President’s Message

Grüezi, hello, bonjour and salute,
The Easter Egg Hunt at the Embassy was fantastic, many children (40) and adults (41) attended and the Weather was perfect. Hope you all had a great Easter weekend!
Other activities planned:
Folklore event in Helvetia in September
Fall activity with the Swiss Rifles.
Dates and places for these events will be determined at a later date.
Martin
martin.perret@swissclub.dc

Spring Bike Ride  
Saturday, May 20, at 10:30 am

Join us for a bike ride on the W & OD bike trail

Meet us in Purcellville, VA, on the Washington Old Dominion bike trail, by the Magnolia restaurant. There is plenty of parking available around the Restaurant.
From Purcellville we will ride towards Leesburg, VA, which is ten miles away and you can turn around wherever you want depending on your enthusiasm and stamina. For more energetic riders Ashburn is 20 miles away by Dulles airport, Vienna 30 miles and Georgetown 44 miles. The distances quoted are from Purcellville. For your safety and pleasure you should bring a water bottle, helmet and bike air pump. If it is the first time this year on the bike take a test run around your area to see if there are any fixes/maintenance needed. The Bike shop in Purcellville is closed.

We plan to eat at the Magnolias restaurant around 12:30 pm. Magnolias Restaurant is at 198 North 21st. Street, Purcellville, VA. http://magnoliasmill.com/ There is no charge for this event, however, lunch is not included. We would like you to register so we know how many people to expect for the lunch reservation.

Time: Saturday, May 20, at 10:30am
Place: Purcellville, VA
        N21st & N 23rd Streets
        right near Magnolias restaurant

Please register by email with Martin Perret (703-321-3021)

Kaffee Klatsch  
Saturday, May 27

Come join our Language Club Coff Hour, and enjoy good conversation and good food!
We talk, we sip coffee, and we eat pastries... what a great day to spend a Saturday morning.

We usually have 15 to 20 participants speaking French, Swiss German, German, and sometimes, Italian.

Time: 9am to 12 noon
Place: The Swiss Bakery
        5224 Port Royal Rd
        Springfield, VA 22151

Please RSVP to Janine Ali by May 26  (703-313-6268)
Antietam Battlefield Trail Hike

Saturday, June 3, at 9am

Bridge over Antietam Creek

Join us for a hike on the beautiful and historically significant Antietam battlefield near Sharpsburg, MD. We'll have a choice of several hikes, one a bit longer and a little more challenging (4-5 miles) and the other shorter, and flatter (1-2 miles). First, we'll visit the Battlefield Visitor Center to learn a bit about the September 1862 battle, and then we'll enjoy our walks.

We'll then travel a short distance across the Potomac River to the Bavarian Inn in Shepherdstown, WV, for food, drink, and conversation.

There is no cost for registering or attending the hike. But Club members are responsible for park entrance fees at Antietam, and for food and beverage purchases at the Bavarian Inn.

We'll meet up in the Antietam Battlefield parking lot at 9am, and organize our several walks, to be led by Swiss Club members and friends. Good sneakers or hiking shoes are recommended. Water and snacks will be available as a courtesy to the hikers.

**Time:** 9:00 am  
**Place:** Antietam Battlefield parking lot  
5831 Dunker Church Road  
Sharpsburg, MD 21782

The hike will take place rain or shine. Please register by Thursday, June 1.

**REGISTER**  
Contact Bernard Unti with any questions. (301-980-6882)

For more on Antietam Battlefield, parking and fee information (parking may cost $10.00 per vehicle, encouraging carpools), see [https://www.nps.gov/anti/planyourvisit/basicinfo.htm](https://www.nps.gov/anti/planyourvisit/basicinfo.htm)
Members of the Swiss Club of Washington, D.C., are cordially invited to welcome summer by attending a special presentation in honor of the recently published cookbook *Schweizer Küchengeheimnisse* (Swiss Cooking Secrets). This event has been scheduled as a result of numerous requests and the immediate popularity of the book.

Written by Ambassador Martin J. Dahinden himself, it is a compilation of food stories, and beloved Swiss recipes, and we will be privileged to hear the Ambassador’s remarks and anecdotes. His writing mixes stories of influential Swiss chefs, politics and diplomacy in the same way a terrific meal brings people and lives together. Following the author’s remarks, we will have a cocktail reception with light passed hors d’oeuvres featuring selections from the book.

Ambassador Dahinden’s remarks will be made **in German only**, with no translation available. As for the book itself, Schweizer Küchengeheimnisse (currently only available in German) will be available for purchase and personal inscription.

Attendance is limited to members of the Swiss Club of Washington. Guests of current members may be accepted if space becomes available. This event is not suitable for children.

**Time:** Friday, June 23, at 7pm

**Place:** Swiss residence  
2920 Cathedral Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008

Please RSVP by e-mail to Janine Ali no later than June 12.  
(703-313-6268)

**Happy Hours**

Did you know the Swiss Club organizes monthly Happy Hours? We meet **Friday evenings** at different bars in and around DC; sometimes we’ll even meet to do a fun event like ice skating, visiting an outdoor market, or going to a sports game. Now that the weather is getting nicer, we’ll be planning more outdoor events! These meetups are open invitation to everyone, even if they are not Swiss Club members, so feel free to bring some friends! Make sure you follow the club’s Facebook page to stay up to date on these social events.  
[www.facebook.com/swissclubDC](http://www.facebook.com/swissclubDC)
Swiss Club Events for 2017

- **May 20**: Bike ride on the W&OD trail, Purcellville, VA
- **May 27**: Kaffee Klatsch at the Swiss Bakery, Springfield, VA
- **June 3**: Antietam Battlefield Trail Hike, Sharpsburg, MD
- **June 11**: Jass Tournament at the Perret residence in Springfield, VA
- **June 23**: Cookbook presentation by Amb. Dahinden
- **July 29**: 1st of August celebration at the Swiss Embassy
- **November 11**: Raclette evening
- **December 3**: Grittibaenz at the Swiss Bakery
- **December 10**: Samichlaus Party at the Swiss Embassy

Swiss Benevolent Society - 2017 Scholarship Program

Are you a High School student in the Washington Metro area planning to attend college this fall? Are you already in college, or are you planning to go to graduate school? If you are a Swiss National or have at least one grand-parent who was, and if you are in need of extra money for your higher education, we may have funds for you! In the past years, we have helped many young people in the Washington area with financial support for their education. Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity! Qualifications are based on scholastic achievements, educational goals, recommendations or references, and financial needs. Last year, we were able to help out several young Swiss students, and we received lovely thank you notes from them, describing how the funds helped supporting their education.

If you are interested, and live in the Washington Metropolitan area or Helvetia, WV, please send an e-mail to Regula.guess@yahoo.com and an application form will be sent to you. It is due July 1st, and the decision will be made at the end of August by the Board of Trustees of the Swiss Benevolent Society. By phone, call Campbell Graeub 301-652-2007.