



July 2009



AGENDA 2009

ALL EVENTS AND DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Saturday, August 1	Swiss National Day / Swiss Embassy
Sunday, September 6	3 rd Jass Tournament / tba
Mid September	Fahrt ins Blaue
Early October	Fall Festival Picnic, pumpkin carving
Friday, October 24	Halloween Party/Dance / Swiss Embassy
Friday, November 18	Annual General Meeting / Swiss Embassy
November	Grittibenz Baking / tba
Sunday December 6th	4 th Jass Tournament / tba
Sunday December 13	Samichlaus Party / Swiss Embassy

Message from the President

This year, our Swiss National Day Celebration is actually on the first of August, which is a Saturday, at the Swiss Embassy, 3pm, rain or shine, with a greeting by alphorns and all the traditions that we like so much. These include Fahنشwingen, folks dance, Swiss music including singing and yodeling, pool, wurst (and other goodies from our caterer, The Swiss Bakery), children's creative activities, lampions, bonfire, raffle, wine (courtesy of our ambassador), speeches (short ones), as well as some newer activities such as the popular Gathering of the Cantons.

You will find the registration form (and the membership renewal form, if you have not already done that) inside this special issue of the Postillion which will be sent in printed form to all members. Come and join your compatriots and friends of Switzerland in this celebration where everyone can participate and enjoy.

Since we are not sending extra flyers this year, please spread the word and refer friends to our web site www.swissclubdc.org, where this information and registration forms are readily available. This is also the place to check regularly for future activities, next issues of the Postillion, and (soon) extended picture shows of past events in brilliant colors. We still send printed Postillions to those who ask for it, and a printed membership list will be available after major updates which usually occur after the National Day event.

Looking forward to seeing you on August first!
Christian Haudenschild

For more information, visit our website at www.swissclubdc.org
Most of our events are for members only, however members' friends are welcome

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



Swiss Club Board & Volunteer Coordinators...

OFFICERS

- President:** Christian Haudenschild, christian.haudenschild@swissclubdc.org,
Tel: 301-251-5808
- 1st Vice President:** Eric Russi, eric.russi@swissclubdc.org, Tel: 301-585-5844
- 2nd Vice President:** Ursula Banzhaf, ursula.banzhaf@swissclubdc.org, Tel: 703-248-1144
- Secretary:** Claudia Tobler, claudia.tobler@swissclubdc.org, Tel: 240-672-6590
- Treasurer:** Pete Amstutz, pete.amstutz@swissclubdc.org, Tel: 703-242-4224
- Publicity/Website:** Stef Kvamme, stephanie.kvamme@swissclubdc.org / Andy Ruefenacht,
andreas.ruefenacht@swissclubdc.org, Tel: 507-351-9608

BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

- Yvonne Worrell Pover, yvonne.pover@swissclubdc.org, Tel: 703-370-3303
Paul Amstad, paul.amstad@swissclubdc.org, Tel: 410-465-5417

VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

- Jass Coordinator:** Senta Speight, senta.speight@swissclubdc.org, Tel: 301-530-0699

Other Swiss Groups ...

Die Stauffacherin
(Swiss ladies group)
Rosmarie Stucki
202-572-8219

Swiss Benevolent Society
Campbell Graeub
301-652-2007

The Swiss Rifles
Walter Braendli
302-995-1035

Folklore Group
Erwin Buerlimann
703-548-6349

Swiss Club Email ...

To get an email notification with a link to the new issue every time a new Postillion (or other Swissclub activity) is published, please make sure that the sender swissclubdc@swissclubdc.org is not blocked by any spamfilters or firewalls. This is usually done by adding this sender to the address list of the email program (like outlook, outlook express) or designating it as "friend" in some mail filters (like mailwasher). While electronic versions will go to everyone of whom we have an email address, future printed Postillions and announcements will only be sent to those who ask for it (on the membership renewal form or by notifying editor Stef Kvamme or Eric Russi, contact info above).

Jass News

Thank you very much on behalf of all the Jassers to the Roberts family for hosting the 4th and final Jass for 2008 at their beautiful home in Rockville.

Thank you very much on behalf of all the Jassers to Laurie and Reto Weber for hosting the 1st Jass for 2009 at the beautiful now expanded Swiss Bakery and Café in Springfield.

Thank you very much on behalf of all the Jassers to Marlies and Paul Hazan for hosting the 2nd Jass of 2009 at their beautiful home in Rockville.

Thank you to all past and future hosts for being so generous in inviting us and to treating us so generously in every way. Everybody always has a great time and it is very much appreciated by all.

INSIDE THE CLUB ...



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL 2009

The membership year runs from January to December

Membership is required to attend club events

Renew early and enjoy a full year of club activities!

Please check appropriate box: New Member Renewal

I am a Swiss National or Swiss Descendent or I am a Friend of Switzerland

If Swiss National or Swiss Descendent, canton of origin: _____

Last name: _____ First: _____ Date of birth: _____

Spouse Name: _____ Spouse Date of birth: _____

List first names of dependent children (under 18) and give year of birth for each:

1. _____ 3. _____

2. _____ 4. _____

Home address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home phone: _____ Business phone: _____

E-Mail _____ Occupation: _____

Date: _____ Signature of applicant: _____

Do you wish to receive information and our newsletter by e-mail only? YES / NO (circle your answer)

I will be glad to volunteer to help during a Swiss Club event: YES / NO (circle your answer)

I would be glad to help organize a small Swiss Club event: YES / NO (circle your answer)

Printed Membership List Exclusion

For privacy protection, I request that my name, city and phone number are NOT included in the printed membership list and its future updates.

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Phone: _____

Enclosed is my membership check of \$_____ for:

_____ \$50.00 Family membership (couple and dependent children under 18)

_____ \$35.00 Single membership _____ \$ 15.00 Single senior citizen (65+)

_____ \$15.00 Student or Au Pair _____ \$ 25.00 Senior citizen couple (both 65+)

Please make check payable to **Swiss Club of Washington, D.C.**

Mail to: Eric Russi 2100 Washington Avenue, Springfield MD 20910



PAST EVENTS ...

The Swiss Club on the Billy Goat Trail: A Story for the Photo Album!



First, of course, a photo op for all intrepid hikers of all ages....

with some real climbing on some real rocks.



so beautiful and as close to Swiss landscape as it gets around here (water color of the trail by Alfred Moritz)



conquering the Billy Goat Trail, like an elegant balance act on a high rope,



but, honestly, most participants went through all this just to enjoy the end of the journey, which was a delicious picnic of Bratwurst, Cervelats, Wienerly and other Swiss goodies prepared by the organizer of the event, Paul Amstad, his lovely wife Beth and their helpers,



It was so good, I think we'll do some other hike in the fall....

Christian Haudenschild

All the fun beautifully captured in another one of Alfred Moritz's aquarelles of the day. There are more picture on our website and he has a show at: Davis Library, 6400 Democracy Blvd, Bethesda, MD 20817, through July)



Join us at the Swiss Bakery for wine tasting and other events. To receive notice of upcoming events, visit www.theswissbakery.com to sign up for our mailing list.





Swiss National Day..

Come celebrate the **Swiss National Day** at the **Swiss Embassy**

2900 Cathedral Ave, NW DC 20008

Saturday, August 1st, 2009

Doors open 3:00 – 7:00 pm. Sorry, no rain date.

Swiss Food and Music – Alphorns – Super Raffle Prizes – Tombola

Flag Swinging – Performances by Swiss Folklore Group

Kids' Corner – Moon Bounce – Lampion Parade – Bonfire

T-Shirts – Swiss Wines – Beer Garden – Swiss Bakery goods– Souvenirs

Entrance fee includes: Swiss sausage meal, salad, delicious desserts by the Swiss Bakery, and beverage. Children receive a lampion for the parade.

PRE-REGISTRATION by July 20th, 2009

Adults: **\$20** / Children under age 12: **\$10**

Non members: **\$25 / children \$15**, including a 7-day membership

AFTER July 20 and AT THE GATE

Adults: **\$25** / Children: **\$15**

Non members: **\$30/ children \$20**, including a 7-day membership

Checks accepted. Sorry, no credit cards.

Bring lawn chairs, beach umbrellas, suit for the pool, and sun screen!

The bonfire will be lit for the lampion parade at 8:00 p.m.

VOLUNTEERS needed for the Tombola/Raffle, soda, and beer bar

Free admission and meal in return for a 2 hour commitment

To volunteer, please contact Eric Russi

Email: errussi@yahoo.com, or evenings: 301-585-5844

First of August 2009 Registration



Members Only

mail to **Eric Russi, 2100 Washington Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910**

Names: _____

phone _____ email _____

PRE-REGISTRATION before July 20, 2008

___ adults (age 12 and over) at \$20 each

___ children (below age 12) at \$10 each

___ adult guests at \$25 each, including a 7 day membership

___ child guests at \$15 each, including a 7 day membership

Below age 2, free - food and lampions purchased separately

After July 20, 2009 and at the Gate

___ adults (age 12 and over) at \$25 each

___ children (below age 12) at \$15 each

___ adult guests at \$30 each, including a 7 day membership

___ child guests at \$20 each, including a 7 day membership

___ total number of tickets ordered

\$___ total check amount enclosed

make checks payable to the **Swiss Club of Washington, D.C.**

enclose a self addressed, stamped envelope to receive your tickets

VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION

After you contact Eric Russi at errussi@yahoo.com or 301-585-5844

___ volunteers. Volunteer tickets will be mailed with your paid tickets.

Donations are accepted on behalf of the Swiss Benevolent Society. Please enclose a separate check payable to the Swiss Benevolent Society.



CALL FOR HELP...

A Message from the Swiss Benevolent Society

Last year's message in the Postillion describing the Swiss Benevolent Society's history, objectives of its charitable functions and request for financial support from the Swiss community brought in a total of \$1,000 which was raised from direct contributions and the sale of water color paintings of deceased local Swiss artist Fred Sigerist. We extend a sincere word of appreciation to those who supported the cause.

A brief summary of the Swiss Benevolent Society (SBS) is again in order. Founded in 1865, the Society is the oldest Swiss organization in Washington, with the mission of helping Swiss in need that reside in the Metropolitan area. Over the 140 years of its existence direct help was provided to individuals who encountered financial difficulties which included extended travel assistance to return to Switzerland. This was usually done through loans expected to be paid back.

In 1980 a scholarship program was initiated to help Swiss and descendants of Swiss with the ever increasing costs of college education. Eligibility to apply for grants has been extended to include Swiss descendants residing in the tiny West Virginia community of Helvetia.

While the scholarship program is now the major focus, limited assistance to individuals in need and attention to elderly and shut-ins has continued as cases have been brought to the Society's attention. The assets currently stand at \$120,000, invested in the Washington Mutual Investors Fund and in a Vanguard Fund. It has been a long-standing policy to maintain a strong assets base, allowed to slowly grow with inflation, while expending annual earnings and donations for aid and grants. While conservative management of assets has been adhered to, e.g. in 1980 the total assets were \$40,000 yearly expenditure for scholarships has been as high as \$7,000. Since inception of the program, a total of \$100,000 in grants has been awarded to dozens of recipients. Last year, the Society was called on for some special assistance that resulted in total expenses of over \$10,000.

The Society is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization allowing contributions to be fully tax deductible. The Board of Trustee members are volunteers and there are literally no overhead expenses, which mean that all contributions flow directly to the needy.

As we celebrate the 764th anniversary of the founding of the Confederation it is also timely to think of a way to extend help to Swiss compatriots. The Board of Trustees asks for your generous response to this once a year call for help. Checks made out to the Swiss Benevolent Society should be mailed to Cassandra Wait, SBS Secretary, 841 Lower Marlboro Rd., Huntington, MD 20855.

Many thanks in advance,
Campbell Graeb, SBS President

POSTILLION appears 4 to 6 x a year
Advertisement: business card \$ 25 /
1/4-page \$50 / 1/2-page \$100 /
full-page \$150

MEMBERSHIP FEES:

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



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OLD RAG MOUNTAIN HIKE



Please join us for a fall hike in the beautiful Shannandoh National Park on Saturday, October 17. We meet at the Old Rag Mountain parking lot on SR600/Nethers Road at 9:30 AM.

The Old Rag Mountain hike is one of the most popular hikes in the mid-Atlantic region. With many spectacular panoramic views, and one of the most challenging rock scrambles in the park, this circuit hike is favorite of many hikers. The hike will take about 5.5 hours. The total elevation gain is 2,500 feet.

For details about the hike and how to get there or changes in case of rain, contact Paul Amstad at pamstad@verizon.net or 410-465-5417 (evening).



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