

Grüezi Shanghai

Newsletter of the Consulate General of Switzerland in Shanghai

June 2010

Word from the Consul General

Dear Swiss Friends, dear Friends of Switzerland,

In the mist of the excitement of World EXPO we are overtaken by the success of our Swiss Pavilions. First and foremost, our national pavilion is experiencing the pressure of tens of thousands of Chinese who want to live once in their life the bucolic beauty of a ride over alpine pasturages. On the other side of the Huangpu, the joint cities pavilion has already received many official delegations from their home cities, happy to celebrate, enlighten and showcase their presence in this part of the world.

Everybody is now waiting for the highlight of the Swiss Nation Day planned for the 12th August. Our President Mrs. Doris Leuthard is expected with a large and important delegation to put the highest official touch to our participation to World EXPO 2010 and the celebrations of the 60th anniversary of our diplomatic relations with China. In the meantime, the Federal Counsellor Micheline Calmy-Rey, Swiss Foreign Minister, will have been the first Swiss official to pay a visit to the EXPO.

After this and after four years of official duty as Consul General in East China, time will have come for me to leave Shanghai and move back to Europe.

I take the opportunity to thank first of all the Chinese officials and friends for their hospitality, cooperation and kindness. Furthermore I have always been able to count on the supportive partnerships of the Swiss Institutions: swissnex, Swiss Business Hub, Pro Helvetia, Swisscham, Swiss Club, Swiss Tourism, as well as the Swiss Community at large. Warm thanks go to all our friends that have contributed to the enjoyment of me and my family's stay in Shanghai. And last but not least, let me mention my appreciation to the Consulate General's team for their efficient, professional and personal dedication to their mission.

Goodbye! God bless you all!

William Frei



Consul General William Frei



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Your article in the next Grüezi Shanghai!

You are welcome to propose events, news or information, that are of interest and relevance to the Swiss community, for the next Grüezi Shanghai.

Please contact us at sha.vertretung@eda.admin.ch.



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Portrait of the Swiss Pavilion Team

The staff that makes it all happen

The Swiss Pavilion has been standing in the limelight of the World EXPO 2010 Shanghai for over a month now. We have all learned about the intelligent facade, felt homesick in front of the movie "The Alps", gotten excited about riding the chairlift and starred into the big blue eyes of Renzo Blumenthal. But what about the hardworking team behind this success?

Manuel Salchli

Deputy Commissioner General and Director of the Swiss Pavilion

What is the biggest challenge you have faced up till now?

Bureaucracy with the EXPO Bureau is really time consuming and rules & regulations practically change every day.

Who are the most impressive guests you have greeted at the pavilion?

The Prince of Luxembourg and several Foreign Ministers of neighbouring countries. Also the Princess of Thailand has announced her visit. And at the end of June Micheline Calmy-Rey will pay us a visit.

Andreas Schmucki

Chief Operating Officer

You were the first team member to relocate to Shanghai for this project. How was it to see the pavilion take shape?

It felt great! Great to see the progress from the project idea to drawings to plans to reality! The moment you can touch the structure for the very first time is really exciting. Later the different stages of progress are fairly impressive as well: the first painted walls, the first screens showing Swiss sceneries, the first phone call made from the pavilion office, the first flowers on the roof and finally the team arriving at the pavilion. And now we're hosting between 12 and 15'000 visitors every day in the exhibition and up to 50'000 visitors in the open public part of the pavilion!



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What is for you a normal day at work?

There is no such thing as the “normal day at work” – for good luck. Everyday we host different events, concerts and delegations in the pavilion. And – of course – with such an amount of visitors and nearly 150 staff members there’s always something unexpected happening. The only thing that happens on a fix daily basis is our daily meeting at 5 p.m. with all heads of departments.

Clelia Kanai

Team Communication and Marketing

Do you feel positive about the media coverage the pavilion has received both in China and Switzerland?

Very positive so far! Media interest in the Swiss Pavilion was overwhelming during the first month, both in China and Switzerland. The major Chinese media have reported not only very positively but also very extensively and focused about the Swiss Pavilion. In Switzerland, the Swiss Pavilion also got a lot of media attention and was news topic in the main newspaper and radio programmes from all regions of the country.

What is the weirdest question someone asked you about the Swiss Pavilion?

One journalist wanted to know by when it was going to be finished painted. He obviously thought that the concreted pavilion structure was unfinished.

Ken Goenawan

Deputy Chief Guide

What is the best about your job? What is the worst?

Being able to work not only with a very good team in the Swiss Pavilion, but also being able to build bridges with other pavilions as a Protocol Officer. The worst about my job is the handling of visitors who do not have an acceptable behaviour. Unfortunately this issue is causing concern to many pavilions.

How is the team spirit among the guides?

We have an excellent and motivated team of guides. From the first day, the team spirit was extremely good and they can all count on each other when facing every day’s challenges.



Isabel Rappold
Gamma Catering

What do the Chinese guests think about the Swiss food in the restaurant?

Our Chinese guests really enjoy the Swiss speciality menus we serve and the different aspects of our culinary culture that we bring across; we actually sell more raclette and cheese fondue than we sell chocolate cake or fondue, and the mini sausages and the rösti are all time favourites. We experience our Chinese guests as very curious and open for new experiences, they love tasting food and beverages they've never tried before.

Has there ever been any confusion regarding some of the dishes on the menu?

The dried and cured meat plate is the only one that causes confusion. Chinese are not used to eating this raw meat dish that we Swiss enjoy so much and we've been asked to pan fry it.

Alois "Wisi" Scheuber
Chair lift Operator

How is it working in the "Swiss mountains" of Shanghai?

The majority of the visitors ride for the first time on a chair lift. To help people to get on and off the chair lift safely requires much more concentration and attentiveness from our side than in Switzerland.

What has been your funniest moment until now?

When a little boy looked at me and said to his mother: "Look mum, Santa Claus is working at the Swiss Pavilion!"



A busy Switzerland at World EXPO 2010

Swiss cities have been very present.

After nearly two months since its beginning, the World EXPO Shanghai is still making the daily headlines around the world. Switzerland's pavilions have been earning much interest and have been kept very busy. Several delegations from Switzerland have already made their way to Shanghai, including important ones from Basel and Zurich, respectively for their "City Week" at their pavilion, as well as other regions such as Bern and Lake Geneva.



Basel Week

The Swiss city of Basel and the Chinese metropolis of Shanghai have been linked together since 2007 by a city partnership. Special thematic days during the "Basel Week" from the 20th to 28th May at the World EXPO 2010 Shanghai created an appropriate forum for deepening and further expanding the various cooperation projects.

Many Basel representatives and organizations made use of this unique opportunity to update existing projects with Shanghai and to launch new projects. Among others, Guy Morin, President of the Executive Council of the Canton of Basel-Stadt, Carlo Conti, Vice President of the Canton of Basel-Stadt, the Mayor of Shanghai, HAN Zheng, and Vice Mayor of Shanghai, TANG Dengjie, met on the 26th May to discuss common interests.



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"Water & Energy Day"

The local authorities of Basel and Shanghai, together with experts from the chemical industry, exchanged ideas regarding suitable water protection measures.

"Innovation & Business Day"

Basel presented itself as an attractive economic location, gave companies and organizations involved in the i-net Basel innovation network the opportunity to present their technological innovations in the fields of water purification and water management. The city of Basel has a great deal of know-how in the field of sustainable water management, from which the rapidly growing cities of China in particular could learn a lot from.

"Health Days"

The focus was placed on the technical exchange of information about the Swiss health system and the organization of hospitals. Various cooperation projects in the health sector that have been realized within the context of the Basel-Shanghai City Partnership were also presented.

"Trinational Day"

The program clearly reflected the fact that cross-border cooperation with the neighbouring countries of France and Germany is of central importance to the border city of Basel. Representatives of the French, German and Swiss communities in Shanghai, as well as the pavilions of the Alsace Region and the City of Freiburg, were invited.

"University Days"

Basel presented itself as an attractive education and research location. On the one hand, the University for Commerce at the Technical College of North-west Switzerland introduced its attractive range of further education opportunities for management, while, on the other, the University of Basel – the oldest university in Switzerland – presented its outstanding range of opportunities in the fields of Life Sciences and Cultural Studies in the year of its 550th anniversary.

The Consulate General of Switzerland furthermore invited the official delegation as well as selected Swiss guests from the local community for a reception in the residence.



Mr. Albrecht von der Heyden, Consul General of Germany, Mr. William Frei, Consul General of Switzerland and Mr. Guy Morin, President of the Executive Council of the Canton of Basel-Stadt at the Trinational Day.



Zurich Week

Vom 30. Mai bis 6. Juni fand im Drei-Städte-Pavillon mit hochrangigen Besuchen, ausgebuchten Seminaren und der Energiebalance-Wippe als TV- und Besucherattraktion die Zürich Woche statt. Die Stadt Zürich hat sich dabei als attraktiver, weltoffener und nachhaltigkeitsorientierter Wirtschafts- und Kulturstandort präsentiert.

Ihre Vision der 2000-Watt-Gesellschaft zeigte sie im Rahmen einer Ausstellung, organisierte zusätzlich ein Kulturprogramm mit Konzerten von Andreas Vollenweider & Friends und warb mit den „Zürich Sustainability Days“ für den Wirtschaftsstandort Zürich. Die Stadtpräsidentin von Zürich Corine Mauch traf während der Woche mit verschiedenen hochrangigen Vertretern chinesischer Städte und Unternehmen zusammen.

Energie-Wippe

Besonders grossen Anklang fand die Zürcher Energiebalance-Wippe, diese visualisierte auf verspielte Weise das Energie-Gleichgewicht und die 2000-Watt-Gesellschaft.

„Zürich Sustainability Days“

Die „Zürich Sustainability Days“ boten sieben Firmen aus der Region Zürich Gelegenheit, Projekte und Lösungen im Bereich nachhaltige Entwicklung und Clean Tech zu präsentieren.

Investorenseminar der Greater Zürich Area GZA

Unter dem Titel „Greater Zurich Area: Das Sprungbrett für eine Expansion nach Europa“ führt die Greater Zurich Area AG ein Seminar für chinesische Investoren durch.

Das Schweizerische Generalkonsulat hat die offizielle Delegation zu einem Cocktail in der Residenz eingeladen, um ein Zusammentreffen mit ausgewählten Gästen der Schweizerkolonie zu ermöglichen.



Drei-Städte-Pavillon



Frau Corine Mauch, Stadtpräsidentin von Zürich an den „Zürich Sustainability Days“



Frau Corine Mauch, Stadtpräsidentin von Zürich, Herr William Frei, Schweizer Generalkonsul and Frau Jöelle Marie Frei

Konzert Andreas Vollenweider - "The Watercourse Way"

Ein Erfolg waren die beiden Konzerte von Andreas Vollenweider & Friends im Rahmen des Zürcher Kulturprogramms während der „Zurich Week“, die dank der Unterstützung des Kantons Zürich, Pro Helvetia, Swiss Re, Swiss sowie der Stadt Zürich realisiert werden konnten.

Vollenweider & Friends ist es gelungen, mit ihrer Musik interkulturelle Brücken zu schlagen. Mit dem Programm „The Watercourse Way“ hat Vollenweider das Motto „Better Water – Best Urban Life“ als Hauptthema des Drei-Städte-Auftritts aufgegriffen und musikalisch interpretiert. Das lokale Publikum zeigte sich insbesondere von den vielen eingesetzten chinesischen Instrumenten begeistert. Gemeinsam mit seinen jungen „Friends“ Steff la Cheffe, Andy Puppato und Daniel Küffer hat Vollenweider das Publikum im Shanghai Center Theatre bezaubert.

www.vollenweider.com

www.miro-china.ch



Andreas Vollenweider



vlnr: Daniel Küffer, Stefanie Peter,
Andreas Vollenweider

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More events around the World EXPO 2010

Upcoming events

June 2010

21. – 30.06.2010

Science and Technology Week

swissnex China presents highlights at the Science and Technology Week. The exhibition will show the importance of Science and Technology for every day life.

www.swissnexchina.org/pictures/science-and-technology%20Week

24. – 25.06.2010

When Swiss Bands Meet Chinese Bands – Part II

Swiss singer Fiona Daniel performs in the Swiss Pavilion and presents joint projects with selected Chinese musicians (artists-in-residence program presented by world-famous Montreux Jazz Festival in collaboration with Pro Helvetia).

www.swisspavilion.ch/events/public-events.html

27.06.2010

Visit of Federal Councillor Micheline Calmy-Rey, Head of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs

Mrs. Micheline Calmy-Rey will pay a one day visit to the World EXPO 2010 and its Swiss Pavilions. Her trip will thereupon continue to Beijing for bilateral consultations with her Chinese counterparts.

July 2010

01.07. – 10.08.2010

Criss + Cross, Design from Switzerland

Spectacular pieces of Swiss design: ordinary objects of everyday life such as banknotes, travel razors and chairs have become art pieces with great functionality, collaboratively designed by Swiss designers and engineers. Presented by Pro Helvetia in the Swiss Pavilion.

[www.prohelvetia.cn/274.0.html?&no_cache=1&L=2&tx_ttnews\[tt_news\]=961](http://www.prohelvetia.cn/274.0.html?&no_cache=1&L=2&tx_ttnews[tt_news]=961)



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05. – 14.07.2010

Top to Top

The challenge of the initiator and adventurer Dario Schwoerer with his family is to travel to the highest peak in each of the seven continents and over the seven seas, connecting all the major climate zones, using only their own strength and natural energy such as wind and sun. Dario Schwoerer will share his insights with the open public on stage at the Swiss Pavilion.

www.toptotop.org/index.php

10.07.2010

Piano Seven Concert

The most unique piano septet in the world is passing through Shanghai and will be playing their latin style fused with jazz and blues compositions at the Shanghai Oriental Art Center. Piano Seven's show is rich in musical and scenic emotions, and the video will bring an additional artistic touch.

www.pianoseven.com

15 % discount for the Swiss Community – please contact Ms. Li Jia for tickets:
3842 4800 ext. 5110 or lja.li@shoac.com.cn.

August 2010

01.08.2010

Swiss National Day

Swiss National Day celebrations in the Swiss Pavilion with award-winning Jodlerklub Wiesenberg, Alphorn Ensemble Engiadina St. Moritz and the Swiss community in Shanghai. Detailed information will be provided by the organizer Swiss Club Shanghai in due time.

08. – 11.08.2010

Basel-Shanghai Days

Basel and Shanghai celebrate their partnership. Besides the ceremonial signing of a new Memorandum of Understanding, events on architecture and city planning will take place.

www.basel-geneva-zurich.org/Events/Details.aspx?id=95ee85be-b997-4f50-860e-a3ebcc4c1cf4



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11.08.2010

Concert Basel Symphonic Orchestra

Shanghai Concert Hall

www.basel-geneva-zurich.org/Events/Details.aspx?id=815c086a-2107-478f-8c2b-376479155b51

12.08.2010

National Pavilion Day

Visit of the President of the Swiss Confederation Mrs. Doris Leuthard and a high-level delegation of Swiss officials to the Swiss Pavilion. Ceremony in honour of Switzerland organized by the Expo Bureau, official reception, and performance of an innovative musical project organized in collaboration with Pro Helvetia. By invitation only.

23.08. – 05.09.2010

Design Preis Schweiz

The Design Preis Schweiz highlights the importance of Swiss design. Nominated and awarded projects are exposed in the exhibition area of the Swiss Pavilion.

www.swissnexchina.org/activities/events/design-prize-switzerland-at-world-expo-2010-shanghai



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Pro Helvetia

Lucien Dubuis Trio's cooperation with Zhao Lei

On 20th May evening, the famous Swiss band Lucien Dubuis Trio together with Mr. Zhao Lei, a local erhu player brought the audience a fantastic show in the Swiss Pavilion. The next evening, the Lucien Dubuis Trio performed once again in the public area of the pavilion.

The two shows attracted hundreds of visitors. To make the music accessible to Chinese visitors, they tried to blend in some Chinese folk songs such as "The Jasmine" into their tunes. Lucien especially prepared a famous Chinese song called "Night in Shanghai" to enflame the locals. For the other songs, Zhao Lei improvised in a contemporary style along the main melody with his erhu. It was such a perfect match! The performance was well received and highly commented by the audience.

This was actually Lucien Dubuis Trio's first live show in China. The three musicians brought the audience a blend of traditional and contemporary music. As the pioneers of a new style of music, they provided us a refreshing insight into Jazz. Their latest album "Ultime Cosmos" (CD+DVD) was just released in Switzerland.

Zhao Lei performed at the "2010 Expo - Shanghai Week in Hamburg", and the opening ceremony of the Chinese Pavilion at Aichi Expo 2005. He has been featured on major TV networks and in news worldwide, such as NHK, TBS, Fuji TV, Mainichi Shimbun and BBC America. His brilliant improvisation, exquisite artistry, and stunning music expression have touched his audience. He has in the past cooperated with various artists, experimenting on crossover.

The show is part of a series of concerts entitled "When Swiss Bands Meet Chinese Bands", supported by the Swiss Arts Council, Pro Helvetia, in cooperation with Montreux Jazz Festival and Presence Switzerland. There will be shows of Fiona Daniel with a Chinese band in the pavilion on 24th and 25th June, as well as Dog Almond in September and Trio Rusconi in October.

swiss arts council

prohelvetia



Concert at the Swiss Pavilion



Lucien Dubuis Trio and Zhao Lei



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swissnex China

swissnex China at the International Science and Arts

Exhibition 2010

swissnex China has participated for the third time at the International Science & Art Exhibition by presenting high-end innovative research projects from the Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne (EPFL) at the Pudong Exhibition Centre from 26th to 31st May 2010. As an annual famous brand event for the Shanghai Science and Technology Festival, the Sci-Art Exhibition is a public activity which attracted around 70'000 visitors and is devoted to promoting the convergence of science and art. For the second consecutive year, swissnex China obtained the Science and Art Innovation Award, this year, specifically for the 'HoerRoom' installation by Art Clay.

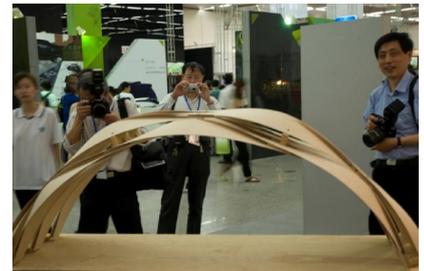
At the Swiss space, the Graetzel Solar Cells, the Timber Installation, the Blue Brain Movie as well as Art Clay's 'HoerRoom' were showcased. Based on the discovery of a new type of solar cells by Prof. Graetzel, newly developed products such as a back-pack which can power mobile devices including mobile phones, e-books, cameras and portable LED lighting systems were presented. The Timber Installation showcased a new architecture of wood which uses high-tech materials, where wood fuses like metal. It can be bent and pleated, braided with suppleness and curved gently into ribbed shells. The third project Blue Brain Movie illustrated a journey through our brain, displaying its functions, and more specifically the cortex which is the convoluted 'grey matter' that makes up 80 % of the human brain. Finally, Art Clay's 'HoerRoom', a newly developed series of light and sound objects functioning by vibration, perfectly represented the interaction between science and art.

All exhibited projects will be showcased at the Urban Lounge Area of the Swiss Pavilion at the World Expo 2010 Shanghai from 21st to 30th June 2010.

More information: [Science and Technology Week](#).



Art Clay's HoerRoom



The Timber Installation



swissnex China's organization team

SwissCham

Cleantech Switzerland – A Promising Initiative

The EXPO 2010 slogan, “Better City – Better Life”, incorporates several different aspects that all align towards one common goal: a sustainable and clean habitat within urban areas. Clean technology, or Cleantech, is at the heart of this intention, as it embodies technologies, goods and services that are designed to reduce our environmental footprint by utilizing renewable natural resources. The concept of Cleantech may be implemented throughout the value chain within all commercial and industrial segments.

The business network of Switzerland, OSEC, recently conducted a market study designed to determine the countries with the most potential for the Swiss Cleantech industry and identified China as one most promising locations. This was not only due to its massive growth, but mainly because it will continue to face increasing challenges concerning the environment, society and the economy as it continues to expand. Consequently, and with full cooperation of the Swiss Government, OSEC is establishing export platforms dubbed “Cleantech Switzerland” for Swiss Cleantech companies that are interested, or already operating, in the Chinese market or other destinations with considerable potential. The platform aims to position Switzerland as a leading Cleantech country and provide its stakeholders with valuable information on their desired target markets, investment opportunities, as well as ongoing support upon market entry. Furthermore, OSEC will establish a network that includes Business Hubs in the Swiss Embassies, Chambers of Commerce, relevant governmental departments and SME's among others in order to maximize opportunities for the members of the platform.

Clearly, Clean technology has the potential to reduce the impact we have on our environment. Thus, SwissCham proudly supported the Workshop “Cleantech Switzerland” on the 6th May 2010, in order to ensure that this export platform gains the awareness of companies that fit its target group, so that they may benefit from the support that it provides. While the goal of increasing business opportunities for Swiss Cleantech SME's looks promising, the platform also has the potential to play a minor role in the “bigger picture”, by assisting China in tackling its environmental challenges.

swisscham.org



Mr. Marco Rhyner, CEO Generis (Beijing), Mr. Uwe Krueger, President Cleantech Switzerland and Mr. William Frei, Consul General of Switzerland at the Cleantech Workshop.



SwissCham will continue assisting the Cleantech initiative, which will have more events in the months to come. For more information, please visit www.cleantech-switzerland.com.

Swiss Business Hub

Shanghai Office Expansion

With the World EXPO in full swing these days, Shanghai is increasingly in the spotlight of the global media. It is well known and documented that Shanghai is the number one destination for business in mainland China. This is also true for Swiss business, as an estimated 55 % of Swiss companies in China have their headquarters in the Yangtze Delta Region.

The Swiss Business Hub China with its headquarters in Beijing is the official organization for Swiss trade and investment promotion within China and a network partner of OSEC Business Network Switzerland. Currently the structure of the hub with its headquarters in Beijing does not reflect in the ideal way the above mentioned geographical distribution of Swiss business in China.

In an effort to recognize the economic importance as well as strengthen and build the Swiss Business Hub Shanghai office, Kilian Widmer the deputy head of SBH China in Beijing has been transferred to Shanghai and started work beginning on 1st June. Mr. Widmer is very much looking forward to this interesting challenge and hopes that the reinforced SBH Shanghai office, despite the very good job done until now, will be even more adapted to address the growing interest of Swiss companies in the greater Shanghai region.

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Swiss Club

Annual General Assembly of the Swiss Club Shanghai



The committee 2010/2011 of the Swiss Club Shanghai is consisting of:

Patrick Scheibli – President
 Ruedi Steffen – Vice President
 Ariuscha Davatz – Treasurer
 Roger Umberg – Secretary
 Gloria Schmidt
 Fabian Gull
 Robert Hartmann –
 New Committee member
 Rene Seiler –
 delegate Swiss Consulate General

On the 21st May, the Swiss Club Shanghai held its annual General Assembly at the Millennium Hotel in Shanghai. After finishing the formalities of the General Assembly in a record time of only 32 minutes, the 70 attendants spent a splendid evening indulging in Swiss culinary delights and dancing to the hot sounds of the fantastic live band “188” till the early morning hours.

Big thanks go to Rene Teuscher, General Manager of Millennium Hotel, and his crew for preparing such a delightful variety of dishes featuring seasonal white asparagus, roast beef, a very nice selection of cheese and Zuger Kirschtorte just to name a few.

Special thanks go Fracht AG for sponsoring the band. Big band leader Michael Luveano and his musicians’ performance truly made this evening a very special and memorable one.

The Swiss Club thanks its leaving Committee member Susanne Durrer-Scheidegger as well as Patricia Furrer (ladies events) for all their valuable contributions to the Swiss Club and community in the past years, and welcomes newly elected Committee member Robert Hartmann who will take care of the Clubs’ charity activities.

Also, long term auditor Bruno Furrer has been replaced by Winand Muehlethaler who is also handling the club’s website.

Guests of honor were Mr. Carlo Conti, Vice President of the Executive Council of the Canton of Basel City, his wife Christa Conti as well as Ms Sabine Horvath, Head of External Relations in the Presidential Department of Basel.



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Dragon Boat Festival

端午节

The Dragon Boat Festival (in Chinese: 端午节) is a significant holiday and the one with the longest history celebrated in China, occurring on the fifth day of the fifth lunar month. In 2010 it fell on the 16th June. The focus of the celebrations includes racing dragon boats and eating Zong Zi, an angular glutinous rice ball wrapped in reed or bamboo leaves.

Origin

There are many tales about the origins of the Dragon Boat Festival and today the best known story relates to the suicide in 278 BC of Qu Yuan, poet and statesman of the State of Chu during the Warring States period. Qu Yuan was an upright and loyal minister in the service of the Chu Emperor. He was highly esteemed for his wisdom that brought peace and prosperity to the state. However, due to the corruption at court and jealousy of other officials, he was disgraced and dismissed from office to a remote area. Despairing of his government and its policies, Qu threw himself into a river at the age of 37. As he was so loved by the people, fishermen nearby rushed over to try and save him but were unable to even recover his body. Every year the racing of dragon boats symbolizes this attempt to rescue Qu Yuan. The people of Chu who mourned the death of Qu threw rice into the river to feed his ghost every year on the fifth day of the fifth month. However, a local fisherman had a dream in which the spirit of Qu Yuan appeared and told him that the fishes in the river had eaten the rice. The spirit then advised them to wrap the cooked rice in reed or bamboo leaves and bind it with threads before tossing it into the river. The tradition of making rice in this way was begun and the rice as such later came to be known as Zong Zi.

The Modern Dragon Boat Festival

Dragon Boat races are the most exciting part of the festival, drawing crowds of spectators. Dragon Boats are generally brightly painted and decorated canoes. Ranging anywhere from 40 to 100 feet in length, their heads are shaped like open-mouthed dragons, while the sterns end with a scaly tail. Depending on the length, up to 80 rowers can power the boat. A drummer and flag-catcher stand at the front of the boat. Before a dragon boat enters competition, it must be "brought to life" by painting the eyes in a sacred ceremony. Races can have any number of boats competing, with the winner being the first team to grab a



Dragon Boat Race



Zong Zi



One of the most famous Zong Zi brand is Wu Fang Zhai, available in all major supermarkets in town.

flag at the end of the course. Annual races take place all over China, Hong Kong, Macao, Taiwan, and other overseas Chinese communities.

Traditional Food

The traditional food for the Dragon Boat Festival, Zong Zi is an angular glutinous rice ball, with a filling, wrapped in reed or bamboo leaves. The ingredients such as beans, lotus seeds, chestnuts, pork and the golden yolk of a salted duck egg are often added to the glutinous rice. They are generally boiled in water for several hours and then they can be eaten.



Dragon Boat Race

by Zhang Heidi



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Switzerland.

FIFA World Cup South Africa

Millions of people will be looking to South Africa from the 11th June to the 11th July for the 2010 FIFA World Cup.

Switzerland is one of 32 teams which has qualified for the event. Drawn alongside Spain, Chile and Honduras, Switzerland are the odd men out in their Group H with a distinctly Hispanic feel.

The Swiss Club Shanghai is supporting the Swiss Team and made special arrangements to watch all games with English commentary at the Camel Sports Bar. Don't miss these games and support our boys down at the cape.

Camel Sports Bar

No. 1 Yue Yang Road (near Dong Ping Road)

www.camelsportsbar.com

Next game

26th June – 02.30 am

Switzerland vs. Honduras



Swiss National Team



Match Schedule

www.fifa.com/mm/document/tourname/nt/competition/64/42/24/2010fwc_matcheschedule_1702_en.pdf

2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa

www.fifa.com/worldcup

Swiss Football Association

www.football.ch/sfv/wm2010/de/Facts_Figures_english.aspx

swissinfo.ch

swissinfo.ch will not only be keeping you up-to-date on the latest results but also putting the spotlight on the Swiss community in South Africa and the many ties between the two countries.

www.swissinfo.ch/eng/specials/world_cup_2010/index.html?cid=8592802

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Inter-Chamber Invitational Golf Competition

Swiss Golfers On A Roll

On Saturday 5th June, the Inter-Chamber Invitational Golf Competition was held. For the fifth time, Switzerland had a participating team, and Walter Eglin (Captain), Beat Wälchli, William Keller, Christian Ingold held high the hopes of our local community.

Switzerland won the encouraging 5th rank out of 16 nations. The team hopes for further success in 2011, and why not even dream of a win!



Christian Ingold, William Keller, Walter Eglin and Beat Wälchli after the competition

by Walter Eglin

Biometric Passport 10

Two easy steps to your new Biometric Passport 10

In a referendum held on 17th May 2009, the Swiss people gave their assent to the universal introduction of a biometric passport (Passport 10). The Federal Council decided to begin issuing this new form of travel document from 1st March 2010.

Swiss representations abroad have been provided with the equipment necessary to capture the following biometric data: a photograph of the applicant's face, two fingerprints, and a signature. These data are recorded on a micro-chip incorporated into the passport. The existing machine-readable passports Passport 03 and biometric Passport 06 will remain valid until their expiry date.

Obtaining a Passport 10 is a two-step process involving a passport application and biometric data capture.

1. Passport application

You must submit your Passport 10 application to the Swiss representation or the passport office of the residence where you are registered. You can order your new passport using our convenient online service. Please use the following link:

www.ch-edoc-passantrag.admin.ch/antrag/antrag_start.action?request_locale=en

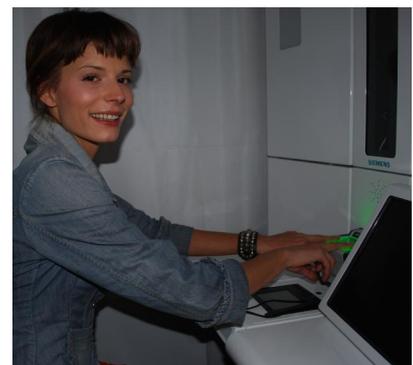
If you do not have an internet connection, you can apply for your new passport in person, in writing or by calling the following telephone number (021) 6270 0519.

When you apply for a new Passport 10 you will have the opportunity to order an identity card at the same time at a reduced price, as you could in the past.

Mrs. Karin Balzli was the first to use the new Biometric Enrolment Station in our Consulate General. We accompanied her through the application process.



Biometric data capture 1: Photograph



Biometric data capture 2: Fingerprints



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Switzerland.

2. Biometric data capture

Due to the nature of biometric data capture all applicants must attend in person.

Minors and applicants in the care of a guardian must be accompanied by a parent or guardian, who will be required to give their consent by signing the application form. Divorced or unmarried parents must provide proof of custody of the child, and in the case of a joint custody, both parents must give their consent.

The procedure will take about 30 minutes or longer if you haven't submitted beforehand your application online. Please bring along your old passport (and identity card if applicable).

Fees from 1st June 2010

The fees in CNY, including postage fees from Switzerland, have to be paid in cash and are subject to change according to the currency.

Adults (validity 10 years)

Biometric passport	CNY 890.00
Biometric passport & ID card	CNY 1'000.00
ID card	CNY 450.00

Children (validity 5 years):

Biometric passport	CNY 420.00
Biometric passport & ID card	CNY 530.00
ID card	CNY 240.00

Your new document(s) can be picked-up at the Consulate General after about one month. You will be notified accordingly per e-mail.

Further information about the new biometric Passport 10 is available on the website of the Swiss Federal Department of Justice and Police FDJP: www.schweizerpass.ch

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you need any further information.



Biometric data capture 3: Signature

How did you find the process?

„It's much more fun than a regular photo booth!“

Drei sympathische Fernwehsschweizer auf Installationsreise durch Schweizer Auslandsvertretungen

Frau Joan Vozeh, Herr Tobias Büchler und Herr André Siegenthaler bildeten eines der sechs Teams, welche im Auftrag des Eidgenössischen Departements für auswärtige Angelegenheiten (EDA) in diversen Vertretungen weltweit die Infrastruktur für die neuen biometrischen Pässe 2010 installierten. Ihre Reise führte sie in insgesamt acht Monaten zu rund 20 Schweizer Auslandsvertretungen auf allen Kontinenten und Ende März schliesslich von Riga, St. Peterburg, Moskau über Beijing nach Shanghai in unser Generalkonsulat.

Ihre Aufgabe bestand hauptsächlich in der Installation der Enrollment Station und in der operationellen sowie fachlichen Einführung der konsularischen Mitarbeiter. Dank ihrer in Betriebsnahme der Kabine sind wir als Generalkonsulat bereit, Ihnen einen biometrischen Pass auszustellen.

Interview

Sie sind in den letzten Monaten von einer Vertretung in die nächste gereist, um sie mit der Biometrie Infrastruktur auszurüsten. Was sind die Highlights Ihrer Weltreise im Eilzugstempo?

Joan Vozeh: Die Altstadt von Damaskus, das Kap der guten Hoffnung, das Nachtleben in St. Petersburg, die Chinesische Mauer und Shopping in Riad.

Tobias Büchler: Eine Biketour auf der Ruta de la Muerte von La Paz nach Coroico, ebenfalls St. Petersburg sowie das Leben auf Kuba.

André Siegenthaler: Unsere Safari in Kenia, Schnorcheln in Thailand, auch für mich das Nachtleben in St. Petersburg und Downhill Biking von einem Vulkan in Ecuador.

Mit welcher Anekdote Ihrer Reise werden Sie Freunde und Familie zu hause unterhalten?

Joan Vozeh: Am Flughafen von Riad wurden wir von vier Fahrern aus vier verschiedenen Hotels erwartet. Vier verschiedene Schilder mit unseren Namen drauf, haben nicht nur bei uns für einige Verwirrung gesorgt.



Bei der Ankunft in Shanghai war noch nicht viel von der Station zu erahnen.



Die fertige aufgebaute und in Betrieb genommene Enrollment Station.



Erinnerungsfoto im Eingangsbereich unseres Generalkonsulats.



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Switzerland.

Tobias Bächler: Nach einer Woche Rio de Janeiro mit gefühlten 50° Grad Celsius haben wir in Sao Paulo bei 27° Grad Celsius die langen Hosen angezogen.

André Siegenthaler: Im Hard Rock Café von Mumbai lud mich ein Inder spontan zum Skifahren im Himalaja ein - mit Sauerstoffflaschen auf dem Rücken.

Shanghai ist die Wirtschaftsmetropole Chinas, Austragungsort der World EXPO 2010 und eine der spannendsten Städte der Welt – Ihr Eindruck nach vier Tagen?

Joan Vozeh: Nach einer Woche Beijing war ich von der Lebendigkeit und Internationalität der Stadt überrascht und begeistert.

Tobias Bächler: Super! Ich kam mit völlig anderen Vorstellungen nach Shanghai. Diese interessante pulsierende Weltmetropole hat mich positiv überrascht!

André Siegenthaler: Toll! Ich liebe hohe Häuser!



André Siegenthaler, Joan Vozeh und Tobias Bächler nach getaner Arbeit.

by Jasmin Helbling



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Switzerland.

Swiss community liaison members

Being prepared for emergencies.

In order to protect the interests of our Swiss community, as the Swiss Foreign Representation, we are obliged to be up-to-date on crisis management measures at all times.

Crisis management involves situations that include earthquakes, typhoons, terrorist attacks, plane crashes, other transport (bus, ship or train) calamities and major unrest. In the event of such disaster situations where community members are involved, the Consular Representative of the Swiss community would call on specific emergency liaison members:

- To initiate contact about the affected community members within the region
- To uphold communication with the Consulate General
- To give the record and state of the affected community members

The liaison members system is based on the well-known “Swiss Milizsystem” and is an honorary duty.

Our first meeting for Swiss community liaison members took place on the 13th of April this year. The participants were instructed on what expectations they would face. Now our next step will be to inform the Swiss Community about their respective contacts.



Advice from Swiss community liaison members:

ICE = In Case of Emergency

In your mobile, save the phone number of someone who could be contacted in case of emergency under the name ‘ICE’. It would be an added advantage if this person speaks Chinese.

Standing from left: René Seiler (in charge of the crisis management at the Consulate General), Stefan Kislig, Ferdi Gerhardt, Niklaus Hardegger, René Teuscher, Andreas Nydegger und Christoph Strübi.

Sitting from left: Cristin Rentsch (konsularische Mitarbeiterin), Susanne Bögli Yuan und Generalkonsul William Frei.

Missing on the photo are: Jan Forelli, Patrick Scheibli, Rudolf Steffen and Walter Häcki.

The Milu – Le Milu

Your Life Guide

Milu in Mandarin means "getting lost". Indeed, when you arrive in Shanghai you may easily feel helpless in front of a such speedy city where every cultural codes are different. The Milu guide has been released to help expatriates for a short or long stay in Shanghai. The Milu is a real summary of useful and convenient information for your daily life in Shanghai: how to find a flat, how to move in or out, to find a job, create a company but also where to eat, how to communicate or to travel... all sorts of problems that will find an easy but complete answer in The Milu.

Free copies of The Milu can be picked up at our Consulate General.

miluguide.com

Guide du Nouvel Arrivant

Milu en mandarin signifie „qui a perdu son chemin“. Et il est vrai que lorsqu'on arrive à Shanghai on peut très rapidement se sentir désarmé face à une ville qui bouge à 100 à l'heure. Malgré ses airs de métropole internationale, Shanghai réserve bien des surprises au quotidien et les chocs culturels sont ici permanents. Le guide Milu est là pour vous aider à retrouver votre chemin, en toute sérénité, grâce à un véritable condensé d'informations utiles et pratiques.

Trouver un appartement ou déménager; chercher un emploi ou monter une entreprise mais aussi bien manger, communiquer, se déplacer... autant de problématiques qui trouveront une réponse simple mais complète dans Le Milu.

Des copies du Milu sont distribués gratuitement à notre Consulat général.

miluguide.com



Weddings

Congratulations to the newlyweds!

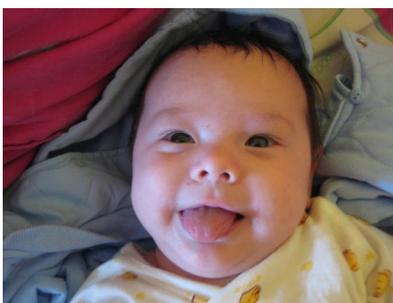


Marecil TOYCO & Patrick JAEGLÉ

got married on the 28th of January 2010 in Davao, Philippines.

Births

Congratulations to the proud parents!



Alexandre Mathéo PIZZAIA

was born on the 21st of January 2010 in Shanghai.

The happy parents are ZHANG Xiaoqing and Frédéric PIZZAIA.



Yasmina MANSOURIAN

was born on the 16th of February 2010 in Beirut.

The happy parents are May & Serge MANSOURIAN.



Alena Stella BAUMGARTNER

was born on the 24th of March 2010 in Shanghai.

The happy parents are Raffaela & Marc BAUMGARTNER.



Eva 芯雨 RAMPONI 刘

was born on the 8th of May 2010 in Shanghai.

The happy parents are RAMPONI LIU Jia & Jacques-Olivier RAMPONI.



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Switzerland.

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