

house purchase confirms decision

Rohrs staying in Switzerland

NEUCHÂTEL, SWITZERLAND - Evan and Jennifer woke up one day in 1997 at their home in Horseshoe Bay, Canada and said to themselves "is this it?" They had bought a house, just started a family and the signs were good that that they had finally settled down.

But the answer was "hell no!" so they decided to up and move to Switzerland. But not necessarily forever, so they gave themselves five years.

They found that life in Switzerland really agreed with them and it was a great place to raise kids. So in 2003 they made the ultimate decision to stay (at least for the foreseeable future!). They sold their house in Horseshoe Bay and bought one in Neuchâtel. And the buying process happened a lot faster than expected.

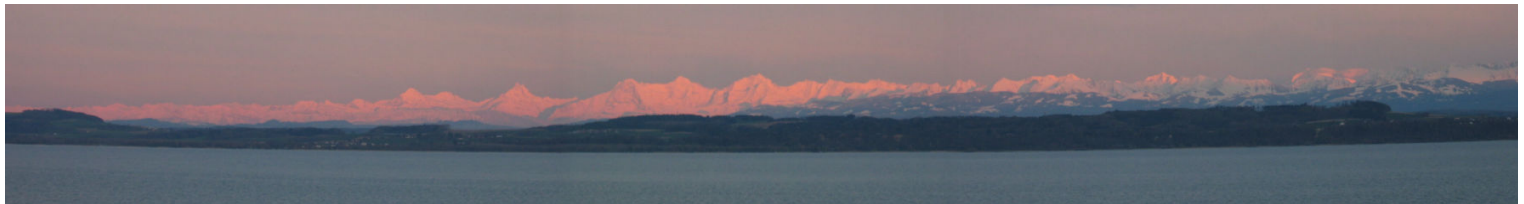
It can take a long time to find just the right house in Switzerland (the housing market does not turn over

very often) so the Rohrs were getting ready for a long search when they came across the house they bought. They had not yet even had time to draw up a list of features they were looking for when they found this house.

The house has all the charm they were looking for combined with a stunning view. Two months after seeing it for the first time, they owned it.

Starting in 2007 and lasting for over one year, they undertook a major interior renovation and, while there are still a few areas in the house which need a bit of finishing, they now have a great home which is comfortable, looks good and meets their needs.

Now if only they had enough money and energy left to tackle the garden!



The Rohrs welcome 2 new members to their family

For over two years there has been a discussion between Jennifer and the kids as to the best time to get a new puppy: before or after Mimi (their apricot standard poodle born in 2001) passed away. It was soon decided that before was a good idea.

Then there was a question of what breed of a dog. Hayden at one time was lobbying hard for a pug but the decision was soon settled in favour of another standard poodle.

But what colour? After much reflection and research, Jennifer came across a colour newly introduced to the breed: red (think Irish Setter).

And finally: what name? This was the trickiest question to answer and consumed long hours of discussions during family vacations and over dinner during the past two years. In the Spring of 2010 while on vacation in Russia, the discussions continued and a new name was proposed and adopted: Rousseau. Why Rousseau? Three reasons:

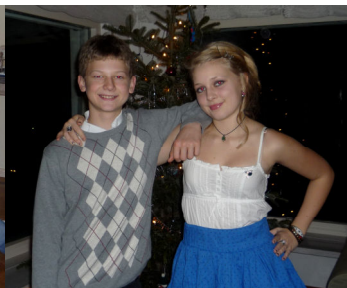
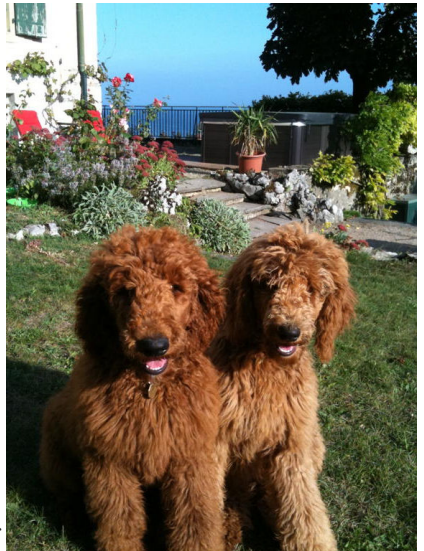
- 1 rousse is the French feminine for red-head
- 2 Jean-Jacques Rousseau, a famous French philosopher from Geneva spent considerable time in the Neuchâtel area
- 3 Rousseau is a character in Lost which the Rohrs love to watch

Once the name was decided, there really wasn't much stopping the family so Jennifer immediately started surfing the net and soon found some puppies in Canada. A female (like Mimi) was chosen and many hours were spent watching the puppy grow via YouTube and Skype.

But Rousseau's brother was always in the videos and he was even redder and more striking than her. So Jennifer and the kids ganged up on Evan and convinced him that two puppies were better than one.

So, in early August of 2010, the family collected 2 new puppies at Zurich airport. The male's name had not been decided by the time he arrived so Hayden's choice for him - Shakespeare - was adopted.

Mimi is a bit put off that she does not have the family entirely to herself. But the puppies, being siblings, play a lot with each other and don't depend on the family to throw a ball or otherwise keep them occupied: so there is still a lot of time left for Mimi!



Letter from Jennifer

It's been many years since our last annual letter and many things have happened since then. Let me think of where to begin.

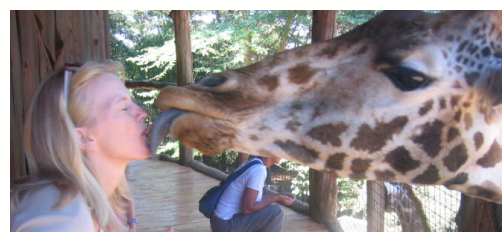


About years ago, I decided to go back to work. I decided to become a personal trainer on top of teaching tennis. The first thing I did was upgrade my degree in physical education to a Masters of Science with an option in health promotion. At the same time, we renovated our basement and installed a gym, another workout room, changing room and toilet.

Carpe Diem Wellness and Sport was launched in 2005. I started off by developing my home-based wellness business with a full gym and vibration plate targeting women: I now have over 20 regular customers. I then started getting back into tennis, focusing on kids. I started slowly, moved venues a few times and have now settled in at the club which has the best tennis school in our area: I am in charge of all the junior programmes.

After 6 years I can proudly say that I have achieved my goals of, finishing my masters, creating my state of the art training facility, finally being accepted as a legitimate tennis teaching professional and all while choosing the hours I want to work in order to continue to be with my kids when they were home from school during their crazy Swiss two hour lunch at home period. Things are now falling into place.

I continue to play competitive tennis. Last year I was ranked 4th nationally in my age category and was invited to play for the Swiss national team in the world championships held in New Zealand this year. Unfortunately, no-one else wanted to go! And then, in the summer, as I was getting off a bus, I severely sprained my ankle and I have not been able to play since July. Hence I had to visit the Hall of Mirror at Versailles in a wheel chair!



Holidays, holidays, holidays

Since the last edition of Rohr News (Christmas 1999), the family has enjoyed a number of great holidays.

Kenya

In 2004 the family made an action-packed and adventure-filled holiday to Kenya. Starting off on the beaches of the Indian Ocean, the family worked their way inland, through safari parks, to Nairobi where they stayed with their good friends the Muasa family. Two visits to rural areas of Kenya were unforgettable as was a visit to Lake Naivasha (from where Aspen gets her middle name) and Masai Mara.

Biking in Holland,

The family still has great memories of a few days biking from village to village in the Netherlands.



Bali

The family's first trip to Asia was such a pleasure. They rented a wonderful villa in the middle of the rice fields near Ubud and alternated between doing nothing and exploring the island.



Letter from Evan



I do not know where the time goes! I always seem to be running behind schedule and the result has been no Rohr News for far too long. Sometimes I miss my old bachelor days when I seemed to have more time to keep up with friends and family. So let me resume what has happened over the last few years.

One significant event was major surgery I underwent in the spring of 2001 to remove a tumour in my left cheek. The surgery lasted 18 hours and a number of facial nerves had to be removed and regrafted. It left the left side of my face partially paralyzed, but two years of physiotherapy has restored some of the movement.

At the end of 2005, I found myself without a job. The company I had been working with for almost six years was sold in mid-2005 and the new owners already had a financial structure in Switzerland. I worked for a company making water carbonation systems for the home for two years but the work was boring and I soon started looking for something more interesting.

I am currently working as the finance director for a steel trading company in our home town of Neuchâtel. It is a relatively small operation (a total of 35 people throughout the world) but we buy and sell a lot of steel. I am really enjoying this new industry and, even though I do not need to travel a lot, I



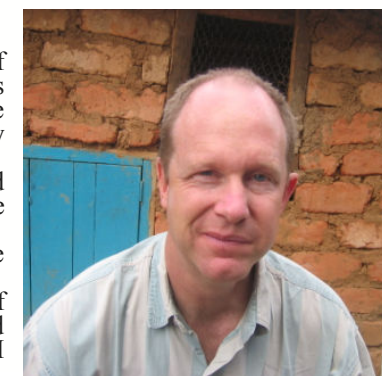
can vicariously feel as though I am working in far-flung corners of the world. I love my work, I love my colleague and, when it is warm and sunny, I get to walk to work. What a life!

I continue to enjoy going to the mountains whenever I can - which somehow does not seem to be often enough. I enjoy spending a lot of



time with my family, watching the kids grow (and they are growing far to fast, by the way) and sharing lots of adventures and new discoveries with them.

I retired from the board of Save the Children in 2003, after serving for ten years. It was a tremendous experience but it was time for a change.



Canada

Trips home to Canada about every two years keep the family connected with this wonderful country which is always warm and sunny, where there is no school and where you meet family and friends and get lots of attention! What a paradise.

The family has spent time at family cottages, they have gone on a camping trip through BC as far as the Rockies and the badlands of Alberta and one summer they rented an RV and drove from Toronto to Vancouver.

Sweden, Washington (DC), North Carolina

One summer the family spent a few weeks driving through Sweden and were struck at how much the landscape reminded them of Canada. One Easter, the family visited friends in North Carolina and spent a few days visiting with the Obamas in Washington.

Exploring Switzerland

Having been in Switzerland for almost 12 years now, the Rohrs probably take the mountains and beauty for granted. Evan usually has problem motivating the kids to go for a hike but recently, they asked him to take them on a trip to the mountain hut at the foot of the Matterhorn. Dad was only too happy to oblige.

Russia

We took advantage of friends being based in Moscow to spend Easter 2010 in Russia. Through their local contacts, we got to explore Moscow better than most visitors. The two families then travelled to St Petersburg for several unforgettable days: that really is a place worth visiting.



Rohr News

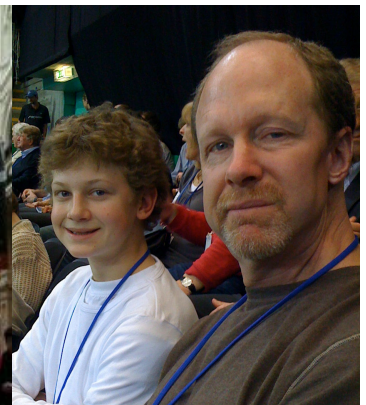
Letter from Aspen



I'm Aspen and I've been in this world for 15 years. This year I have started a new school, Lycée Dennis-de-Rougement, It's what you would call high school and I'm in tenth grade. When I'm not out with my friends or at school I row and play field hockey in a Swiss German team! I'm also on the computer 24/7, hanging out with my friends, going out, shopping, seeing my boyfriend, like any other normal teenager! I used to play violin but I switched to guitar a few years ago and I still enjoy it. As some of you might know the drinking age in

Switzerland is 16 so everybody goes out Friday or Saturday and even though I'm only 15 I'm at the Lycée so they don't even care! ;)

I am now as tall as my Mom so I get to borrow her clothes whenever I want .



Letter from Hayden



I am now 13 years old and in Grade 8. Although I am not yet as tall as my Dad, my shoe size is one bigger than his so it is only a matter of time!

I used to play both tennis and basketball but earlier this year I had to cut back on my sports activities: I am growing too fast and have problems with my knees. This seems to be behind me now but I am only allowed one sport for the time being: and that is tennis (5-6 hours a week).

I have switched from the piano to the drums and I really love it. I have a drum set on the top floor of the house so it is not too noisy for the rest of the family when I practice. Every month or so we have a jam session and I get to drum with a guitarist, bassist, keyboardist and singer: really cool!

