



May 2007



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Fondue and Raclette Evening 2007 - Ambassador Urs Ziswiler and his wife Ronit Ziswiler with Swiss Club of Richmond, VA President Guy Jeanrenaud and wife, talking to Reto Weber, owner of The Swiss Bakery

Message from the President

Dear Members of the Swiss Club,

We started the year 2007 with a Fondue & Raclette evening that was a formidable success with a record turnout – no doubt due to our honorary guests, the Ambassador and his wife. Looking forward we are already in the midst of planning for the Swiss National Day celebration, which, after 2 years in Virginia and Maryland, will be back again on the embassy grounds. For all who missed the opening day of the new residence this may be a great opportunity to see the building, at least from the outside, which made headlines in the Washington Post and New York

Times. As always, an event such as this is only possible with the help of volunteers - actually many volunteers – and I hope we can count on you!

In June we will have a day at another unique residence – the Hillwood Estate, Museum and Gardens, which was the home of Marjorie Merriweather Post, heiress to a major company, a multi-millionaire, an ambassador's wife to Russia and last but not least, a renowned art collector.

See you soon, Adrian Wiestner

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



AGENDA 2007

June 3 2nd Jass Tournament

June 10 Hillwood Museum Tour, pg. 5

July 28 Swiss National Day

September 9 3rd Jass Tournament

October Halloween

November Bake your "Gritty Baenz"

November Annual Meeting

December 4th and final Jass Tournament

December Christmas Party

Board of the Swiss Club ...

- President:** Adrian Wiestner, adrian.wiestner@swissclub.org, phone: 301-571-0977
- 1st Vice President:** Evaldo Roos, evaldo.roos@swissclubdc.org, phone: 202-362-6020
- 2nd Vice President:** Stanley Cook, stanley.cook@swissclubdc.org, phone: 202-244-3275
- Secretary:** Claudia Tobler, claudia.tobler@swissclubdc.org, phone: 240-631-6601
- Treasurer:** Pete Amstutz, pete.amstutz@swissclubdc.org, phone: 703-242-4224
- Program Coordinator:** Susann Kollmar, susann.kollmar@swissclubdc.org, phone: 301-571-0977
- Publicity/Website:** Elizabeth Wilson, elizabeth.wilson@swissclubdc.org, phone: 703-481-5810
- Jass Coordinator:** Marlies Hazan, marlies.hazan@swissclubdc.org: 301-603-0536

Other Swiss Groups ...

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

Swiss Benevolent Society
Campbell Graeub
301-652-2007

Folklore Group
Erwin Buerlimann
703-548-6349

The Swiss Rifles
Walter Braendli
302-995-1035

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Family \$50, Single \$35, Student \$15
Senior couple \$25, Senior Single \$15




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Enjoy HILLWOOD Estate, Museum and Gardens !!

The Swiss Club has two members who are docents at this great place and so we can offer a special arrangement for the Swiss Club!

HILLWOOD is located in downtown Washington DC on 4155 Linnean Avenue, not far from the Swiss Embassy. It was the estate of **Marjorie Merriweather Post**, the Post cereal heiress. She died in 1973 and left her mansion as a house museum with her wonderful collection of *French art of the 18th and 19th century and a huge collection of Russian art of the 19th century.*

It is a hidden secret in Washington and a wonderful place to spend a Sunday afternoon in June.

Date: Sunday June 10, 2007

We will meet at 12:45pm in the Visitor Center and start at 1pm with the movie about MMP and Hillwood. At 1:30pm we will have a guided tour through the mansion (or a self guided tour if you prefer). On our way to the café we will have time to stroll through the wonderful gardens. The "Royal Tea" will be served at 3pm.

Swiss Club Entrance fee and "Royal Tea" (specialty of the museums café) with all taxes and tips will be **\$25** for adults and **\$ 15** for kids under 16. (Entrance only, no tea: \$10/\$7) Note: no kids under the age of 6 are allowed into the house.

To register please send a check, ASAP (limited space available) !

Make check (non refundable) payable to: Swiss Club DC

Deadline for registration May 20th.

Send your registration and check to: Susann Kollmar, 5423 Mc Kinley Street, Bethesda MD, 20817 – phone 301-571 0977, skollmar@hotmail.com

For further information about Hillwood Museum check out: www.hillwoodmuseum.org

Registration for Hillwood Estate, Museum and Gardens on Sunday, June 10th, 2007, adult \$25, kid \$15

Name:		
No. of People:	with/without tea	
Adults:	Children:	age of child:
Total amount \$:		
Phone:		
I/we wish (please circle): the guided tour / German tour / English tour		
Self-guided tour:		



NEXT EVENTS ...

2nd 2007 Jass Tournament

Sunday, June 3rd, 2007 – 1:30pm

HOSTED BY: Margrit & Roland Zeender
16324 Bawtry Court
Bowie, MD
Tel. 301 262-3253

Deadline for registration: May 27th, 2007

Registration fee: \$5.00 per person

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Dr. Marquardt is from Switzerland.
She speaks French, Swiss German, German and
Spanish in addition to English.

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(703) 668-0520

Please contact Margrit Zeender at
301 262-3253 or
rzeender@comcast.net if you would
like to attend.



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Celebrate the **Swiss National Day** - We are back **at the Embassy!!!** Hurrah !

Date: **Saturday, July 28, 2007**

- Doors open at 3pm until dusk -

Sorry: NO RAIN DATE

Swiss Music – Entertainment – Raffle & Tombola,
Lampion parade & Bonfire: children up to age 16 get a free lampion!!!
T-Shirts – Sodas – Wine – Beer Garden – Swiss Bakery – Souvenirs

Note: This year we can use the Embassy's swimming pool, so don't forget to pack your swim gear!

Entrance fee (non-refundable) includes :
sausage, bread, salad, dessert;

PRE-REGISTRATION (by July 10th, 2007)

SwissClubDC members: Adults: \$15 / Children (age 5-16): \$10, under the age of 4: free
Non members : \$20 / \$15
Be on time with your registration and you will get a free Tombola ticket.

AFTER DEADLINE (July 10th) and AT THE GATE

SwissClubDC members: Adults: \$20 / Children (age 5-16): \$15, under the age of 4: free
Non members: \$25/ \$20

Please bring your own lawn chairs. *We also encourage you to bring your beach umbrellas and sun screen, as there is limited shade!*

When darkness sets in the bonfire will be lit and we will gather for the lampion parade.

We need volunteers !!!

As always: WE NEED VOLUNTEERS! Volunteers..., FREIWILLIGE !!! We need YOU !
(Tombola/Raffle ticket sale, soda and beer bar, games, help, help, help)

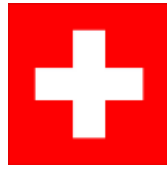
Volunteers: please call Susann Kollmar at:
Phone: 301- 571 0977 - we offer free entrance with 4 hour commitment)

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!



NEXT EVENTS...

W A N T E D



Tombola Prizes !

Have you attended the Swiss Club's National Day Celebration? Did you enjoy the thrill and glory of entering the Tombola raffle and winning a prize? If so (and even if you haven't) then please help share the fun and donate prizes to this year's event! The National Day Celebration will be at the Swiss Embassy grounds this year and we anticipate a record turnout. Prizes should be new items in good condition, crafts, antiques, and gift cards.

Donations must be received by July 15, 2007

If you have something to donate, or have questions about donating, please contact:

Claudia Tobler at ctobler@comcast.net or 240-672-6590

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Swiss National Day Celebration Events



This year's National Day Celebration will feature many fun activities, including some especially for children (face painting, story hour, songs).

Do you have a suggestion for a children's activity? Would your children be interested in:

(a) t-shirt painting (b) a moon bounce (c) something else?

Please contact: Claudia Tobler at ctobler@comcast.net or 240-672-6590 with ideas and suggestions.

NEXT EVENTS ...



Swiss National Day Registration:

Entrance Fee:

PRE-REGISTRATION (deadline: **July 10th**, 2007) Adults:\$15 - Children (5-16): \$10 , Non members : \$20 / \$15

AFTER July 10th and AT THE GATE Adults: \$20 / Children (5-16): \$15, Non members: \$25/ \$20

Name:

Swiss Club DC Member: yes / no

Phone number:

Email (please write clearly!):

No. of adults: member..... non member.....

No. of children: < 4: 5-16: member.....non member.....

Name of EACH guest including children and ages:

.....

..... (need more space?-use extra sheet)

Contribution to the Swiss Benevolent Society: \$.....

Total amount: \$..... (please make check payable to Swiss Club of Washinton D.C.)

Sorry: NO CREDIT CARDS !! Send check (non refundable) and registration to:

Susann Kollmar, 5423 Mc Kinley Street, Bethesda MD 20817

!! Send a self addressed and stamped envelope with your payments and I will mail your tickets.!

By the way: WE NEED VOLUNTEERS 😊 ! 😊 ! 😊 !!



PAST EVENTS ...

Fondue & Raclette Evening with the Ambassador:

On January 19th 2007, we had a wonderful cheese night at the Embassy.

130 people attended this special event and for many people it was the first chance to have dinner with the new ambassador Urs Ziswiler and his wife Ronit.

Catered by the Swiss Bakery the event was authentic Swiss! Reto, with the help of his crew and volunteers from the Swiss Club, prepared a delicious Fondue, and served a tasty Raclette starring our top "Raclette Schaber" specialist: Franz- Joseph! Thank you!

The cheese was followed by a fantastic dessert buffet: a Swiss pastry dream with a bit of everything! – dream on.....sweet....

A big thanks goes to Martin von Arx, who donated the wine for the evening, which was of course: Swiss!

Everybody had a great time, as you can see on the photos!



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SKI WEEKEND IN WINTERGREEN

After battling terrible Presidents' Day rush hour traffic, and after watching *Shrek* three times, we arrived. The stress of the 'escape from DC' traffic was quickly erased as we settled into Wintergreen Resort. This year the families with children stayed in one house, while those without stayed at the house of the Leveques with their beautiful and serene view over the Blue Ridge Mountains. Everybody settled into their rooms and made their own plans for dinner.

On Saturday we were greeted by the morning sun with amazing views of trees covered in ice. Wintergreen has so many activities and something for everyone that no one wasted time getting involved in their favorite winter sport. For some families that meant hitting the slopes, where we all were welcomed by the Swiss flag (okay, it's true they use it to signal the First Aid stations but it was still a nice touch). Others were drawn to the spa to enjoy a relaxing and less physical activity.

In the evening we enjoyed Fondue and Raclette, with wine sponsored by Martin Von Arx. The bread and lots of other Swiss delights sponsored by the Swiss Bakery satisfied everyone.

Sunday brought more of the same with families trying tubing and snowboarding. On Sunday night we gathered for a "classic Swiss dish" of delicious spaghetti.

On Monday, people squeezed one last run in before the sad task of driving home.

Everyone had a great time and people are looking forward to next year's winter holiday! A big thank you to all the organizers of this event.

Jane Stafford-Trachsel



MOVIE EVENING: CITIZEN FRED

On Friday, March 9th, quite a large group (about 35) attended an encore presentation of the movie *CITIZEN FRED* at the embassy along with popcorn, coke, and wine! at the open bar. The movie was quite touching, particularly to many present, who had come to America in the 70's and immigrated since. No one present had enrolled in the U.S Armed Forces like Fred but many remembered the feeling of astonishment and awe upon seeing for the first time ,like Fred, the skyscrapers and busy streets of Manhattan (the younger crowd is now more blasé, as they might have seen taller buildings in vacations in Dubai or Kuala Lumpur). The open vistas of the West still impress. To Fred leaving Switzerland at a time of rising unemployment, AMERICA represented "the land of opportunity" which it still is. He embraced fully the ethics of "work, work, work" enjoying the rewards (the white Chevy). His return visit to the Old Country seeing with his daughter the old family farm house and reminiscing with his nephew about departed family members brought tears to the corner of his eyes (and also to many of us who have been through similar circumstances). His dreams of a better life in AMERICA did not negate his attachment to his roots. Some of his dreams were altered by the stroke suffered by his wife but he had incorporated the "can do" attitude of his adoptive country and he still takes her along on trips having her "see through his eyes" the beauty of the country. The Swiss flag on the table and in the living room are always a reminder of who he still is. To many who speak Swiss German, Fred's regional accent and local idioms brought a smile. It was a great evening for which we thank the board. The open bar and popcorn created the right atmosphere and helped fuel the socializing before and after the presentation.

Hubert Leveque



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My Table Will Travel



On March 11, 2007, 21 enthusiastic Jassers made their way to Springfield, VA for the first Jass Tournament of the year, hosted by Laurie and Reto Weber.

The players were warmly received by the Webers in their lovely "townhouse in the woods". On a beautiful spring-like day and in the "gemütlich" ambiance of a mountain chalet brimming with Swiss momentos, the contestants got down to some serious "jassen".

Although everyone was vying for the traditional prizes of Swiss wine, the camaraderie, good natured humor, and laughter prevailed everywhere.

Before, during, and after the tournament, everyone took lengthy timeouts to sample the delectable buffet and desserts prepared by Reto and Laurie's famous Swiss Bakery.

The Bündner Nusstorte and the chocolate mousse cake were to die for!
The winners of this first tournament were:

1st	Eric Hess	2143 points
2nd	Senta Speight	2090 points
3rd	Reto Weber	2015 points

The final part of the afternoon's program was the farewell to the von Arx family: Imelda, Martin, their son Patrick and daughter Beatrice. All four have been very active Jassers since their arrival in Washington, DC four years ago. They will be missed.

Marlies Hazan, the Jass Coordinator, presented a farewell gift on behalf of the Jass Group. She warned the von Arxes that a petition (signed by everyone present) had been sent to the EDA requesting that Martin and his family be sent back to Washington for a third term!

A good time was had by all – Jass is alive and well!

Paul Hazan



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