

IMCZNEWS



MAY 2009

EDITOR'S SUBTEXT

Integration Leads to Participation

On 7 May 2009 the IMCZ held yet another New Members Reception, its third, attended by some 50 members and at which President David LeBow announced that since the last NMR on 16 October 2008 more than 40 men had joined the Club. Thanks and congratulations go out to those gentlemen who have elected to join our ranks, as well as to those standing members who came out to meet and greet them.

As written in our constitution, "The principal objects of the Club are to foster fellowship and to promote friendly relations, social activities and business interests among English-speaking residents and organizations in the Zug area." The IMCZ makes pronounced appeal to men who use English as a common language, particularly because so many of our members do not originate from Zug, or even Switzerland. That neither diminishes nor overlooks the polyglot capability of the considerable Swiss guard within the Club; many have spent considerable time outside their home country, or are continually meeting foreigners who travel here, and for reasons of necessity and pleasure have acquired skill with English.

Nevertheless the broader population in this general geographic area is largely German-speaking, and our new members face the challenge of eventually being able to say "chuechichästli" without breaking into a fit of coughing or losing their tonsils outright.

The IMCZ has and takes on a certain integrative role here in Zug, providing a forum for fellows to begin establishing a network when they first arrive, should they come from elsewhere, or as veteran members to remain in contact with friends or acquaintances perhaps met for the first time at a Club event many years ago. The Stammtisch, maybe the first German word some of our members learn (it's easy to learn if it goes along with beer, right?), is in fact our form of a weekly integration exercise, as new faces become familiar ones, and conversations progress beyond shoptalk to the sights seen on the weekend and the amazing progress the children are making in local schools.

Recently on a somewhat broader scale, an event took place that does not recur with the same frequency: Ed and Melanie McGaugh held the second Expat Expo in Zug on Sunday, 26 April in the Lorzensaal in Cham (an announcement was made here). Some 80 companies and organizations exhibited, including the IMCZ, promoting their products, services, or simply their presence to expo visitors, who could find a wide range of availabilities from childcare or relocation services, to financial advice, English cheese, or organizations that might help them

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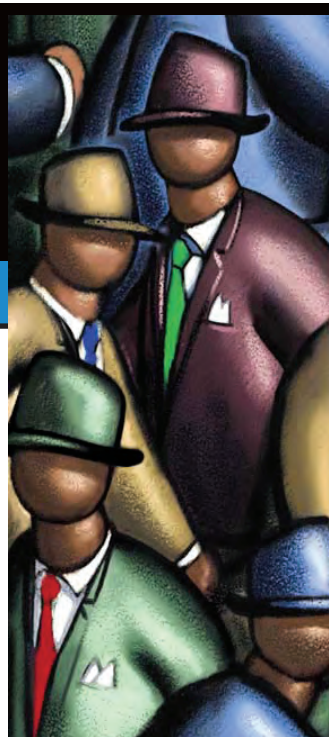
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REMEMBER

"The Stammtisch"
every Thursday evening
18:00 – 20:00.

Join us at the
Park Hotel in Zug.
We are now in the
Walchwileraal!

IMCZ

Introducing...new members

THE IMCZ WELCOMES:

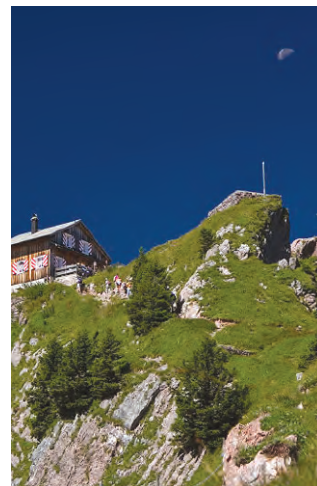
Mike Roesinger is CEO of Curata Holding. He speaks English, German, and French. He has a 18.9 golf handicap and heard about us from the Parkhotel website.

Max Leyherr comes from Germany. His interests include mountaineering, sailing, badminton and golf. He speaks German, English, and French.

Craig Chalk is an Australian who enjoys adventure sports, and engineering. He found out about IMCZ at the Expat Expo.

future events

- MAY 23RD: Leibstadt NPS Visit
- MAY 29TH: ZIWC/IMCZ TGIF and Dining Out
- JUNE 2ND: ZIWC Spring Book Sale
- JUNE 4TH: First Thursday: Migration Advisory Office
- JUNE 6TH: ZIWC Dining Out
- JUNE 19TH: ZIWC/IMCZ TGIF and Dining Out
- JUNE 14TH/13TH: Hike on Gross Mythen
- JUNE 15TH: IMCZ/ZIWC Bowling
- JUNE 17TH: ZIWC/IMCZ Joint Board Meeting
- JUNE 19TH-21ST: FASC/IMCZ Gstaad Weekend
- JUNE 26TH: ZIWC Midsummer's Night Party
- JULY 20TH: IMCZ/ZIWC Bowling
- AUGUST 17TH: IMCZ/ZIWC Bowling
- AUGUST 23RD: IMCZ 30th Anniversary Event
- SEPTEMBER 5TH: ZIWC Family Brunch Hof Maercht





feel a bit more at home if they'd come to Switzerland from abroad, or international and cosmopolitan if they'd lived several decades in Cham.

The one-day event was lively, but beginnings were modest. To quote swissinfo.ch, "When Ed and his wife Melanie started the Expat Expo in 2006 there were only around 40 exhibitors in a communal hall in Zurich.



Work has spread. This year, five expos will be held around the country, including in Geneva and Zurich. Ed and Melanie are expecting around 13,000 people and around 300 companies to attend the events.

Some, such as international schools and coaching services, help foreigners integrate more easily."

Ed and Melanie McGaugh are already planning the next Expat Expo for Zug, and plan to work more with local cantonal authorities to expand their Expos in the future. The idea is most definitely not to encapsulate the English-speaking community, but to foster and cultivate the interface.

Along these lines the IMCZ has invited the Fachstelle Migration (Migration Advisory Office) of Canton Zug to come and speak to our members at the next First Thursday Stammtisch on 4 June 2009. In its own words, the Fachstelle offers "... a wide variety of advisory services and information to all migrants with official residence status as well as to the Swiss living in the Canton.

Persons in search of advice as well as persons who have recently moved to the Canton Zug are informed and advised about general questions concerning working, studying and living in Switzerland. For more complicated matters, we are happy to refer you to our own consultants, corresponding institutions or specialists."

Among topics about which the Migration Advisory Office offers support are: social insurance, foreigners' rights, tenant-rights, labour law, unemployment, education, schools and language courses, health, family matters or returning to one's country of origin. In case of problems with employers, government agencies or institutions, some assistance can be provided.

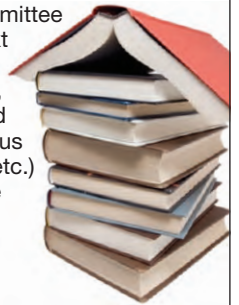
The Office provides a range of services for nominal fees. Indeed it can be a great relief to area residents to find a representative local office that helps navigate some of the issues encountered by newcomers, especially if the local language still presents a hurdle. So mark your calendar.

What is the upshot of all this effort at integration? The result, in the long run, is that people should be and feel comfortable living here, that "chuechichästli" is no longer daunting, and that beyond just admiring the scenery and enjoying the standard of living, people will look for – and find – ways that they can contribute through their expertise, their experience or their fine and good nature. Maybe they'll start right here in the IMCZ.

Andrew DeBoo
IMCZ Vice President and Newsletter Editor

ZIWC Spring Book sale

It's that time of year again. The Hospitality Committee and the Library Committee are planning the next Spring Book sale. Come one, come all! Everyone is welcome - ZIWC & IMCZ members, family – spouse/partners, friends, neighbors and colleagues. We sell good English books in various categories (novels, crime, adventure, romance etc.) for only CHF 1,- per book! The proceeds of the sale will be used to buy English books for the Stadtbibliothek (www.bibliothekzug.ch).



- Date:** Tuesday, June 2, 2009
- Time:** 18.00 - 21.00 h
- Venue:** Pfarreiheim in Cham
- Cost:** Entry is free; book purchases paid by attendees.
- Contact:** Library Committee; Annemarie Bos
Oberaegeri
Tel 041 7508405
annemarie.bos@tic.ch

Booking deadline: no deadline! Just show up and buy books!

The Hospitality Committee will serve a small apéro, so you can meet other booklovers and sit down at a table to discuss the treasures you've found.

We are collecting good quality English books for re-sale. There are 4 addresses in Canton Zug where you can drop off your good quality English books and make room for the new books you can buy at the book sale. Mail or call Annemarie (see above) for the telephone numbers.

As always, we need volunteers to help transport the books and set up the book sale. Big, strong men are very welcome! Be a sport and help a good cause. We have sorted out our storage room and we'll have fewer, but better quality books.

Let us know (call Annemarie) if you are willing to help. Of, if you have some time left June 2nd in the afternoon or the evening, please come and help us set up, sell or break down the book sale.



PRESIDENT David LeBow 041 727 1986 President@IMCZ.com	VICE PRESIDENT / NEWSLETTER Andrew DeBoo 041 760 1180 Vice-President@IMCZ.com	SECRETARY Muthana Kubba 041 748 0080 Secretary@IMCZ.com	TREASURER John Henry Smith 041 781 3601 Treasurer@IMCZ.com
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ZIWC/IMCZ Dinner and Movie

an *Italian Adventure*... join us for dinner and a movie -- Angels & Demons!

Angels & Demons stars Tom Hanks in the movie adaption of Dan Brown's book of the same name. If you liked DaVinci Code, you may enjoy this movie as well.

<http://movies.yahoo.com/movie/1809951159/info>

- Date:** Saturday, May 23, 2009
- Time:** Dinner, 18.00 h • Movie, 20.15 h
- Venue:** **Dinner**, Puccini Ristorante & Bar, Vorstadt 26, 6300 Zug, www.puccini.ch
Movie, Seehof Kino Zug, www.kinozug.ch
- Cost:** Dinner and drinks à la carte
Movie, CHF 15 per person/per ticket
- Contact:** Gerie Servi at letsgo@ziwc.ch

Booking deadline: Please RSVP (respond) by Monday, May 18th so we can reserve enough seats at dinner and get good seats at the movie. If you respond after the 18th, we cannot guarantee you a seat with the group.

When responding, please note: **DINNER & MOVIE** or **MOVIE** Only. Friends and family are welcome.

We will purchase the Movie Tickets as a Group so please tell us exactly how many tickets you would like. Payment will be due in CASH the night of the event. Please kindly bring exact change.

ZIWC cancellation policy applies to movie tickets once you confirm participation/attendance. Many thanks to Nicole Buehler for this suggestion and willingness to lead the evening.

ZIWC Dining Out

Greek Bouzoukia Evening – if you liked the sound of kalispera with Kalifidis, then you'll love this! Open to all ZIWC, IMCZ members and partners.

- Date:** Saturday, 6 June 2009
- Time:** 18.30 h
- Venue:** Gemeindesaal Ballwil
Gemeinde Ballwil, Ambar 2, 6275 Ballwil
Tel 041 449 55 20 • Fax 041 449 55 39
[location map](#)
- Cost:** CHF 75 per person includes dinner, drinks & live entertainment
- Contact:** Gerie Servi at letsgo@ziwc.ch
- Booking deadline:** Waitlist available but not guaranteed. Please register now. ZIWC cancellation policy applies.



ZIWC IMCZ TGIF AND DINING OUT THANK GOD IT'S FRIDAY!

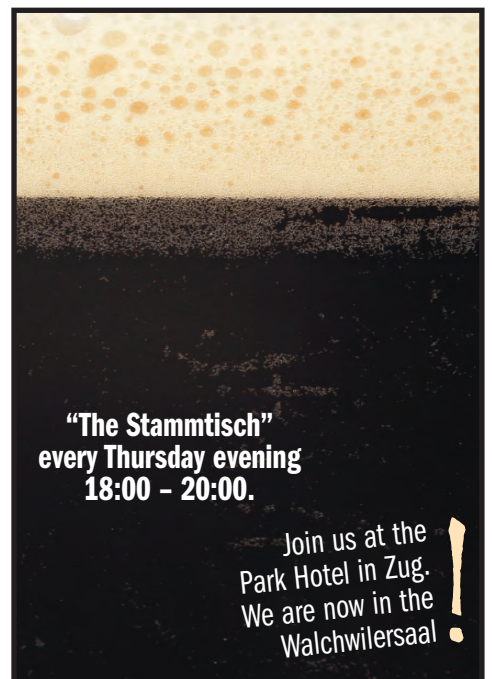
(The gentlemen whistle and clap.)

Two events...One Memorable Night!
After a long week, let's us all get together to have some fun! Set your weekend off to a great start with a drink or two with some good friends and a meal at the fantastic Restaurant Bar Neumühle in Baar. Enjoy great atmosphere and pleasant company at this popular bar and restaurant.

Open to all ZIWC, IMCZ members and partners.

- Date:** Friday, 29 May 2009
- Time:** 18:00 Drinks only
20.00 Dinner
Choice is yours: drinks only, dinner only or both.
- Venue:** Restaurant Bar Neumühle
Bahnhofstrasse 9, 6340 Baar
(directly in front of the Baar railway station)
- Cost:** Members cover their own drinks and meals.
- Contact:** Gerie Servi at letsgo@ziwc.ch
- Booking Deadline:** Contact Gerie by Monday, May 25th if you wish to attend. Please indicate if you are interested in having dinner so we can book tables accordingly.

Special thanks to Ruth Derbyshire-Moore for this suggestion.



"The Stammtisch"
every Thursday evening
18:00 – 20:00.

Join us at the
Park Hotel in Zug.
We are now in the
Walchwilersaal !



ZIWC IMCZ TGIF AND DINING OUT THANK GOD IT'S FRIDAY!

(The gentlemen whistle and clap.)

After a long week, let's us all get together to have some fun! Celebrate the end of the week by the lake with a drink at the Schiff Bar in Zug. Enjoy a lakeside atmosphere, pleasant company and drinks at this popular meeting place.

Open to all ZIWC, IMCZ members and partners.

Date: Friday, 19 June 2009

Time: 19.00 h

Venue: Schiff Bar Zug (directly in front of the Zugersee)

Cost: Members cover their own drinks and meals.

Contact: Gerie Servi at letsgo@ziwc.ch

Booking Deadline: Contact Gerie by Wednesday 17th June if you wish to attend.



Midsummer's Night Party!

Put your dancing shoes on and come and join us at the Chollerhalle in Zug in June for a night of music, dancing, cocktails and frivolity. Relive the youthful, colourful era of the 70's and 80's and dance the night away. All ZIWC, IMCZ members and their partners are welcome, as are guests.

Date: Friday, June 26, 2009

Time: 19.00 h

Venue: Chollerhalle Zug; between Zug and Cham at Chamerstrasse 177. See www.chollerhalle.ch for further infos. You can reach it easily with public transport – just take the S1 to the tram stop “Chollerhalle” and you are there.

Cost: CHF 55.- for members, CHF 65.- for non-members and guests

Contact: Linda Stäger, party@ziwc.ch to sign up and reserve your places. Tel: 041 750 0892 or 079 869 9100

Booking deadline: Friday, June 19, 2009. Normal ZIWC cancellation policy applies.

There will be a wonderful DJ to create some hot sounds, a welcome cocktail, a dance floor, a scrumptious dinner buffet, and a fabulous dance show from some young dancers and lots more.

We are looking forward to seeing all you dancing queens and kings there. And for those who don't wish to dance – the Chollerhalle has a great bar and there is ample space to have a chat and just simply catch up with friends and enjoy the evening.

The Party Committee 2009 is looking forward to being your hosts for the night – Nicole, Alexandra, Anita and Linda. Bis bald!




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„The Zug Post“

LOCAL ONLINE NEWS IN ENGLISH
MONDAY TO FRIDAY

WWW.THEZUGPOST.CH

Meat and Cancer – Should We Worry?

Contributed by IMCZ member
Remo P. Jutzeler van Wijlen, Head R&D
Sponser Sports Food Ing. Appl Food
Sciences, MAS Nutrition & Health ETHZ

Meat is regularly accused of being a direct cause of cancer. Recently, the largest prospective population study on over half a million people has been published with the conclusion that red and processed meat intakes were associated with modest increases in total, cancer, and CVD (cardiovascular disease) mortality. Closer examination of the study reveals that “modest” refers to an increased risk of somewhere between +11% and +38%.

Considering that the total cancer death rate is usually around 0.2%, the enhanced risk seems weak to negligible rather than modest in practical terms. Furthermore, when looking at meat one should concentrate only on colon cancer, since meat intake would hardly affect the incidences of breast, lung, prostate, or pancreatic cancer, as a report of the Committee on Medical Aspects of Food (2005) concluded.

Of a dozen previous prospective studies which reported meat intake and subsequent colon cancer, only two (both from the US) found a significant association. Even in those the association was weak and only seen in people with the highest quintile of meat intake. As well as this accumulation of mostly negative prospective studies, a multinational combined report of 5 follow-up studies of vegetarians and socially matched omnivore controls (total 76 000 subjects) found the relative risk of colorectal cancer in the vegetarians to be 0.99 (indistinguishable from 1.00). Furthermore, the bunch of existing observation studies is poorly suitable for causal proof of correlations due to its retrospective nature and concomitant memory bias, as well as the long development time of cancer.

Nonetheless such studies may have contributed a great deal to public awareness of



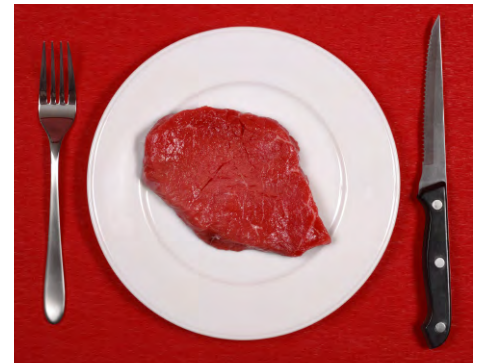
meat and cancer, as well as to the so-called publication bias. Obviously, when undertaking a study on the association of meat intake and cancer a researcher will postulate that there is a causal correlation. If the results do not prove the hypothesis, he is likely to have problems to find a willing publisher for such a “negative” study result or even be unwilling himself to publish it. Such practices may lead to the publication of only positive outcomes to a certain hypothesis and falsify the picture.

However, the outcome and the relevance of the current study on Meat Intake and Mortality is further compromised because subjects who consumed more red meat tended also to be smokers, to have a higher body mass, to be married (guess what one might conclude on that!), have a higher intake of fat and energy, have lower education, levels of physical activity and lower fruit, vegetable, fiber and vitamin intakes. And how does an increased risk of death due to injury, demonstrated for males in the study, causally fit with eating red meat? In the end there was no correlation between processed meat intake and death from injury, for either women or men. There may be something dangerous in do-it-yourself slaughtering as opposed to tame supermarket purchase.

It is possible to correct study results for various factors such as smoking and body mass. Still, also in this very study a positive association for processed meat intake and cancer mortality could be found for former/current smokers but not among people who had never smoked. Finally, there is very good evidence about the health advantages of omega-3 fatty acids, mainly occurring in fish, regarding blood lipid profile, CVD and also cancer. This may explain the stated “small decrease in total and cancer mortality” with high white meat intake, inasmuch as fish was counted as white meat in the dietary profile assessment of the study.

Along these lines it should be mentioned that cattle today exhibit disadvantageous lipid profiles due to grain concentrate feeding strategies. Cattle feeding on grass yield a very advantageous omega-3 to omega-6 fatty acids ratio. In that respect the reverse conclusion is also possible. Namely that nowadays the unhealthy fatty acid profile of “red and processed meat might fail to play a protective role against the development of cancer” rather than to promote cancer.

Whether meat is a direct cause of enhanced cancer risk or not remains uncertain. More plausible seems the role of the proven carcinogenic substances deriving from blackened



grilled meat (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons) — and from carbohydrate-containing foods and coffee for that matter (acrylamide)! Noteworthy is that red and processed meat is probably more likely to be grilled than fish and also chicken. At least the latter two are not grilled as dark as a beef steak or a cured bacon from an experienced barbecue master. This may constitute an important difference and a bias in the individual exposition to carcinogenic polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons which cannot be corrected in the statistics of a study!

Yet again, nutrition is not black and white! In a British study looking at the plasma fatty acid profiles in meat-eaters, vegetarians, and vegans it was seen that eating meat caused a much higher plasma content of CLA (conjugated linoleic acid) compared to vegetarians (-33%) and vegans (-62%). Besides, vegetarians and vegans also showed 30-60% lower consumption of the health promoting omega-3 and mono-unsaturated fatty acids.

One might claim that a healthier fatty acid profile in meat-eaters stands in contrast to the widely accepted assumption that vegetarianism constitutes a healthier regimen. Vegetarian diets are usually rich in carbohydrates and fiber. However, diets rich in protein, good fat, and lower in carbohydrates are linked to even better heart health than the so-called DASH diet (Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension). I will pick up this issue in a later column.

How this information contributes to reconsideration of the actual nutritional fat — especially of animal origin — and meat intake recommendations has still to be discussed, but it certainly cannot be neglected, and must not be equated with the predominating meat and fatty acid profile of present day nutrition.

Meat is a prime source of available iron, vitamin B12, zinc, and protein. There is of course no need to char or heavily grill meat, poultry, or fish when frying or grilling, and is generally recommended not to do so. But rather than to worry and omit meat from one’s diet, it is recommended to balance the diet with a sufficiently high intake of vegetables and salad which will provide enough antioxidants to handle carcinogenic substances from all food sources.

by IMCZ Vice President/Newsletter Editor Andrew DeBoo

Fieldwork; by Mischa Berlinski

The Reading Circle for English Language Literature Zug convened on 7 May to debate Mischa Berlinski's first novel and National Book Award Finalist, *Fieldwork*.

The title of Berlinski's novel provided ready entrance to the story and operated on multiple levels throughout the narrative. Before even glimpsing the text the reader conjures images of exotic or remote places, perhaps of scientists confronted with the real isolation of the very back of beyond, being happy to see a Coca-Cola sign, a newspaper in Roman alphabet, to smell coffee or taste plain vanilla ice cream.

When the narrator mentions his friend who headed off to Thailand after college and after two years couldn't leave, the reader is transported: lush landscape, sweltering humidity, and all that seafood. The narrator, a sometime journalist hungry for a story, meets the friend in Bangkok for dinner. The friend, Josh O'Connor, lays out the story of

Josh O'Connor being just too much a man about town to occupy himself with details, suggests to the narrator he might have a story there. The extended meal now a tableful of near-empty dishes and a gargantuan digestive challenge (Josh O'Connor is more than slightly overweight), the narrator journalist, whose name happens to be Mischa Berlinski, tenders the bill.

So the narrator's own effort to unravel and pull together the threads of Martiya van der Leun's story, her crime and her own death in a women's prison in Thailand, will be fieldwork in itself of a very nitty-gritty nature. This is fieldwork in contrast to that spoken about in the Western world at conferences by academics who also like to wear suits and dresses now and then, or written about in slim monographs sketching out theories and denouncing other interpreters, or in tomes recounting exhaustive detail, the books themselves so full and tired of their content that they seem almost relieved to gather dust in the backrooms of university libraries rather than be disturbed.

In gradual obsession the journalist narrator, buoyed financially by his girlfriend, a teacher at an international school, when he doesn't have any other work, begins stitching together the story, through long phone calls to Martiya's aunt in the Netherlands, from whom he gathers a few bits of family history. Martiya's father had been a prodigy in languages even by Dutch standards, married a native Indonesian after he had joined the foreign service, and took a position on the linguistics faculty at the University of California in Berkeley, settling there with his six-year old daughter after his wife had died at a young age.

The journalist's wish to get to the bottom of the crime drives him during a Christmas vacation back in the United States to pursue the story to Berkeley, where a former linguistics department chairman, who knew Martiya's father, suggests a conversation with his own daughter, presently living in Boston, who herself advises a contact with Martiya's college boyfriend, himself an English professor in San Francisco.

So goes the story forward, one information nugget at a time, gathered through a chain of telephone calls and e-mail messages. The narrator's swelling obsession is something to observe.

Back in Thailand, he connects via e-mail with Martiya's former dissertation advisor, Joseph Atkinson, in his time a revolutionary and renowned figure in anthropology, who had proposed that she study and conduct fieldwork among the Dyalo of northern Thailand, a remote people with no written language, of whom no scientific study yet existed. Atkinson leads the narrator to

Karen Leon, one of Martiya's old friends and also an anthropologist, and in a surprise telephone call to the journalist desperate for further clues, she reveals the name of the man her friend had killed, and that his family might not be too far from where the narrator is currently living.

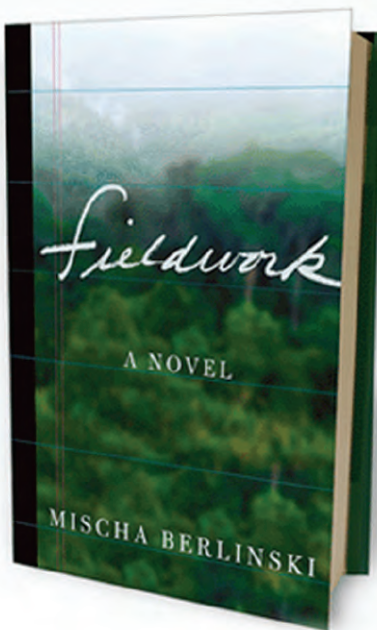
The journalist visits the victim's missionary family—his parents—and learns of the story that the Walker family tells of itself, how its evangelistic spark was struck and fanned to flame in the European trenches of World War I, leading eventually to China, where the language was mastered in order to spread the Word. The next generation of Walkers was born, and these also grew up to be missionaries, and in the growing tension of World War II the clan was expelled from China and migrated to Thailand, where they settled, and gradually began ministering to the Dyalo.

Here Berlinski presents varying approaches to this people. Martiya van der Leun wishes to study them scientifically, while the Walker family aims for conversion to Christianity. Contrary to what prejudices might be attached to religious missionaries, the Walkers make a profound study of their subject, based foremost on their grasp of the Dyalo language, which provides the key to understanding how the natives think of themselves, their dependency on the forest and their slash-and-burn cultivation of rice, the vital staple of their existence, and furthermore the hordes of ghosts, demons and spirits that do not merely haunt, but directly inhabit their world, control and confound their behavior, dictate their mores and cultivate the life of the tribe.

Martiya, on the other hand, settled among them, is at first utterly frustrated by the language, the inscrutability of their behavior, and the total lack of privacy. She is confronted with all the romanticized idealizations about fieldwork, and must hack them down like surging tropical weeds, exhausted with such petty chores as hauling water, killing bugs, washing her clothes or even her own body, making piecemeal progress toward a clear impression of these people.

Mischa Berlinski the journalist narrator receives bundles of letters photocopied by Martiya's friend Karen, through which he learns of Martiya's gradual progress toward understanding. Through them he also learns of the strictures the Dyalo sense from their many spirits, and of the Walkers' attempt to somehow relieve this tension by bringing the natives the Good News.

Martiya's total immersion becomes its own obsession, but this also yields more intimate grasp of the language, and the people's dependency on the earth, specifically on rice, and how the cultivation of this



a woman anthropologist of Dutch ancestry, a murderess, whom he had been asked by a relative to visit in a Thai prison, like a platter of sizzling, spicy delicacies.

Josh O'Connor went to the prison and visited Martiya van der Leun, delivering the inheritance sent from the Netherlands. She was not happy to see him, mistaking him first for a missionary. He left then, nearly forgetting her until roughly a year later, just weeks before the present meal, when a package was delivered to him that had come from the prison, containing two scholarly manuscripts with instructions to forward them to journals. He tried to contact her but found out she had killed herself.

A Trip to BAGHDAD

by IMCZ Secretary Muthana Kubba

...continued from page 6

crop relates to the tribe's own mating practices. The Walkers in the meantime are having some success in reasoning with the Dyalo that attending to one God who looks after all their needs can help free them from the marauding bureaucracy of spirits who lurk and chide everywhere. Scientific aloofness has long since been sacrificed, while spirituality is making its appeal to the logic of the mind.

The devoted anthropologist participates in the planting ritual, the dyal, and as men and women customarily plant together and during this period become carnal partners, Martiya gains full knowledge of what it means to sow a crop. But she falls in love, and cannot withhold from meeting her planting partner outside the time of season, and this is taboo.

The Dyalo are grasping what God can do for them, how He can oversee their world and all that is in it, making their devotions and sacrifices to myriad spirits and demons unnecessary, including an alteration of their planting and harvesting rituals.

This would make the odd pairing of men and women from different villages during planting or harvesting as formerly dictated by the spirits superfluous. Martiya's lover has a growing sense of grave, elated relief. He wishes to go and join the Christians.

This Martiya cannot bear. She sabotages the bridge the missionary must cross to reach the village, and two days after David Walker falls—surviving but immobile—she goes back and shoots him where he lay. Twice.

The narrator had meantime seen his girlfriend off home to the United States. He was too much in pursuit of this story, while she, tired of teaching snotty children, wanted to continue with the rest of her life, while her journalist boyfriend's grasp of his own motivations and goals seemed to become more elusive. Perhaps they would catch up with each other when he got home.

The friend Josh O'Connor gave word of himself again. He'd received responses, and money (!), from the two journals to which he'd sent Martiya van der Leun's scholarly papers before she killed herself. Did he think it would be possible to cash the checks?

For further information on the Reading Circle please contact Andrew DeBoo. The group's next text will be Aravind Adiga's *The White Tiger*, which won the Man Booker Prize in 2008, to be debated on Thursday, 18 June 2009 at 19.30 h at the Stadt- und Kantonsbibliothek Zug.

The material of the presentation at a special edition of the weekly *Stammtisch* on 5 March will be presented in three IMCZ News issues in installments.

Second Installment

The First Americans

The journey into town with an authorized airport taxi along the 35 Km, 6-lane airport road was, except for a checkpoint where we were waved on, uneventful. However, about halfway down the road the driver suddenly slowed down, pulled to the right and stopped completely. I was puzzled, since there was nothing to be seen anywhere. Remembering that this road used to be called the road of death, I was uneasy, but kept quiet. From a distance, I could discern some lights approaching us ever so slowly. Finally when they did arrive, I was almost blinded by their strong headlights. By the time I recovered my vision it turned out to be an American convoy of armored vehicles on its way to the airport. They were driving on the wrong side of the road and would shoot to kill if anyone or any vehicle came within 100 meters of them. Now I understood why the driver had put on the warning lights and lit the inside of the car as well.

Thinking about it, it made a lot of sense to drive on the wrong side of the motorway. If there were any IED's (Improvised Explosive Devices) they should kill an Iraqi coming home after 14 years absence, rather than them. Luckily there weren't any IED's and we arrived safely at my brother's home. The taxi's fare for the 45 km drive in the late evening was all of USD 50.-

First Impressions

Keeping in mind that Saturday is the first day of the week, I took an early morning stroll down a busy market in New Baghdad on the first day after my arrival. The kaleidoscope of people I came across was truly fascinating. You see all shades of skin color, a huge range of facial features revealing diverse ethnic and racial origins. Yet they were all Iraqis going about their daily work desperately seeking a niche where they can earn a living and feed their families. You slip through a barrier separating the bazaar from the street, someone in civilian clothes quickly frisks you to make sure you are clean and not wearing an explosive belt, and you enter a new world of its own. Kiosks galore selling everything you can possibly think of, small shops with elegant windows craftily exhibiting their merchandise be it clothes, shoes, electronics, lamps, you name it. Fair faces with fine features to very dark ones with heavy features. At least half if not more of the shoppers were women, some dressed in long formless coats with headscarves, others in more colorful dresses, without headwear. Many were in slacks just like in Europe. All were busy bargaining, examining and desperately trying to match price and purse.

One thing they all had in common was the expressions on their faces. In contrast to the faces I saw on my last visit 14 years ago, they were a happy lot, enjoying the pleasant temperatures, the warm sunshine and above all the security and safety which have steadily improved over the past 10 to 16 months. Each and every one of them had a story to tell, a story of the horror and suffering to which they were subjected during the past many years. Each and everyone was determined to keep up this newly won freedom with everything they have in their power. They would report anything suspicious or anyone acting suspiciously immediately to the authorities.



Street dog in Baghdad

07/02/2009 11:57



This was indeed very good news. Everyone I spoke to appeared to be fully aware of the fact that without security there will be no hope of a better future for them, their children or their country.

Melting in the Crowd

I was warned by several people to keep a low profile. Criminal gangs could not be ruled out yet. On the first day, a car and a driver were organized for me. I went all over the place, to the market, the bazaar, the bookshops (*there were no postcards in Baghdad, and I couldn't fulfill the promise I made to many*), everywhere. At the end of the day, I asked Ali (my driver), "Ali, do take a good look at me. Check my shoes, socks, trousers, shirt, jacket, and the way I walk and talk, can you detect anything that indicates that I have been out of the country for 31 years?" He replied, no sir, you are simply one of us. That was all I wanted to hear. From then on I melted in the crowd, not needing a car or a driver. I was taking taxis and moving around and no one took any notice of me. This is the way I wanted it. Keeping a low profile was indeed the best protection I could hope for.

Adapting to Difficult Conditions

The ability of humans to adapt has always astounded me. The people of Iraq have gone and are still going through untold and never ending hardships. In my opinion they have adapted in a most marvelous way and have proven remarkable resilience in the process.

Electrical power is supplied for approximately 8 hours a day now in wintertime. In summer it used to be supplied for less than 4 hours. This load shedding has been instigated by 13 years of the most rigorous sanctions humanity had ever known, preventing new power stations from being built, and the existing ones from being properly maintained.

Add to that the explosive increase in demand when the borders were thrown wide open after the fall of Saddam's regime. The demand to catch up and stock up after 24 years of wars and deprivation had increased the demand by leaps and bounds. In addition the violent insurgency had rendered any efforts to build new plants, substations and transmission lines virtually impossible.

So how do Iraqis manage without regular power supplies and only sporadic short periods of power? Temperatures in Baghdad can rise well above 45°C in long summer months and fall to freezing point in the 90 days long winter (December, January and February). Refrigerators, deep freezers for bridging irregular supplies of foodstuffs, evaporative air coolers (Baghdad is very dry), as well as air conditioners are essential for most Iraqis. Lack of electricity at this rate is simply unacceptable. The problem was tackled by organizing twin diesel electric generators of around 150-200 kVA in each small district, with separate 'very temporary looking' distribution network supplying 50-60 households with sufficient power to run the most essential appliances when the grid power is off. The standby power is sold by the plant owners at reasonable prices because they get subsidized diesel oil from the government. A household can buy a minimum of 4 Amperes or a maximum of 40 Amperes at a monthly rate of ID (Iraqi Dinars) 15'000,- (CHF 15,-) per Ampere. An average household buys 10 Amperes; 16 hours of power every day are guaranteed. In addition most households have additional small portable 6 kVA Korean-manufactured petrol engine-driven generators to bridge the remaining hours of no power. Every household has a few oil lamps as well. They are lit throughout the hours of darkness. Alternatively there are imported emergency lighting units which light up automatically whenever the power is off. Remember, power goes off suddenly in the middle of the night, and you don't want to scramble for the matches when it is pitch dark.

The fixnet telephone system, so essential for driving the wheel of life in the past, has become virtually irrelevant. The mobile telephone has taken over completely. There are three providers and the service is 'barely adequate'. Virtually everyone has at least one mobile telephone, which are used for all communication, much of it by SMS.

Rubbish collection seems to be working well, albeit at a cost. A tip (ID 500 to 1000 = CHF 0,50 to 1,00) has to be paid for every collection. Rainwater canalization is still wanting. Baghdad has only around 120 mm of rainfall annually, virtually all falling in winter and spring on an average of 13 rainy days per year only. Under such conditions it is very difficult to keep the rainwater canalization clean and open. Many streets were muddy and difficult to navigate, after a downpour earlier in the month.

One of the most demanding tasks in Baghdad is getting around. Baghdad has virtually no high rise buildings, and most houses are bungalows, hence the 4 million inhabitants are spread over an area of around 1500 km². Public transport is virtually non-existent leaving, private cars and taxis as the only means left. Traffic jams at peak hours are truly nerve-racking and demand considerable patience. Add to this the ever-present check points which invariably require single file traffic, and you can understand why getting around is a true nightmare.

The next installment will appear in the June 2009 edition of the IMCZ News.



Petrol electric generators



Electric network



House delivery

07/02/2009 11:13

12/02/2009 05:49

13/02/2009 07:30



What your Investment Advisor never told you about Earnings Surprises may surprise you!

The quarterly earnings season is the most important celebration in the stock market's cyclical calendar! It's the ritual feast of capitalism, whereby outperformers are venerated and the blood of the underperformers gushes into the gutters of Wall Street. This so-to-speak thumbs-up or thumbs-down is the means by which scarce capital is reallocated in accordance with investor expectations. But this is not as straight forward as it seems.

How often have you seen a stock price fall after the company has announced increased earnings? Or why did the stock of the now demised Lehman Brothers soar after it announced a 57% fall in its fiscal first-quarter earnings of 2008? In these instances, actual earnings were not in themselves the only expectations that the market was looking for.

In fact, it is the fitness of companies to respond to context dependent expectations that determine whether stock prices gain or lose and not simply the actual earnings themselves.

Expectations Count

Stocks are essentially held in expectation of future capital gains. Consequently, investors tend to prefer companies with healthier track records and growth prospects over those whose earnings potential appear weaker. However, earnings forecasts are subject to a complex array of industrial, economic, environmental and political forces that impact sales growth, product demand, competitiveness, profit margins and cost controls. In view of this complexity and resulting lack of transparency, stock prices are in a continual state of flux as expectations change or are proven wrong.

It is of course impossible to track the earnings estimates of the millions of investors so the market looks to the forecasts of armies of stock analysts, who, based on their research, issue buy, hold or sell recommendations for the companies they monitor.

Consensus Estimates

Listed companies are required to file their quarterly reports with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) within 40 days of the fiscal quarter end. Most companies announce earnings within one month after the end of the quarter, which usually coincides with the calendar quarters. In the meantime, institutional investors and analysts work at a frenzied pace for about three weeks starting mid-month in January, April, July and October in preparation for the forthcoming earnings season.

Out of the thousands of reports generated, whereby up to 50 or more may evaluate just one company such as Apple, Inc., consensus earnings estimates and recommendations per listed company are collated and published on a continual basis.

When examining any earnings estimates, the first rule for investors to keep in mind is that the current price usually reflects these consensus earnings estimates. However, there is nothing to be gained by investing in a company simply because it has a high level of anticipated earnings growth. In fact, studies have shown that over the long term, such stocks tend to underperform those with lower projected growth rates because of the difficulty to meet or exceed high expectations over a prolonged period of time.

Earnings Surprises

The most important impact on stock prices occurs when the actual earnings differ from consensus expectations, triggering so called earnings surprises, namely:

When reported earnings are significantly above earnings expectations they usually have a positive impact on the share price, and conversely.

When reported earnings are significantly below earnings expectations they usually have a negative effect on the share price.

Although an earnings surprise usually has an immediate impact on its stock price, it may also have a long-term effect. In fact, studies have indicated that the effect can persist for as long as a year after the announcement. This means it may not be too late to buy a stock that has had a positive earnings surprise, if you didn't buy it at that time. However, it also means that it does not make sense to buy a stock after the initial price decline of a negative earnings surprise, since there is a good chance that the stock will continue to underperform the market for some time.

Not surprisingly, large corporations tend to adjust to surprises faster than small ones do. That's because they are tracked by more analysts and portfolio managers, who tend to act quickly.

Earnings surprises also tend to follow a consistent pattern; they are rarely sole occurrences. So, stocks with a significant earnings surprise in one quarter will often have a series in previous and later quarters.

Since both positive and negative earnings surprises have lingering effects, a rewarding strategy would be to avoid stocks that have had a spate of negative earnings surprises in the recent past. Similarly, selecting positive earnings surprise stocks before and even after the earnings are announced may prove to be a profitable strategy.

Earnings Revisions

Adjustments in earnings estimates are made to reflect the perceived changes in a company's economic outlook. Such earnings revisions typically lead to corresponding price adjustments similar to those of earnings surprises. For example, when earnings estimates are revised significantly upward, say 10% or more, a stock price tends to show increased upward momentum. Conversely stocks with downward revisions show below-average performance.

Revisions are often precursors to earnings surprises. As the reporting season approaches, estimates normally converge toward consensus. A flurry of revisions near the reporting period can indicate that analysts missed the mark and are scrambling to improve their estimates.

When examining revisions, focusing on their number is helpful, because you can put more faith in them if a large percentage of the analysts tracking a stock have updated their estimates, and examining the range of estimates provides an indication of the degree of consensus within the group. For example, a wide range would point to great disagreement among analysts, implying both greater uncertainty and a greater chance for an earnings surprise. The price move can be more dramatic however if an earnings surprise occurs for a stock with a very tight range of earnings estimates.

Finally,

Within this framework and its mechanisms, much can be gained and lost, but its great merit, in spite of its abuse and proven inaccuracies, is the certainty it gives to listed companies and investors alike that capital redistributions are made as true rewards for success and failure. In fact, when we think about it, it should come as no great surprise to all of us that this is the way capitalism ought to work.



by IMCZ Treasurer
John Henry Smith



Investment Corner

by IMCZ Treasurer John Henry Smith

As there are several categories of investment styles, each Grail stock will be analyzed in accordance with a stated style or strategy, i.e. Momentum Investor, Value Investor, etc.

Assessments and Analysis based on April 24, 2009 close price: \$84.86	
Analysis of:	Amazon.Com Inc
Industry:	Catalogue and Mail Order Houses
Strategy:	Momentum Investor
YTD Performance:	+65%
SP 500 YTD Performance:	-4%

COMPANY DESCRIPTION

Amazon.com, Inc. (Amazon.com) offers services to consumer customers, seller customers and developer customers. The Company serves its consumer customers through its retail Websites. It offers programs that enable seller customers to sell their products on the Company's Websites and their own branded Websites. It serves developer customers through Amazon Web Services, which provides access to technology infrastructure that developers can use to enable virtually any type of business. In addition, the Company generates revenue through co-branded credit card agreements and other marketing and promotional services, such as online advertising. The Company's operations are organized into two principal segments: North America and International. In August 2008, Amazon.com purchased Shelfari, a social network for book lovers. In December 2008, Amazon.com announced the completion of its acquisition of AbeBooks.



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CATEGORY	CRITERIA OF A MOMENTUM INVESTOR	SCORE	REPORT CARD
Current quarter vs. same quarter last year:	Current EPS growth 18% better than the same quarter last year	EPS is 21% higher than the same quarter last year	PASS
Annual earnings growth:	Annual earnings growth above 18%	Annual earnings rate over the past 5 years is 78%	PASS
Earnings consistency:	Year on year earnings growth should be higher than the previous one, allowing for one dip.	Annual EPS before extraordinary items for the last 5 years of 1.38, 0.78, 0.45, 1.12, 1.49 fails as there was more than one dip	FAIL
Current price level:	Should be within 15% of its 52-week high	The current stock price (\$84.86) is within 15% of the 52-week high (\$91.75)	PASS
4 month S&P relative strength line:	A general upward trend in the stock's weekly relative strength compared to the SP500.	AMZN's relative strength trend has been increasing over the last 4 months	PASS
Price performance compared to all other stocks:	A stock's price performance, or weighted relative strength, compared to the SP500 over the past year should be no less than 80.	The relative strength is 89	PASS
Confirm at least one other leading stock in the industry:	Confirm the industry's attractiveness by citing at least one stock that has a relative strength of at least 80.	AMZN's industry Retail - Speciality has 30 companies that have a relative strength of over 80	PASS
Look for leading industries:	The number of companies in the industry with a weighted relative strength above 80, or look for industries with the most stocks making new 52-week highs.	AMZN's industry Retail-Speciality is currently one of the top performing industries	PASS
Decreasing long-term debt/equity	A debt/equity ratio less than 2, or the company has consistently cut debt over the last 3 years.	The debt/equity ratio is only 0.15	PASS
Return on equity:	A Return on Equity of at least 17%.	ROE is 33.3%	PASS
Shares outstanding:	Shares outstanding less than 30 million.	Total shares outstanding are 436 million	FAIL
Insider ownership:	Insider ownership of 15% or more	Insiders own 23% of the stock	PASS
Institutional ownership:	Some institutional ownership is preferred.	Institutions own 73%	PASS



contributed by
IMCZ Secretary
Muthana Kubba

Renewable Energies and Their Problems

Most of us are not aware how dependent we are on uninterrupted availability of electrical power. It is only when we have the occasional outage that our exposure becomes evident, soon to be forgotten the minute the lights are on again. I became acutely aware of this fact during my recent visit to Baghdad, with regular daily power shedding of several hours, and I highly appreciated the desperate measures the Iraqis took to deal with it.

Imagine what would happen if the electric power were cut here in this country for, say one to two hours: traffic lights would stop working and road traffic would quickly grind to a halt; the trains would stop dead wherever they might be; life support equipment in hospitals would stop; people in lifts would be stuck; all computer screens would go blank and work would stop in banks, companies, shops etc., all factories would stop; food in refrigerators and freezers would go bad; pumping stations would no longer work, meaning no water in the taps, or no petrol to fill up your car tank. Of course, air traffic would stop as well with fuel running short on aircraft due to land... A catastrophe of gigantic proportions.

The Electric Grid

The utilities required by law to ensure up to 99.999% (less than 6 minutes per year outages) continuity of electric power supply do not have an easy task. The demand varies widely and for the most part unpredictably. The utility provider has to install generating capacity which meets and exceeds peak demand even if the peak demand takes place at only 1% of the time. This could mean that huge investments in generating plant are made, but used only to cover the peak demand for a fraction of its working time. Such a low utilization of expensive plant is not viable financially. The strategy adopted by all power utilities, is to network together as many plants as practicable. The grid or the transmission lines seen dotting the landscape are the connections between the plants. As is generally known the electric supply in Europe is AC (alternating current) at 50 Hertz (cycles per second), hence all networked plants have to be synchronized at this frequency. In the Americas the frequency is 60 Hertz. Hence there will never be synchronized connection with the Americas. Increasing the size of the networked plants has the effect of increasing the inertia of the overall system, hence sudden peaks and troughs in demand tend to be evened out. It is helpful to think of the grid as a huge flywheel rotating at a virtually constant speed. Every time we take power from the grid by



switching on a light or throwing on the central air conditioning, the flywheel slows down a tiny amount. And each time a power plant goes on line, the flywheel speeds up a bit. In fact, the IMCZ trip to the Grimsel hydroelectric power station clearly showed that the prime purpose of the whole complex is not so much power generation but maintaining the grid's frequency by taking power off from it when the frequency is higher than the mean, and putting power into it when it is low. All of the IMCZ members who took part in the visit remember the huge 50 MW motor-generators with turbines at one shaft's end and water pumps at the other. The whole complex is a typical water energy storage system. Water is pumped up when there is excess energy and let down to drive turbines when energy is needed. Again those IMCZ members who came to the ski weekend in Engelberg may remember the lake on the right when coming into the village, and the lake at the top of the gondola ride, Trübsee. The two lakes form a water energy storage pair. The bottom lake is nearly always empty in the mornings and almost always full in the afternoons and evenings. At night there is excess energy on the grid and the water is pumped up to Trübsee, during the daytime, energy is needed and the water is let down to drive the turbines and generate electricity to feed into the grid.

Problems with Renewable Energies

The system described above has been used and perfected over the last 10 decades and in spite of the very occasional black out, works quite well. However with the advent of renewable energies, new problems which need to be addressed have emerged. The two most prevalent sources of renewable energies which are making an impact on the grid are:

a) Wind Energy. The number of wind turbines installed or on order is becoming very significant. Both Spain and Germany are commissioning new wind parks continuously. Germany in particular is heavily investing in off-shore wind parks. In these parks the turbines are installed on the sea bed far away from the shoreline where there always are environmental concerns. The very nature of wind energy is that it is highly variable. The wind can blow hard one hour and not at all the next,



with corresponding fluctuating amounts of energy fed into the grid.

b) Solar Energy is also becoming significant. Both parks using photovoltaic cell panels for direct conversion of sunlight into electricity and parks with moving mirrors for concentrating sunlight to raise steam and generate power are becoming increasingly abundant especially in the USA. Again the nature of solar energy is that it is variable. Apart from the daily cycle there might be sudden thunderstorms or cloudy days which will affect the total output available for feeding into the grid.



Dealing with such large fluctuations in supply and trying to match the supply to the demand becomes increasingly demanding and the traditional water pumping storage cannot deal with such large and quick fluctuations. New techniques and ideas are slowly making their way into practical uses to deal with such a problem.

(i) Hydrogen. A novel plant is being built now in Prenzlau in Germany. This is in fact a pilot project to prove the feasibility of the ideas behind it. It is called The Hybrid Power Station. Basically it uses wind turbines to generate electricity. Excess power is used to generate hydrogen from water by electrolysis. The hydrogen is stored and then used to generate electricity by burning it to drive gas turbines. In addition it has a biogas generator to generate methane gas for use to supplement the hydrogen turbines. The idea of using excess energy to make hydrogen, storing it and then using it when energy is needed is not new. New is its incorporation in a physical power station. Of course if fuel cells were commercially available at the required capacity, then electricity could be generated directly from hydrogen, rather via the detour of burning it and letting the exhaust gases turn a turbine.

(ii) Compressed Air Energy Storage (CAES). This is an age-old idea. Compress the air when there is excess energy and let the compressed air drive a turbine when energy is needed. There have even been suggestions to use it for driving environmentally friendly cars. Well, it can't work for cars for the simple reason that it would be too heavy, and the required pressures too high requiring additionally very heavy containers. The efficiency of this method is low; water storage pumping at 80% is the most efficient commercially available method for storing energy. One of the main causes for CAES inefficiency is that the system heats up when compressed and the heat energy is lost, and then it cools down when decompressed, requiring additional heating to prevent it from freezing.

In spite of the above obvious disadvantages, compressed air has been used for utility-scale energy storage technology. Pumped storage



hydropower is not always practicable for obvious topological reasons, and hydrogen electrolysis is novel and its large scale commercial feasibility is now under investigation. Hence there is still room for compressed air plants. At present there are two such facilities worldwide, both use caverns or aquifers to store the compressed air:

Huntorf, North Germany. This is the world's first commercial facility built and is still in use. It was commissioned in 1978 and uses two underground salt caverns at 650 and 800 m deep, with a total storage volume of 310'000 m³. It can deliver up to 300 MW of electricity for 2 hours using both the compressed air and gas turbines to generate electricity. The heat from the gas turbines is used to heat up the decompressed air.

McIntosh, Alabama, USA. This plant was commissioned in 1991 and incorporates a number of improvements to the Huntorf plant including a waste heat recovery system to reduce fuel usage and improve the efficiency. It has a much larger storage volume, 538'000 m³ and can thus deliver more energy. It also uses gas turbines in combination with air turbines to generate electricity and heat up the decompressed air. The efficiency of the plant is only around 54%.

Iowa Stored Energy Park, USA. Geological investigations are progressing for a huge CAES project planned in Iowa, USA to take away a lot of the headaches associated with electricity generated from wind parks. It will be the first plant to use a sandstone aquifer for storing the compressed air. It is anticipated that by 2013 wind energy may cover up to 30% of the demand.

More ideas in the pipeline. There are several ideas and suggestions floating around to face the problems associated with renewable energies. Very large capacitor, new generation batteries etc are only a few. We shall be introduced to many novel ideas to compensate shortcomings and ensure continuity of electric supply.



From the LANES... **On Strike at the Cherry Bowl**

On 20 April 2009, twenty high rollers assembled at the Cherry Bowl to better their averages and shake hands with the pin boy. The lady strikers were considerably better represented in number than they had been the previous month, with their top bowlers delivering higher scores than a number of the men.

Of the twenty bowlers, eight of them, or 40%, broke the century mark in every game, fourteen (70%) scored higher than 100 in at least two games and seventeen – that's 85% – broke 100 at least once.

Carol Gipson led the seven ladies in the first game, setting a mark of 158, with Carol Heller delivering 115 and Katja Ramsay rolling 107.

Over on the men's side, Otto Steuri matched Carol Gipson's 158, while David Speicher rolled 153 and David LeBow rounded out the leaders with 149.

In the second game, Carol Gipson bettered herself by one pin to 159, thereby surpassing all scorers, while Carol Heller improved to 147 and Cara Steger entered the leader board with 105. Among the gentlemen David Speicher rolled tops with 158, and John Hosking and Stephen Butterworth both delivered 153.

The final game saw Carol Heller leap forward again, this time to lead the ladies with 158,

followed by Katja Ramsay with 139 and Carol Gipson with 123. With 435 pins, Carol Gipson again captured the ladies' prize, while Carol Heller with 420 and Katja Ramsey with 345 respectively would have to be consoled with being among the leading ladies.

The men's third game brought 183 from Otto Steuri, 172 from Hans-Peter Schobert, and 160 from David Speicher, whose consistency on the evening garnered the men's prize with 471 pins. Runner-up Otto Steuri collected 459 pins, and David LeBow captured 410.

The IMCZ's regular bowling event for Club members takes place on the **3rd Monday of every month**. Other dates in 2009 are:

May 18th • June 15th • July 20th • August 17th • September 21st • October 19th • November 16th • December 21st

Members are encouraged to come out and cheer for the bowlers if they do not intend to bowl themselves.

The evening opens at **19:30, crush of strikes and thrill of spares starts at 20:00**, and the event is open to registered and prospective IMCZ and ZIWC members. Stephen Butterworth has negotiated a splendid 25% discount with the Cherry Bowl (just off the end of the freeway in Sihlbrugg). Early arrival to assure good shoes, a good ball and some liquid calisthenics is encouraged. **Reservations are required**, since the Cherry Bowl must be notified of how many bowlers to expect. Please **contact Steven Butterworth by the preceding Friday** via e-mail or phone, butterworth.sp@gmail.com or **041/790 4172**. If you register to bowl and can't attend, you must let him know by the preceding Friday. The **IMCZ No-Show policy** applies. The cost for a regular (not a Challenge) evening is CHF 20.00 for two hours of bowling and shoe rental – a bargain indeed – and concludes at 22:00.



Sudoku

The following Sudoku has a unique solution. With only 17 clues, it is considered 'difficult' or 'very difficult'. Have a go. The first correct answer shall be published next month, and the winner shall have free drinks at the Stammtisch for one evening.

In every Sudoku every digit between 1 and 9 occurs exactly once in each row, column and 3x3 square.

Please send your answers to muthana@trasco.ch

3				7		2		
								4
	6							1
9		7	5					
					4			
			1		6			
	1							6
	5							
				8		9		

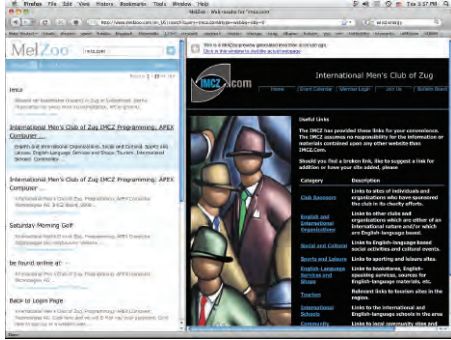


by IMCZ member David Harris

MelZoo

www.melzoo.com

A new search engine, which provides a split screen solution. One side show the hits and, when one runs the mouse over the hits, a sample appears on the other side of the screen.



Futuristic Transportation

<http://psipunk.com/>

To me, as an enthusiast of cars, boats, flying things, buildings and the future, this is one of the most fascinating and absorbing sites around. Be prepared for hours of reading.



The White House

www.whitehouse.gov/

For two hundred years, the White House has stood as a symbol of the Presidency, the United States government, and the American people. Politics aside this is a fascinating site. Did you know that the British tried to burn it down in 1814?



contributed by IMCZ Members

- Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was excellent.
- A set of jump leads walk into a bar. The bartender says, 'I'll serve you, but don't start anything.'
- Two peanuts walk into a bar, and one was a salted.
- A dyslexic man walks into a bar.
- A man walks into a bar with a slab of asphalt under his arm, and says: 'A beer please, and one for the road.'
- Two cannibals are eating a clown. One says to the other: 'Does this taste funny to you?'
- 'Doc, I can't stop singing 'The Green, Green Grass of Home.' 'That sounds like Tom Jones Syndrome.' 'Is it common?' 'Well, It's Not Unusual.'
- Two cows are standing next to each other in a field. Daisy says to Dolly, 'I was artificially inseminated this morning.' 'I don't believe you,' says Dolly. 'It's true; no bull!' exclaims Daisy.
- An invisible man marries an invisible woman. The kids were nothing to look at either.
- Deja Moo: The feeling that you've heard this bull before.
- I went to buy some camouflage trousers the other day, but I couldn't find any.
- A man woke up in a hospital after a serious accident. He shouted, 'Doctor, doctor, I can't feel my legs!' The doctor replied, 'I know you can't - I've cut off your arms!'
- I went to a seafood disco last week...and pulled a mussel.
- What do you call a fish with no eyes? A fsh.
- Two fish swim into a concrete wall. One turns to the other and says, 'Dam!'
- Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were a bit cold, so they lit a fire in the craft. It sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it too.
- A group of chess enthusiasts checked into a hotel, and were standing in the lobby discussing their recent tournament victories. After about an hour, the manager came out of the office, and asked them to disperse. 'But why,' they asked, as they moved off. 'Because,' he said, 'I can't stand chess-nuts boasting in an open foyer.'
- A woman has twins, and gives them up for adoption. One of them goes to a family in Egypt, and is named 'Ahmal.' The other goes to a family in Spain; they name him 'Juan.' Years later, Juan sends a picture of himself to his birth mother. Upon receiving the picture, she tells her husband that she wishes she also had a picture of Ahmal. Her husband responds, 'They're twins! If you've seen Juan, you've seen Ahmal.'
- Mahatma Gandhi, as you know, walked barefoot most of the time, which produced an impressive set of calluses on his feet. He also ate very little, which made him rather frail and with his odd diet, he suffered from bad breath. This made him a super-calloused fragile mystic hexed by halitosis.
- And finally, there was the person who sent twenty different puns to his friends, with the hope that at least ten of the puns would make them laugh. No pun in ten did.



Members' Marketplace

Are you **selling** your yacht
(harboured in Piraeus)?

Your Aston-Martin old-timer with the roll top roof?

A gorgeous view of the Bay of Biscay,
with a little bit of house attached?

Or are you cashing in the half of your stamp
collection that is finally worth something?

Perhaps you're **looking** for all of these things?

**Then ADVERTISE here,
in the IMCZ News;**

The Members' Marketplace is reserved for unformatted
advertisements of 150 characters (approx. 3 lines) of text.

These are free of charge to IMCZ members.

Advertisements must be submitted as illustrated below.

Longer advertisements cost CHF 30.-

Example:

FOR SALE: gorgeous view of Bay of Biscay with stunning
sunsets and high waves. Wee house (12 rooms), dock and
yacht included. Call Bill at 041 123 4567.

Members' Marketplace

TENNIS INTEREST GROUP

Would you like to play tennis?



These fine gents, (l.t.r.)
Paulo Arend, William Ellis
and John Smith will stand
the challenge. Please contact
board member Paulo Arend
at board@imcz.com

Farewell... adieu The IMCZ wishes well to:

Sven Bach is leaving for personal reasons, but passes
his best regards on to the members.

Danilo Bertocchi is unable to find time to attend events.

Bernard Attas has moved away from Zug.

Paul Wareham has no time to utilize the club's offerings.

Stephan Hickmann is too busy with work,
but may rejoin in the future.



IMCZNEWS Advertising Rates

Circulation: 255 plus online download.

Issued: Monthly

Format: A4 vertical, full color.

Ad content delivery:

electronic by e-mail, .pdf, .jpg, .gif

Advertising Rates:

- Full page, A4 vertical. (19 x 27.7 cm), Fr. 200.-
- 1/2 Page, A5 horizontal (19 x 13.5 cm), Fr. 110.-
- 1/3 Page, vertical (6.3 x 27.7 cm), Fr. 85.-
- 1/3 Page, horizontal (19 x 9.2 cm), Fr. 85.-
- 1/4 Page, A6 vertical (9.2 x 13.5 cm), Fr. 60.-
- 1/4 Page, horizontal (19 x 6.9 cm), Fr. 60.-
- Business Card (9.2 x 6.45 cm) Fr. 45.-

*Extra costs may be incurred for typesetting, special formatting, etc.
IMCZ Members receive a 20% discount on advertisement costs.*

**Place your ad for an extended period and receive a discount: get seven months
of advertising for six months paid, or receive twelve months for the price of ten.**



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