January 2015 Postillion by Rossana Delucchi
www.SwissClubDC.org

President's Message

Happy New Year to all,

With the start of 2015 we wish to thank our retiring board members and past president Reto Weber, Claudia Tobler, and Alexis Sullivan. All three have given the Swiss Club many volunteer hours and have been instrumental in the success of our events. Reto has catered our dinners, Claudia has entertained the children with fun activities, while Alexis has been making sure everything and everyone was in place to provide you with a smooth event.

In turn, we welcome to the board Catherine Gees, and Jeni Tutwiler who will help us continue offering great dinners and outings for you the members. And should you, too, be interested in joining the board, please send me an e-mail.

Two events have been scheduled for this month. A Jass tournament on January 11 at the Swiss Bakery in Springfield, followed by a Kaffee Klatsch on January 24 at La Madeleine in Bethesda. Can't think of better places to spend some time in winter than in a bakery with a cup of coffee and maybe some pastry or two! And save the date of Saturday, February 28 for a delicious fondue.

When hanging up a brand new calendar please also remember to renew your membership to the Swiss Club. And to make it easier to do so, you can now renew online with a credit card. See the article below.

Thanks for your past support and we hope you'll continue sharing some Swiss traditions with us. I look forward to seeing many of you during the coming year.

With best wishes for a very happy and healthy New Year to you and your families.

Eveline Roberts
Chvd@aol.com

Jass Tournament

Sunday, January 11 at 1:30 pm

Jass Rules & Scoring can be found on our website

At the Swiss Bakery in Springfield, VA
Ravensworth Shopping Center
5224 Port Royal Road
Springfield, VA 22151
703-321-3670

Please register with Margrit Zeender by sending an email to rzeender@comcast.net or call her 301-262-3253

Registration deadline is January 7th 2015
We look forward to playing with you!
KaffeeKlatsch  

Come join our Language Club Coffee Hour

We talk, we sip coffee, and we eat pastries... what a great way to spend a Saturday morning! We usually have 15 to 20 participants speaking French, Swiss German, and sometimes, Italian. Come and enjoy good conversation and good food!

Place:  La Madeleine  
       French Bakery & Café  
       7607 Old Georgetown Road  
       Bethesda MD 20814

Date:  Saturday, January 24th 2015  
Time:  9:00am to 11:30am  
Please RSVP to RosmarieStucki (rosmarie@gmail.com)  
or call her 202 – 572 - 8219

Free Parking with validation:  Parking # 49 on Woodmont Avenue / Commerce Lane. There are two garage entrances: one on Woodmont Av between Old Georgetown Road and Edgemoor Lane and one on Edgemoor Lane between Woodmont Avenue and Commerce Lane.

Discover a piece of Switzerland in Uruguay

Nueva Helvecia (New Helvetia), or Colonia Suiza (Swiss Colony), is a small town in Uruguay founded by the Swiss together with small groups of Germans, Austrians and Alsatians. At the end of the 19th century, Uruguay was in need of immigrants, people who could help develop a young, unpopulated country.

In 1862 the first group of settlers arrived carrying nothing but their suitcases, their hearts full of hope and a spirit to work unimaginably hard. In a place where no one spoke their language, alone, they put their best effort as farmers and harvested a little piece of Switzerland in South America. This can still be seen today in Uruguay, “The Switzerland of the South.”

We are planning a trip to discover this historical and vibrant town in January 2015. There will be different hotel accommodations to choose from, many excellent restaurants, a guided tour and you can spend your spare time either at the swimming pools, taking walks to know the town better, and mingling with the locals. We plan day trips to travel to Colonia del Sacramento and Punta del Este. Those of you who would like to visit Buenos Aires can do it for the day or stay a couple of days if you want to stay longer.

Please, let me know at rossdelucchi@hotmail.com (or call me 571-312-5300) if you would be interested in visiting a very different place in South America. I will share a few more details in our next Postillion, mostly regarding prices and more activities.

I have already talked about this idea with people from Nueva Helvecia - Colonia Suiza and they would be very happy to welcome a group from the Swiss Club of Washington, D.C. to their lovely town.
Some Pictures of Nueva Helvecia

Board Members and Volunteer Coordinators

President: Eveline Roberts, eveline.roberts@swissclubdc.org
1st Vice-President: Martin Perret, martin.perret@swissclubdc.org
2nd Vice-President: Eric Russi, eric.russi@swissclubdc.org
Secretary: Bernie Unti, bernard.ungi@swissclubdc.org
Treasurer: Joel Cox, joel.cox@swissclubdc.org
Publicity Officer: Rossana Delucchi, rossana.delucchi@swissclubdc.org
Membership Coordinator, Marc Borbely, marc.borbely@swissclubdc.org
Children's Activities Coordinator: Catherine Gees
Board Member: Christian Haudenschild, christian.haudenschild@swissclubdc.org
Board Member: Hisham Shaheen, hisham.shaheen@swissclubdc.org
Board Member: Susann Kollmar, susann.kollmar@swissclubdc.org
Board Member: Olivia Hauser, olivia.hauser@swissclubdc.org
Board Member: Jeni Tutwiler
Swiss Embassy Liaison: Juerg Bono, juerg.bono@eda.admin.ch
Webmaster: Johannes Hofer, hhofer@verizon.net
Pictures from the Samichlaus Party
Our membership runs on a calendar basis, and come January we remind you to send in your 2015 dues. We also wish to thank all the members who have already sent in their membership renewals for 2015. Only new members who have joined the Swiss Club since October 2014 do not have to renew their membership, but everyone else does.
Swiss Club Quiz

Answer to the December Quiz: When Stauffacher, the Landammann (local leader) of Schwyz, hesitated to join his colleagues from Uri and Nidwalden to stand up against Gessler (the Habsburg imposed suppressor), his wife Gertrude encouraged him with the words: “Schauvorwärts, Werner, und nicht hinter dich!” (Look forward, Werner, and not behind you). In a historical document, a treatise with Zürich of August 26, 1992, a Rudolf the Stauffacher from Schwyz is mentioned, but not as Landammann.

January Quiz: In June 1992, after successfully conquering Winterthur and taking 1000 prisoners, the Duke Albrecht of Habsburg set siege on Zürich, but retreated with his army 6 days later. Why?

Save the Date  February, 28th

Join us at our traditional and very popular Swiss Fondue Dinner!