



SWISS AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Promoting Swiss-American studies since 1927

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FALL 2024 NEWSLETTER



Autumn in Canton Ticino

SAHS Centennial Committee

2027 is the centennial of the Swiss American Historical Society! 100 years ago it was founded in Chicago. To celebrate this important milestone, we are forming a committee to plan events and commemorate our 100th anniversary. Some ideas include a gala fundraiser, merchandise, exhibit at the Swiss Embassy in Washington, DC, commemorative logo, book and calendar. We also would like to hold the annual general meeting in Chicago in September or October 2027.

Anyone interested in serving on this committee, please send an email to:

swissamericanhistoricalsociety@gmail.com. We will form the committee at the end of this year, and plan to have our first virtual meeting in early 2025.

Centennial Trip to Switzerland

As part of the centennial, we are exploring a trip to Switzerland! SAHS members and non-members would be welcome to participate. In order to gauge interest, we ask that you complete the **Google Form Survey** – <https://forms.gle/1gH5uA3B1cXDpxDa7>. You may need to log-in to your Google account to complete it. Based on responses and areas of interest, we will see if a trip is feasible, and then start to plan an itinerary, working with a travel company.

Swiss Chapter Annual Meeting held in Einsiedeln on September 9th

The SAHS Swiss Chapter held their annual meeting in Einsiedeln, Canton Schwyz on Monday, September 9th. Dr. Heinz Nauer gave a talk entitled “Exported Ideology: How Catholic Sonderbund and the Kulturkampf Shaped Overseas Migration from Central Switzerland.” They also enjoyed lunch and a tour of the Einsiedeln Abbey. Membership in the SAHS Swiss Chapter remains stable with 41 members.



Dr. Heinz Nauer



Einsiedeln Abbey Library



Members listen to Dr. Nauer’s lecture.

Annual Meeting held in Philadelphia on September 28th

The SAHS U.S. Chapter held its annual meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on Saturday, September 28th. We were joined by Honorary Swiss Consul Christine Pfister and met jointly with the Descendants of Swiss Settlers. Afternoon Presentations were delivered by Joseph H. Smith, governor of the Descendants of Swiss Settlers on Swiss settlers in America, and Lock Whitney on the Rodolf family that emigrated to Wisconsin in 1833, and recorded their Atlantic voyage in a series of unpublished letters that were discovered in Zurich in the 1970s on a closet shelf.



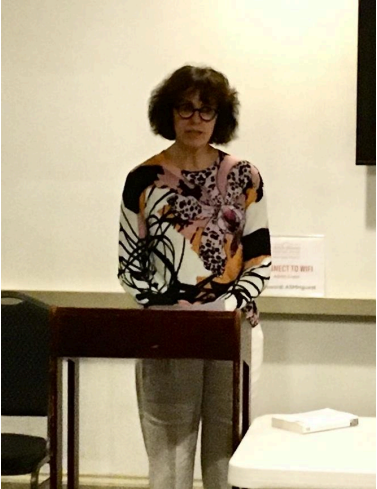
Celeste Onchuck, a PhD history student at Liberty University, discusses her research.



SAHS and Descendants of Swiss Settlers members enjoying a tour of the Arch Street Meeting House.



Joseph H. Smith

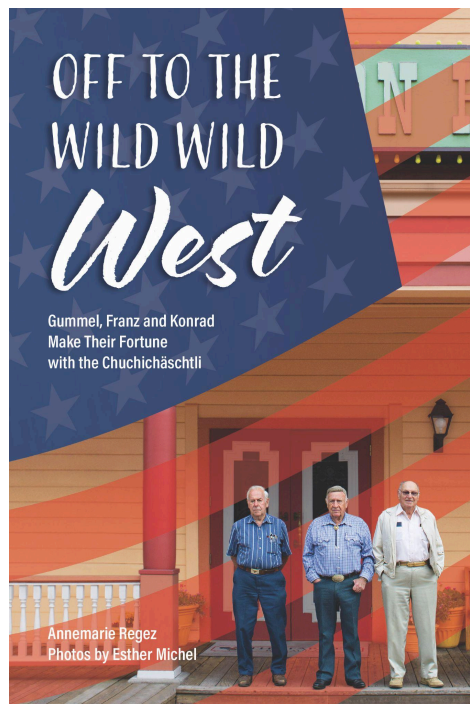


Christine Pfister



Lock Whitney

Off to the Wild Wild West book



After 4 years we have finally published a book for SAHS members! You should receive your copy in the mail by mid to late October. Anyone else interested in getting a copy should become an SAHS member! Members receive the book, along with the three issues we publish every year of the *SAHS Review*. To become a member, go to our website, click on [Join Today!](#), complete the Google Form and submit a secure payment on the PayPal provided link, or by mailing a check to Ernie Thurston, Treasurer & Membership Secretary.

We hope you enjoy this book!



Other Swiss American Associations link on the SAHS Website. Image created by Richard Hacken.

Our Webmaster, Richard Hacken, has added a new link on our website “[Other Swiss American Associations](#).” It includes links to other groups, including a list of Swiss Clubs throughout the U.S.

Increase in Membership

SAHS currently has 208 members worldwide. In the past year (2023-24), we got **31 new members!** This is a big increase and shows that we are attracting new members, especially authors and young historians.

