

Rhine Times

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN WOMEN'S CLUB OF BASEL

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September Board Meeting Minutes

AVAILABLE SOON AT AWCBASEL.ORG

GET INVOLVED

Webmaster Wanted

Anyone interested should contact AWC President Jamie at president.awc@gmail.com.

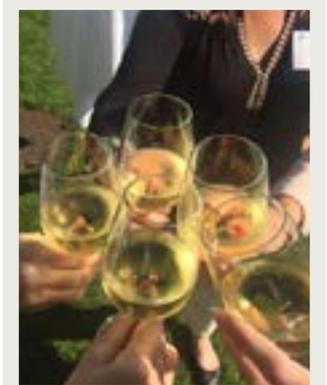
Wine Tasting

Interested in hosting a fun and educational evening? Contact Jessica and Carrie at programs.awc@gmail.com.

CLUB NEWS

Kickoff Luncheon

Thank you to all Kickoff Luncheon attendees. It was wonderful to catch up with old friends and meet new ones!



CLUB NEWS & EVENTS

What is Walk & Talk?

A wonderful gal, by the name of Linda Foster, started Walk & Talk over six years ago. She thought it would be great to have a leisurely walk around town for an hour or so, and then have coffee. As members come and go, I think it is important, especially for new people, to know what Walk & Talk is, and just as important, what Walk & Talk is not:

Walk & Talk is as much about talking as it is walking. We are a social group that likes to socialize. Chatty, chat, chat, chat, chat, chat, chat. You get the idea.

Walk & Talk is NOT a hiking group. There is an amazing hiking group in the area called Basel Walkers. They hike into the hills and mountains on Mondays and Wednesdays for 2+ hours. Check them out at BaselWalkers@yahoo.com. They are not associated with any group.

Walk & Talk is a flexible group. We often decide where to walk, based on what the group feels like doing at the beginning of each walk. Be flexible. Be Gumby.

Walk & Talk is NOT a “fitness group” per se. We are not runners, power walkers, or race walkers. We walk at a good pace, to get light exercise. We strive for 10,000 steps per walk, but sometimes we strive for 10 steps to the nearest coffee shop. We stop at windows we like, or to greet a dog on the street we must say hello to. Having said that, Walk & Talk is expanding to include longer walks, hikes, and special day trips. These walks will be posted, as the interest arises. Any member can discuss with the leaders regarding posting or leading a walk.

Most of all, Walk & Talk is inclusive. All are welcome.

If any of the above interests you, we meet every Tuesday and Thursday at 9:30a.m. in front of Bider and Tanner bookstore at the Bankverein tram stop. You do not have to RSVP. Just show up. We will always be there. If you are late, please text Donna or myself, so we can wait for you, or let you know where to catch us up. If you need further directions, or have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Cheers!
Donna and Karen

New Member

Welcome Tina O'Keefe! Tina just moved here last month from New York. Her background is in writing and communication and her Super Power is a Professional Organizer turned homemaker for 3 girls and her husband, Thomas. Glad you found us, Tina!

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Walk & Talk AWC Contacts

Donna Willis
079 668 77 69
greenbean286@yahoo.com

Karen Thorne
076 345 60 13
karenlisawiney@aol.com

Reach Out and Welcome (ROW)

Tuesday, Oct. 11, 7:30 PM

Tuesday, Nov. 8, 7:30 PM

On the second Tuesday of each month join us at Flanagan's. We meet at 7:30 PM for drinks, dinner, and casual conversation. The location is Picassoplatz 8. The closest tram stop is Bankverein. Flanagan's serves a large drink selection and Irish pub food. Spouses, partners, and friends are always welcome!

Afternoon Book Club

Tuesday, Oct. 13, 1 PM

Starbucks at Claraplatz

Book: The Children Act by Ian McEwan

Join us for book discussion and socializing. New members and guests are always welcome! Follow us on Facebook for updates and contact Jen at dickenson_jen@yahoo.co.uk for more information.

Coffee & Talk

Thursday, Nov. 3, 11:30 AM

Markthalle

Starting in November, the first Thursday of each month the Walk & Talk group will stop by Markthalle for coffee at 11:30AM. Meet them just outside the main doors. Interested and new members are very welcome!

CHARITY CORNER

Tierschutz beider Basel

Lyndsay Obbarius, Vice President

Welcome back to our charity corner! Last month we gave you some background on the Tierschutz beider Basel, our local charity for this season. If you missed it in that edition, have a look around their website (in German) here: <http://www.tbb.ch/> or even better, stop by and have a look around the shelter to really see all of the animals that we can help to have quality shelter lives and eventually find a forever home.

Over this club season we will have a lot of exciting and fun ways that you can get involved and help us to raise money and volunteer your time. We will continue to explain the volunteering opportunities through various channels as they approach. For now, have a look below at some of the ways you can already get involved:

Volunteer dog walking

This is open to friends and family of the club as well. There is a preparatory class required before you can begin to walk the dogs. The class is held in German, but if we have enough interest, we can get a special session done in English.

The next class will be held at the shelter (Tramstrasse 66, Gebäude D 29 4142 Münchenstein) on Tuesday 29 November from 18:00 – 19:45.

If you would like to get involved in this opportunity, please register at the following link (and also please indicate you are AWC affiliated): <http://www.tbb.ch/index.php?id=223>

Christmas Market gourmet dog treat stand & cooking sessions

The shelter will be holding their annual Christmas Market this year on Friday, November 25 from 16:00 – 21:00. AWC will have a sponsored booth to sell gourmet dog and cat treats and we will be donating our proceeds to the shelter. We are looking for volunteers to:

- Prepare the treats during a few cooking sessions in November. If you have any recipes you already use or have made in the past, would like to offer to host and let people come to cook at your place or would like to cook at one of the sessions.

- Attend the Market and help to run the booth during the opening hours

If you are interested in getting involved with any of the above, please send an email to: lgobbarius@yahoo.com or call Lyndsay at 076 251 50 51 with the role you would like and your availability.

Volunteer to nurse motherless kittens and hedgehogs

The shelter is looking for reliable helpers during the first few weeks of motherless hedgehogs' or cats' lives for around six weeks in order to take care of their breeding & nursing.

Kittens feed in their first fourteen days during the day and at night every two hours. Hedgehog pups feed in their first fourteen life days eight times during the day and at twice at night.

The animals need to be in a quiet and warm environment for optimal development. If you want to take a responsible role you will receive all the necessary information, as well as the relevant instructions.

Interested? Then please fill out the form at: <http://www.tbb.ch/index.php?id=359>. The shelter will then contact you.

Open House 2016

Back in September many of the board members went out to support the shelter during their open house afternoon. We enjoyed a lovely lunch, browsed the small market, walked through the shelter and made personal donations to the shelter.

Please consider stopping by and showing your support at any time during their opening hours.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address

Tramstrasse 66, Gebäude D 29
4142 Münchenstein

Hours

Monday through Saturday:
8:00 - 12:00 & 13:30 - 17:45

Phone

0900 787 820

Website

www.tbb.ch

AWC Contact

Lyndsay Obbarius
lgobbarius@yahoo.com

LIBRARY LIAISON

Basel West Library News & Events

Nicole Scoles, Library Liaison

Storytime Series

Thursdays 15:30-16:30

Ages 3 - 8 years

Thursday afternoons English storytellers invite you to bring your friends and discover new ways to celebrate literature. Three storytellers will rotate the months of October-February. Participation is always free of charge and no registration is required.

Book a Trip around the World (Storytime Series)

Oct. 20, Nov. 17, and Dec. 15 at 15:30 - 16:30

Explore folktales and fables from different continents of the world. A cultural experience with stories, music, crafts and friends.

Tall Tales (Storytime Series)

Oct. 27, Dec. 1
15:30 - 16:30

A mixture of fanciful stories, goofy rhymes and silly songs, these story sessions will aim to spark imaginative flights of fancy and lots of giggles – perfect for those winter afternoons! We'll finish each session with a craft for the children to complete and take home.

Bookworms Toddler Tales

Tuesday, Oct. 25 10:15 - 10:45

Ages 9 months - 4 years

Toddler Tales will engage young listeners as they discover the wonderful world of books and the fun of language.

Each session is designed around a theme and includes an interactive exploration of classic stories, songs and rhymes in English, as well as a simple craft related to the overall theme for the children to complete and take home. Participation is free of charge and no registration is required.

Writing with an Audience

Writing Workshop for fiction & nonfiction

Begins Oct. 25

Tuesdays 19:15 - 20:45

An English workshop with 8-10 participants. Last Tuesday of the month, six sessions.

Whether writing a story or a how-to guide, reading aloud helps you refine your work. In this workshop, writers will support each other by reading with a coach and sympathetic audience (other workshop

participants).

Instructor/Writing coach Carol Leininger, PhD in Rhetoric and Professional Communication, has taught writing and worked in international communication. Like many writers, she finds finishing a document hard, so she researched ways to progress. Carol now coaches herself and many other writers to start and finish projects.

Participants can expect to read every second meeting and to discuss with coach by email. Material fee for Basel West Library 90 CHF. Tea, coffee or mineral water included.

Contact & sign up: cleinin52@yahoo.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION

GGG Stadtbibliothek West

Address

Allschwilerstrasse 90, 4055 Basel

Website

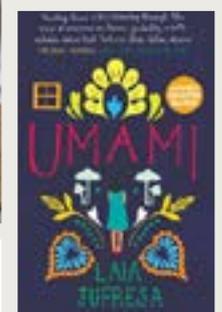
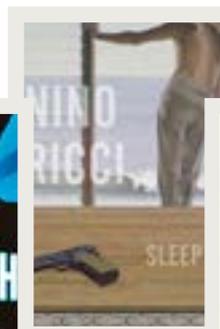
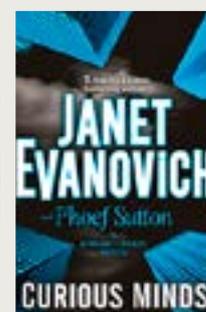
www.stadtbibliothekbasel.ch

AWC Contact

Nicole Scoles, Librarian

librarian.awc@gmail.com

New Books at Basel West

Sweet Tomorrows by Debbie Macomber**Curious Minds** by Janet Evanovich and Phoebe Sutton**Sleep** by Nino Ricci**Umami** by Laia Jufresa

FAWCO UPDATE

2017 Biennial Conference

Elisabeth von Sachse, FAWCO Representative



The Butterfly symbolizes personal transformation...from her cocoon the butterfly emerges in her unfurling glory. A symbol of grace and tenderness, she brings the awareness and energy of another way of being.

The Woman Warrior is the symbol of strength, wisdom and passion. She is autonomous, independent, strong-willed and powerful!

The bold colors of the wings represent the global effort to bring change.

Learn • Reach • Shine

...are words that speak to the overarching theme of the **FAWCO Target Program for 2016-2019**: Education - Empowering Women and Girls through Knowledge and Skills.

These are our goals for the 2017 Biennial Conference.

The first FAWCO Biennial Conference ever to be held in Region 11 will be hosted by the **American Women's Club of Mumbai (AWCM) in March 2017**.

Our hosts are planning some wonderful tours and dinners to introduce delegates to exotic Mumbai and India. On the occasion of The FAWCO Foundation's 50th anniversary, Foundation Night "fun"raising is sure to reach new levels.

Along with the fun, there will be much to cover during the four day conference, including:

- FAWCO's Annual General Meeting
- The announcement of the next Target Project
- International and local guest speakers
- Workshops and sessions on club, UN, global, US issues and FAUSA
- The FAWCO Foundation updates and announcement of the 2017 Development Grant and Education Award recipients
- Catching FAWCO Fever!

Any AWC member can attend the FAWCO Biennial Conference, and AWC Basel can provide a stipend to cover some expenses for a representative. **To find out more, please contact AWC Basel FAWCO representative Elisabeth von Sachse at fawco.awc@gmail.com.**



COMMUNITY

Dear Gabby

Every month “Gabby”, a secret AWC volunteer, will anonymously answer your questions regarding life in Basel (or really any subject). Please send your questions to Gabby at deargabby.awc@gmail.com and look for her advice in the next edition of Rhine Times!

Dear Gabby,

I've lived in Basel for about three years. When I first arrived from Texas, I was shocked to see so much drinking going on in Basel, and in the middle of the day no less! We do not partake very often, so this was a bit shocking to myself and my husband. After all the stress of moving, sorting out our lives, the kids, school, etc., I'm finding I am partaking a bit more than I ever have before. Now I have a Prosecco before lunch, sometimes two! I don't even want to talk about what happens when my husband is away. Is there something wrong with me?

Pondering Penny

Dear Miss Penny,

Po-tay-to, Po-tah-to, Prosecco. It's all in the eye of the beholder. Europeans don't look at drinking as such a taboo as Americans. They are raised with a little wine with dinner, a sip of champagne for special events, or even some alcoholic cider or beer on a hot day. They don't wait for this magical day of turning 21, so they can drink legally.

The stress of living here can take its toll, and I can say from personal experience that “Happy Hour” was getting a bit too happy for awhile! So, instead of drinking alone and being sad or stressed, I decided to try the AWC wine tasting event. I learned so much about wines. For example, wine doesn't have to come in a box! Who knew? The best part? I made some new friends!

So, no one is going to look down on you for having a glass of Prosecco with lunch or before dinner. Now, if you can't remember where you left your kids, or if you have any, then you might want to rethink that.

Yours truly,

Gabby