



March 2006

Newsletter

POSTILLION



Ski Weekend 2006

Volume 1, Issue 8, 2006

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Message from the President

Dear members and friends of the Swiss Club,

By the time you read this, the cherry blossoms may already have peaked and spring is not too far away. However, when looking back, we had three great winter events that I want to briefly comment on. In February, we enjoyed a ski-weekend in Wintergreen in wonderful weather and good company. Shortly after, we got to enjoy a Raclette evening organized by the Swiss Rifles for the benefit of the Swiss Benevolent Society. That was a great feast and a quite unique get together of many different Swiss Communities and businesses which all worked together to help make this an enjoyable and successful event. Last but not least, we had our 2nd Swiss Tradition event showcasing the Basler Fasnacht with its traditional food, music and costumes. It was a pleasure to see how many Basler came forward from among the members to share some of their cherished dishes, experiences and photos of the Fasnacht with us. We saw many unfamiliar faces, heard fascinating stories, and most importantly were once again reminded what a diverse country Switzerland is, and that this diversity is well and alive within our Club. I am curious to see which Canton will have people step forward next to organize a Swiss Tradition event!

Adrian Wiestner

P.S. Please renew your membership if you have not done so by now. Thank you, Danke!

For more information, visit our website at www.swissclubdc.org

Most of our events are for members, however members' friends are welcome

Swiss Club of Washington D.C.
2900 Cathedral Ave N.W.
Washington D.C. 20008
info@swissclubdc.org



Other Swiss Groups ...

Die Stauffacherin
(Swiss ladies group)
Susanne Adams
703-836-8247

The Swiss Rifles
Alfred Kessi
302-292-2901

Folklore Group
Erwin Buerlimann
703-548-6349

Swiss Benevolent Society
Campbell Graeb
301-652-2007

AGENDA 2006

April 14	Fishing Trip
April 16	Easter Brunch
June 4	Billy Goat Trail
June 11	2nd Jass Tournament
July 29	Swiss National Day Celebration
September 10	3rd Jass Tournament
September 17	Schuetzenfest
October	Fall Festival
November 3	84th anual Membership Meeting
December 10	4th Jass Tournament
December 17	Christmas Party

Renew your membership now !



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NEXT EVENTS ...



Fishing Trip

*April 14th, 2006.
Chesapeake Bay, MD*

Fishing in the Chesapeake Bay at the peak of the season for Stripers (Rockfish), end of April - beginning of May.

The Swiss Club has booked a boat for fishing in the Chesapeake Bay at the end of April. One possibility is on Friday 21, but another day is also possible (week-end are already fully booked at the moment, but it may be possible to find another boat).

Only 6 places available on the boat (or 4 adults and 4 children), equipment, fishing licenses, snacks and sodas will be provided. Price for the boat and captain experienced fishing guide is \$500 (gratuities included). Transport from DC to Annapolis not included.

If you want to join the group, please contact Swiss Club Vice-President Alberto Piffaretti via E-mail: alberto.piffaretti@swissclub.org

Easter Brunch

*April 16th, 2006.
Omni Shoreham Hotel
Clavert St. N.W.
Washington, D.C.*

Join us for a fabulous Easter Brunch. The Omni Shoreham offers two wonderful buffets with a variety of foods including carving stations and waffles made to order. Children' buffet. Unlimited mimosas and sparkling wine. Live music. \$55 per person for adults/ \$12.50 children twelve and under. Easter Egg Hunts and activities for the children. Reservations for seatings at 11:00am. Swiss Club will provide an Easter Basket for each child. After brunch we will walk together to the National Zoo.

Please reserve now **deadline is March 31**, send the form below with your check (payable to the Swiss Club of Washington, D.C) to Rosmarie Stucki, 1840 Mintwood Pl. N.W. #402 Washington, D.C. 20009. For information call 703 371 5112.

Name:: _____ Nbr of Adults: _____ Nbr of Children: _____

Phone:: _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Address e-mail: _____



NEXT EVENTS ...

Billy Goat Trail

June 4th, 2006.

C&O Canal, MD

On Sunday June 4th, 2006 we will meet at the parking lot across from the Old Anglers Inn on MacArthur Boulevard in Maryland at 11:00 AM. After everyone has arrived we will hike a short piece of the tow path and then pick up the Billy Goat trail, it is about two miles along the river and in stretches offers excellent views from on high, especially in the Mather gorge area. For those who have never hiked the trail this will be an adventure as you get the sense that we are miles away from the city in the wilderness. Although it starts out flat we will encounter some rugged terrain which requires a bit of rock scrambling, therefore, good hiking shoes are recommended. For those seeking less adventurous traveling, you can hike parallel on the towpath and meet the group at the point where we come back out to the tow path, then hike back to the starting point as a group. Total length of the hike is a little less than five miles. Once we are all back we will drive to the Carderock recreation area off Clara Barton parkway to grill sausages with bread and soft drinks provided.

Price per person \$ 10 - kids under 10 are free.

For information about the event or changes in case of rain, call Ulrich Boegli (703) 323-0645 or email uboegli@aol.com

If you want to join , please register, (see form below), with our Program Coordinator Susann Kollmar, no later than June 1st. Send in a check, payable to the **Swiss Club DC** (not refundable) To: Susann Kollmar, 5423 Mc Kinley Street, Bethesda, MD 20817

Jass Tournament

WHEN: Sunday, June 11th, 2006 at 1:30pm

HOSTED BY: Imelda and Martin Von Arx, 7627 Carteret Road, Bethesda, MD, Tel. 301 365-0662

Deadline for registration: June 5th, 2006 Registration fee: \$5.00 per person

Please register by contacting Marlies Hazan 301 603-0536 or pmhazan@comcast.net

Mark your calendar: 3rd Jass Tournament is scheduled for Sunday, September 10th, 2006 – 4th and final Jass Tournament will take place on Sunday, December 10th, 2006.

Billy Goat Trail form: send your check payable to the Swiss Club of Washington D.C.

Name:: _____

Nbr of Adults and Children older than 10: _____ Nbr of Children: _____

Phone:: _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Address e-mail: _____

NEXT & PAST EVENTS ...



Swiss National Day

July 29th, 2006.

Enjoy the 1st of August celebrations...

At an extraordinary location in Maryland (see details in the next Postillion)

Ski Weekend

This Presidents Day weekend, was for 30 adults and 12 kids from the Washington DC, area a really special one. It was the Ski Weekend in Wintergreen organized by the Swiss Club. Embedded on the Blue Ridge Mountains, 3-4 ½ hours from the DC Area, (depending on the Presidents Day rush hour traffic), Wintergreen is a ski resort offering many different leisure possibilities, like pools, spa, tennis, restaurants and snow tubing. There was fun for everybody.

Organized meticulously by Susann Kollmar and Christina Leveque, the Swiss Club had 3 houses where people were assigned to. There were big rooms, each with a bathroom, and a big common family room, dining area and kitchen. Our house even had a jacuzzi! The kids loved this feature very much. They didn't mind, that there was not quite enough hot water to fill it....

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PAST EVENTS ...

Ski Weekend

Skiing was rather cold and snowy the first day, but very sunny and bright on Sunday. Of course we were not the only skiers. The wait at the bottom of the ski lifts was often 20 minutes. Most of us didn't have to endure the 2 hour wait line to rent ski equipment on Saturday, since we were advised to rent our skis a day earlier.

There are 5 different lifts with slopes ranging from easy to double black diamonds. It's not really comparable to Switzerland or the Rocky Mountains, but we all agreed, it was really great fun. The snow was artificial, and the snow cannons, which caused quite a racket, covered the slopes, and occasionally our faces, with fresh, icy snow. But snow sometimes has its inconveniences, doesn't it.

The crews living in the three different houses took turns in cooking dinner. The first day, we were treated to an excellent Fondue and Raclette by House 1, after an open house/



apero /happy hour at the Leveque's. The party went on quite late, and rumor has it, that there was even a food fight in the end, which required some extra cleaning... I am not going to mention any names....

The second day, the party was in House 2, featuring Spaghetti with different sauces, followed by authentic Tiramisu from Ticino. We never ran out of wine. For all different occasions, we were well equipped, Sangria, White, Red....A group of us even went wine tasting during the afternoon in the nearby winery, beautifully organized by Tom. They brought back some excellent samples for all of us to taste.

In the name of all of us who participated in that weekend, I would like to thank everybody who helped organize it, especially Susann and Christina. Thank you very much, you did a great job. We all had a wonderful time, and we are looking forward to next year!

Franziska Stuber

Basler Fasnacht

Saturday, March 11th, 65 people, many in costumes, came to celebrate our "2nd Swiss Tradition event" and we had so much fun. The "Fasnacht's Comite" enchanted the multi purpose room very "fasnachtlich", and the photo exhibition from Peter Dreher gave all the visitors

the real Fasnacht's spirit !

After watching the "Morgestraich" on DVD, accompanied by a real "fifer" and drummer (Christian Haudenschild & Roland Zeender, who were just wonderful!), there was



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PAST EVENTS ...



an introduction from Susann Kollmar about the Basler Fasnacht and what it is all about. Marlies Hazan explained and read a "Schnitzelbank"-.... Oh, yeah...., that was the real Basel feeling and everybody who understands the Basel dialect got a good laugh !!

Next all the costumes lined up for a cortege and we paraded after the fifer and drummer and everybody could give a vote for the best costume. It was hard, but at the end the favorite costume was our "doctor" Reto Weber (mit em bludde foedli), second was the original Waggis drummer, Roland Zeender, and the Clown Jean Amacker came on third place. Of course the traditional food was served: the very tasty Mehlsuppe made by Maya Wittwer (see recipe), the Fasnachtskuechli from Elsbeth Backus (recipe is a secret!) and with the help from the Swiss Bakery we could serve Chaes- and Zibelewaehle and many Basler Laekkerli !

Oh, everything was so good and wonderful !

"We" Heimwehbasler sang the "Basler Rhy-song" and guess what, we even had a real lantern! Maya Wittwer made the effort and adapted a lantern and "subject" for Washington and there was a quiz coming along with it.... ! In a slideshow from Christan Haudenschild, we saw snowy Fasnacht's impressions from 2006 and listened to his experience in Basel; you could hear and feel that he was still into

it, as he just came back from Basel ! The evening was a huge success and we thank the Fasnacht's Committee (Elsbeth, Margrit, Marlies, Maya & Susann), their husbands and all the helpers who cleaned up all the "Raeppli" afterwards.

These were: "Die drei scheenschte daeg" in one evening !

-The Program Coordinator-

Recipe:

Mehlsuppe a la Maya!

40gr Öl (1 Esslöffel), 350gr Zwiebeln gehackt, 70gr Mehl,

1 Liter Boullion (Rind), 2dl Rotwein

Mehl langsam rösten, Zwiebeln in Öl andämpfen, mit dem gerösteten Mehl bestäuben und vermischen, etwas erkalten lassen.

Mit der heissen Boullion auffüllen und gut verrühren.

Mindestens eine Stunde kochen, dann durch ein Sieb geben und abschmecken.

En guete !!!

NEWS ... NEWS ... NEWS...

We need you &...your E-mail

In order to improve communication between the Executive committee and the members, we suggest that you subscribe via the Internet to our new member group. Message will be posted only by the members of the EC and your e-mail will be kept confidential. So if you desire to join the group please send an e-mail to : members-swissclubdc-subscribe@yahoo.com. Then you will be part of the Swiss-Club Newsletters group and receive all the details concerning small groups events and other valuable information.

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