Zehnder; one member, Anselm Zurfluh, has asked to be taken off the list, and The Institut des Suisse Dans le Monde is closed. Christine von Graffenried has cancelled membership as of 2023 so that will be reflected in 2023.

In 2022 we have 41 members 3 less than 2021.

This year in Switzerland, we tried to get some exposure by inviting the Americans women's club to Kaltbrunn for an event there on Emigration. Kaltbrunn was the birthplace of Leo Schelbert who died earlier this year. Leo was an expert in Swiss Immigration and through his support the SAHS has been able to carry on so long. We soon will celebrate 100 Years in 2027. One of the reasons for organizing the event in Kaltbrunn was an email received from an English man looking for his

wife's family history in Switzerland, a Berta Eichmann from Uznach. The archives in Uznach gave me the name of a genealogist in Pfafikon, Mrs. Bernadette Oertig, who in turn with her research could give Mr. Cameron the answer to his family heritage. In the end it turned out that the curator of the museum in Kaltbrunn was related to the wife of Mr. Cameron, thus the research had bared fruit and the puzzle became a picture.

Also just recently we have received a call from SRF radio looking for help with Swiss in the Civil War. I was able to give them the names of several members from the Society which had done some research in this area. Especially interesting was a report by Richard Blatter whose great-grandfather served in the Civil War and returned to Switzerland afterwards. Mary Brunisholz also was able to find several links which we could pass on to the Radio. Both requests had come through the search in the internet and thankfully we could help both. I am pleased that we could be of help and that through the net we have some exposure.

One of our goals is to help the U.S. to find articles or books to print. In the search looking for books to help publish, through an email from a member of the American Club I have found a book that might be worthwhile to translate and publish in English, if the SAHS in the USA agrees and if it meets the requirements. It is a project from Tarcisi Hendry who has written a book on the Swiss-Minnesota Emigration in Romansch, which we could help fund to be published in English with perhaps some help from the Culture Commission in Sedrun and the Romansch Commission. He will be making a film and travelling to the U.S. for this in the fall. I would suggest that SAHS look into this as it would be an appropriate book to publish in honor of Leo Schelbert.

I have sent out the invitation for the AGM to the Swiss members with the note that we are looking for people interested in taking a board position here in Switzerland. It is my firm belief that I have had this position since about 2014 and that it is time to step down and have someone new with new ideas come in. I will step down as soon as I feel I have found someone to take over here in Switzerland.

Financially, we are sound and have made another transfer to the States of \$2,000.00 last year. We will continue to make the transfer each year which is needed to support the cost of the *Review*.

Our annual outing was held this year in Basel with 20 people attending. The Speakers were past Swiss Ambassador to the U.S., Martin Dahinden, and René Roca of the Research Institute for Direct Democracy.

In early next year, Lyla Taylor from the American's Women's group in Zürich and the SAHS Swiss Chapter will organize an outing to the military base in Payerne.

~ Barbara Müller, Swiss President

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**Friends of the Swiss American Historical Society
Financial Accounts Ending August 31, 2022
(in Swiss Francs)**

BALANCE SHEET	2022	2021	
	CHF	CHF	
Assets			
UBS Account Ending balance	15,505.17	15,167.83	
Investments	0.00	0.00	
Other Assets	0.00	0.00	
Miscellaneous	<u>+ 0.00</u>	<u>+ 0.00</u>	
Total Assets	15,505.17	15,167.83	
Profit/Loss	337.34		
INCOME STATEMENT	2022	2021	Budget 2023
	CHF	CHF	CHF
Income			
Membership Fees	2,255.00	2,225.00	2,200.00
Other Income	2,468.61	2,075.00	2,100.00
Income Interest, Investments	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Revenues	4,723.61	4,300.00	4,300.00
Expenses			
Travel Expenses/Administration	233.90	297.70	250.00
Expenses Events / AGM	2,293.30	1,845.50	2,000.00
Other Expenses	1,859.07	1,000.00	2,900.00
Total Expenses	4,386.27	3,143.20	5,150.00
SAHS Operating Result	337.34	1,156.80	- 850.00

~ Kurt Morf, Treasurer