

## Reflections on our October 18-25<sup>th</sup> visit to the Semjase-Silver-Star-Center

Well, this was a bit of a big event for us reluctant travellers. Michael and I had not been to the SSSC since BC (before Covid) in 2018. It is also the first time we've gone in the fall, as usually we'd go for the annual passive member's meeting which is held in late May.

We stayed at the Gasthaus zum Freihof, aka, the Freihof, which has been the go-to place if one wanted to stay within walking distance of the SSSC. There is no other place around there that is within walking distance, unfortunately. It's also been great because one can get to the Freihof by public train and bus, straight from the airport in about an hour, thus no need to rent a car.

Here's a couple of pics.



In the past one would often see Billy sitting there at the table Michael is at, having a 'Kaffeepause' with various KG49 members.



Also in the early days, Michael remembers attending the annual passive member meetings in the upstairs dining hall of the Freihof. Below are a couple of snaps of that dining hall now, and a couple of pics of photos that Michael had in his photo album back from a 1992 passive member's meeting there. Sorry for the poor resolution. The fellow at the podium, in the red sweater is Guido Moosbrugger.



As it turns out, we were the second to last guests to stay there as the family that has run the Freihof for decades is now retiring and rented it out to a young couple as of November 1<sup>st</sup>. Our hosts informed us that their new tenants are not going to be running it as a guest house any longer, however, hope springs eternal and perhaps they'll change their minds.

Apparently, this past summer in Switzerland had been one of the wettest on record for a very long time. The gardens were sopping and didn't do so well. Nor did the road that runs from the Freihof down to the Centre. A big washout now prevents any car traffic from getting to the SSSC from that direction. Fortunately, there is another road in, which is a few kilometres around the hills that approaches from the opposite side; a bit of an inconvenience. Who knows when the Canton will get around to fixing it; it has been like that for some time.



We timed our trip so we'd be able to partake in the Peace Meditation with the core group. We flew on Friday and arrived Saturday morning of the PM...we were pretty exhausted, napped for a while, went for dinner at the Centre, where we could eat in the little visitors room that is just off of the kitchen, where people come to buy books and meet with Core Group members. The new security rules no longer allow non-Core group members to enter into the kitchen area.

Pius Keller sat with us for a while, then Mark Leaver, the CG member from the US, joined us in the visitors room and caught us up on some of the tasks he's volunteered himself for... one of which is organising all the books and booklets of various kinds, and making alphabetical lists, etc. A big job! But it does make it easier for the purchasing transactions for the buyers and the members who go collect these orders.

Here's Mark in that room, showing us some stuff. This room has a big desk with a Plexiglass divider in the middle where members can meet with visitors a little more safely, health wise.



Then we attended the two Saturday peace meditations at 7:30 and 9:00pm.

At the end of one of them Christian snapped this picture of us beside KG49 mbr Kunio Uchida in the meeting room, that is located upstairs in the building beside the main house.

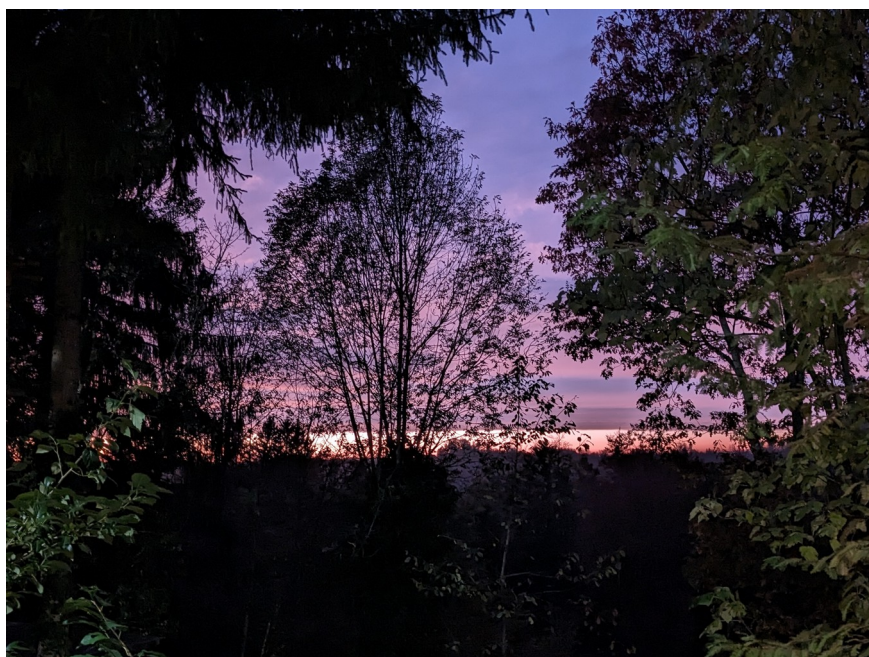


In between meditations we sat in the outdoor covered eating area and chatted with some fellow passive members from neighbouring areas/ countries, etc., who'd come to do some volunteering and to attend the PM. Here is our Belgian friend, Eddy Erna.



While sitting there we saw Billy for the first time as he walked by at a fast clip, to join the group at their meeting. At first glance, he'd lost weight since we'd last seen him six years ago. Then later while we assembled at the door to the hall for the 2<sup>nd</sup> meditation Billy came out the door and made quick eye contact with us and continued on his way back to the house.

That first evening we also caught this nice sunset...the clouds in the distance look like an ocean beyond the trees.



The next morning, Sunday, was a foggy one, here's the view out our window.

Also, that morning, a Dutch friend of ours, who's a new Core group member who'd been there for the Saturday meeting and peace meditations, joined us for breakfast before he headed back to his home in Germany. Nice to do some catching up in person.

Then we had another peace meditation to look forward to in the evening and had the balance of the day to continue the jet lag recovery and did a bit of a walk about.

Some things that stood out as being different this time, were the new security gates positioned in many places where previously one could walk freely....now one would need a key to get through. Additionally, the security cameras, estimated to be about 27 of them, and motion activated lights, were new. The lights really light up the place at night, and that takes away from the quiet-viewing of the skies should one wish to. Though 'quiet' is a bit of a misnomer given the non-stop flight traffic, in and out of Zurich, overhead. Here are some snaps from the walk around:





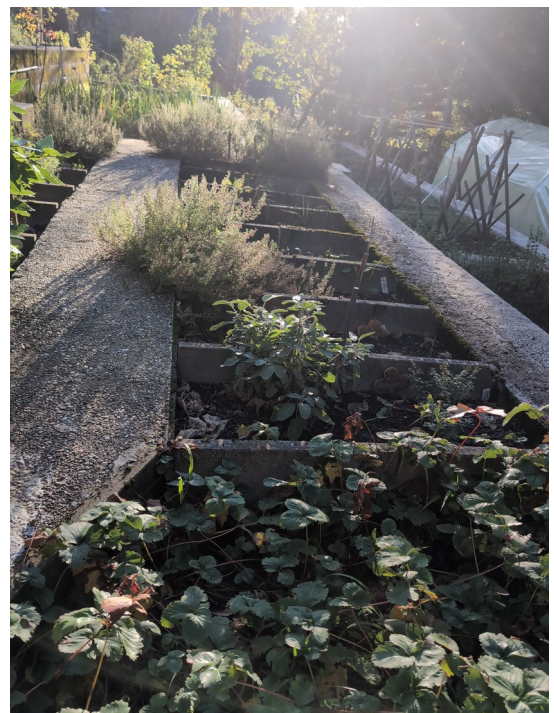
As well, given that Sunday is their 'visitors day' it's also the day we could make our book purchases. Madeleine Brügger and Kristina Gollman helped us with that

In many places, as well as in [Contact 899](#) of October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024...the subject of Billy's father, who was a boot and shoe maker came up... "Quetzal: ...but you also learnt shoemaking to a large extent from your father, who was a trained cobbler. You keep the shoemaking machine from back then in a display case outside the front door."

Here's a couple of snaps of that.



The next day, Monday was one of two days we set aside to do some volunteer work... i set to work in the garden, first trimming the tomatoes in the greenhouse then the never ending Unkrautjäten (weed pulling) among the remaining rows of salad greens. Daniela Beyeler joined me in the afternoon and we did some nice catching up including talking about the recent and sudden loss of long time KG49 member Karin Wallén.







Kunio brought Michael over to help with leaf raking on the other side of the house. While Michael was there Billy came out to say hello to him, keeping some distance... you can read more about that visit in Michael's report entitled: 'Raking Leaves at the SSSC'. I was so happy to hear that Billy came out to see how Michael was doing, given the harrowing health issues Michael had had last year. Michael's known Billy since he first visited the SSSC in 1992, they've had many interactions over those intervening years.

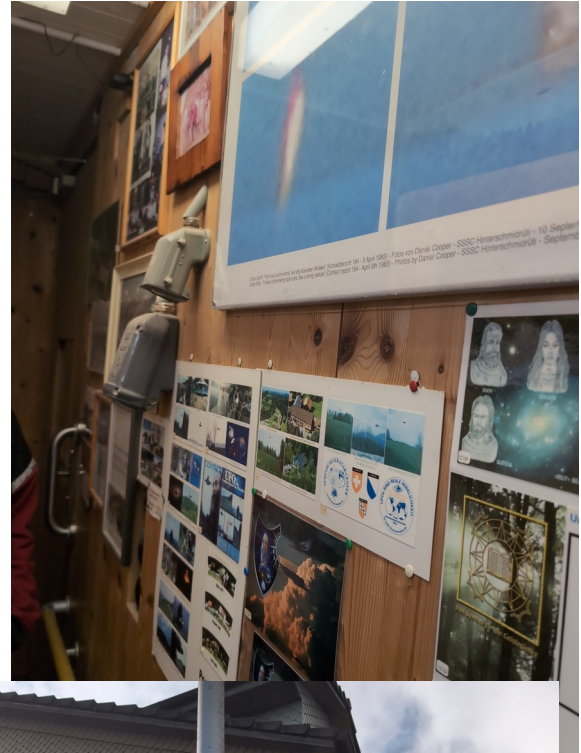
Here's a couple of snaps of the raking crew: Kunio Uchida and another visiting passive member from the Landesgruppe in Germany, Stefan Anderl.



Lunch in the outdoor gazebo area.



That evening we had some more visiting and conversations with various core group members including Karen Meier, Atlantis Meier, Barbara Harnisch, Andreas Schubiger and Daniela Beyeler. Here are a couple of snaps of the wall outside the kitchen that is lined with various FIGU groups around the world and other pics. The FIGU Canada Landesgruppe is terribly dated and faded, time for an update!



The next day, Tuesday, we went for a walk out the other road from the SSSC over to Sitzberg. It's got a moderate hill one can climb for a nice vista... here are some snaps from that day. The pic with the signs going every which way feature the times in 'walking' time.

Note the sign for Sadelegg, where the 'X Files' pic of Billy's was taken is on there, although it's spelled Sedelegg in the sign.





Later on, back at the Centre, we bumped into Mark Leaver again, and he showed us the other giant task he's taken on: apparently when Sfath's twin brother, Safaar, visited he commented that all the young trees had the wrong sized supporting poles, and the rope holding them was too thick, and he recommended that they all be pulled out and replaced with much thinner supporting poles and thinner twine, that was more 'slippery'. Pictured here is a wheel barrow with some of the thicker posts and the old rope. Mark holds one of the sticks he's replacing the posts with.... there are thousands of trees to have this done. Undoing all the work that Pius Keller did! Oh my!



PS, you can't quite see it, but the shirt Mark's wearing is pretty funny: it features a caterpillar and a butterfly sitting at a table, with the butterfly exclaiming: "You've changed" and the butterfly replying "We're supposed to" ...quite apropos... don't we often catch ourselves wishing things would stay the same [like, e.g. someone here wishing the Freihof wouldn't change, ha ha] when time marches relentlessly on and change is what Creation is all about!

One cannot go to the SSSC without making the climb up the '77 steps' up to the red bench at the top of the hill above the Centre where more great vistas await, and also a nice field behind that takes one to the ring road (locked gate though) that goes around from Schmidrüti (the Freihof) to Sitzberg where we were earlier... Michael wasn't too sure if he could manage another hill, but he did it!



The next day, Wednesday, was our 2<sup>nd</sup> workday. It was another cloudy day, here's a nice pic of the sheep who were in the field beside the road as we walked from the Freihof to the Centre. More leaf collecting was in store, no shortage of those! Michael and I worked together on the main sidewalk that we walked in on from the direction of the Freihof.



That day Christian was doing some work around the place, replacing birdhouses that he'd taken down for cleaning, repair and repainting.

That evening we had a long meeting with Christian; Michael goes into more detail about our long and helpful discussion with CF in his article in this NL entitled: ‘Meeting With Christian Frehner’. As Michael also notes, we’d brought along a letter for Billy, with hand-drawn illustrations, from the 9-year-old daughter, Glora, of one of our FIGU friends, who was in Canada but has moved back to China. Given that one never knows if, or when, they will bump into Billy and if one will have much time with him, we thought it safest to give it to Christian who would give it to Billy as they meet regularly. Here is Christian holding Glora’s letter up against the glass. We wanted to prove to her that we’d brought it to Switzerland, hence this pic, lol.

name: top SECRET...

Pataah Quezäl Samjase Billy

To: Pataah

Hello, my name is Glora and I am ten: Oh and can we meet? (please send this note back to earth and give a SALVATOR thanks)

To: Quezäl

Hi I wonder if maybe we can meet please!

To: Samjase

Can we please meet? Oh and I really wanna learn Spiritual teaching... (love I can't read German)

To: Billy

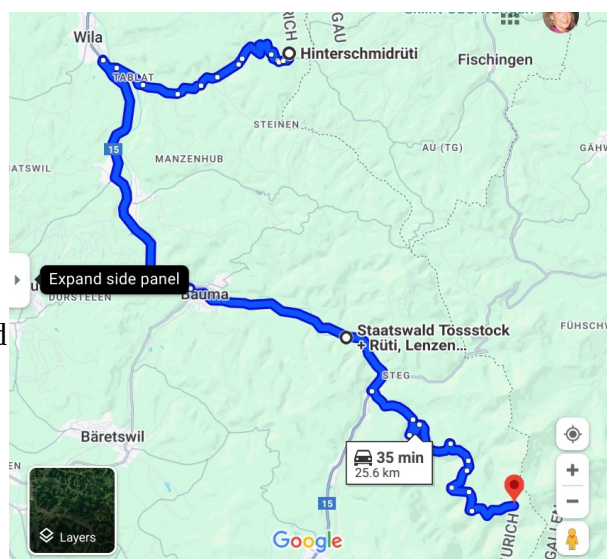
I'm very glad I can write to you! Oh and can you please send this message to Pataah, Quezäl Samjase: thank you very much! ok?

from: Glora 10



The next day, Thursday, was our last full day in Switzerland, we’d arranged a little outing with our old friend Willem Mondria, a fellow Canadian who now lives nearby the SSSC in Turbenthal.

He’d been a part of the FIGU Canadian Study group in the early 2000’s. We’d arranged to go for a walk, somewhere of his choosing and we’d take him for lunch. We first took a 20-minute drive to a lovely area called Staatswald Tösstock-Rüti, one of the Swiss national forests. It was a beautiful walk alongside the Töss River with waterfalls, and such. There was an exhibit that displayed various kinds of trees that have been harvested there. Some pics from that walk:







After that walk we headed up the Schnebelhorn mountain, which is the highest peak in the Canton of Zurich, at 4,239 feet above sea level, to a restaurant called [Alpwirtschaft Tierhag](#), [see the red marker on the map on previous page]. Normally it would have a great view but we were in a cloud at the time so we could really only see across to another little peak nearby, it looked like a little island floating in the sky.



Back at SSSC that evening we had a nice supper and a lot of our friends came to say goodbye. Eva gifted us about 5 books from her son, Atlant, who is a famous children's book author in Switzerland featuring his character Globi. We were chatting with Mark, and then suddenly there was Billy! He'd come to greet us and say goodbye and wish us a good trip home. We thanked him both for that AND for all the work he does for humanity. He hoped that Michael would keep his good health and we wished him the same. We told him about Glora's letter and her wish to meet Semjase, to which he replied quite seriously saying that that wouldn't be possible as Semjase is still either in the Dal or the Ankar Universe!

And so, that was a nice ending to our last day in SSSC. We headed back to the Freihof to pack our bags for our early morning trip home.

A couple of miscellaneous pics. Mark Leaver had located a fabulous set of Tree of Life/ 'Peace sign' based cutlery, he bought a set for the Centre, here's a spoon. Pretty cool. Below, stairs that go up the hill opposite the Centre with the the display of the Semjase-tree that Billy had shot a hole through with Menara's old laser pistol back in 1977.



As we walked out, past Bernadette Brand's place/room, she came out to wish us well, and shared some pics of her son Natan (and his family) who'd visited us in Toronto back around the year 2007 or so. She gifted us with the wonderful 2025 SSSC calendar that she produces every year.

And so, that was it, many warm conversations and heartfelt reunions with our KG49 friends. Who knows if or when we'll get back there. What is most important is that the knowledge and wisdom within the Creation-energy Teaching that Billy has brought

Below: evening falling on the Centre as we leave, lights coming on:



to or attention anew, gets out to the world. And that cannot be done without all the hard work being done by the Core Group of 49 and all the helpers from around the world. This is something we're proud to be a part of.

Catherine and Michael