



*We wish you
and your
family a very
Merry Christmas
and a wonderful
New Year*

Some Christmas Traditions in Switzerland

Advent calendars are a very popular way to count down the 24 days before Christmas. Homes and shops in villages often decorate their windows with these calendars counting down the days to Christmas, day by day.

St. Nicholas, or Samichlaus, visits children on December 6th, bringing chocolates, nuts, and oranges. He knocks on the door (rather than coming down the chimney) and often shows up with Schmutzli (or the “Little dirty one”) who is in charge of punishing naughty children.

On Christmas Eve, the Christmas tree is brought home and decorated, often with real candles, and the main Christmas meal is enjoyed, often including ham, scalloped potatoes, and cookies!

Even though they received a visit from St. Nicholas earlier in the month, the children are not forgotten on Christmas Eve. It’s not a man in red, but rather Christkindli, a cherub angel representing the Christ child, who brings presents to the children after Christmas Eve dinner.

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The President's File

What a year it has been! Another year in the pandemic, but we are slowly moving towards normal again. This year we were finally able to start having our monthly Swiss Socials in person at the Duke of York pub. It's been wonderful to see our members face-to-face and enjoying each other's company.

For the coming year, we will continue with the monthly Swiss Socials (please join our Facebook group if you would like more information.) We will continue to watch the pandemic situation unfold and when we are able to do more face-to-face events like our Raclette and Fondue events, or the Theatre, we will be sure to let you know.

After not collecting membership fees in 2020 and 2021, we will start collecting them for 2022, as we are expecting most of our in-person events to kick-off again. E-members will receive an e-reminder on due dates, regular members please use the directions on enclosed invoice to make your payment.

On behalf of the Swiss Club Board, I'd like to wish you and your family a very happy and healthy holiday, and for those that celebrate, a very Merry Christmas!

We look forward to hopefully seeing more of you in the new year.

Nadia Berger

Women's Section

Kaffi Klatsch is back

WEST SIDE: We meet first Wednesday of the month at 1:30 p.m. at **Baka's Cafe Gallery**, 2256 Bloor Street West

EAST SIDE: We meet last Wednesday of the month at 1:30 p.m. **Pickle Barrel**, 5941 Leslie Street (north of Finch) Proof of vaccination is needed, plus ID.

I hope to reconnect with all of you soon.

Your Chairperson, Paula Rico

Men's Section

Come and join us every Monday morning from about 10:00 a.m. till Noon for an "In Person" Kaffi Klatsch at the Pickle Barrel Restaurant, 5941 Leslie St., about 1 km North of Finch Ave., at the north end of the plaza with the Galati Supermarket.

I couldn't reserve the Library for our usual November Swiss Movie matinée, all due to COVID, but I am looking forward to resume this again next year.

On Wednesday, December 1st, we will have our Christmas Lunch at the St. Georges Golf and Country Club, 1668 Islington Ave. After such a long time not being able to meet, I expect a big turnout, with some new members!

Our AGM and Lunch is scheduled for January 20, 2022, same place, so mark your Calendar already.

I was advised by the Amicale Romande, that there won't be a Fondue evening in January, so sad.

MEMORABLE BIRTHDAYS

Albert Kehrlı was 90 on November 19
Arno Sigrist will be 90 on December 16
Michel Zanoncello will be 75 on March 28

Many happy returns and good health to you all!

As this is the last *Tell Tale* of the year, I would like to wish everybody a very Merry Christmas and a good slide into a Happy New Year !

Arno Sigrist