



September 2007

# POSTILLION

Newsletter



Volume 1, Issue 3, 2007

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Picture courtesy of Paul Hazan

*National Day 2007 at the Embassy of Switzerland - Kaspar Hunkeler and Margrith Zeender with her granddaughter*

## Message from the President

Dear Members of the Swiss Club,

We had a fantastic National Day Celebration! Most of all, we had many, many volunteers who helped make this day a success - thank you all!

The weather was it's usual self this time of the year but with the Pool open (thank you Mr. Ambassador!) and no rain we got through smoothly. For a more detailed report on this and other events please see inside.

There is a busy program coming up: please check it out. I am quite sure, there is something for everyone.

Importantly, we will have the General Assembly of the Swiss Club on Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. This is not only a great chance to savor one of the best pot-luck dinners in town but also the place where a lot of important decisions for the coming year(s) will be made. Join us, bring your dish, bring your ideas, and consider becoming a member of the board.

Best wishes, Adrian Wiestner

For more information, visit our website at [www.swissclubdc.org](http://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](mailto:info@swissclubdc.org)



# AGENDA 2007

<b>October 13</b>	Folklore Group -Heimat Obig	<b>December 2</b>	4th and final Jass Tournament
<b>October 29</b>	Soliswiss presentation and wine tasting	<b>December 2</b>	Bake your own Grittibaenz
<b>November 16</b>	Annual Meeting	<b>December 16</b>	Christmas Party

## Board of the Swiss Club and volunteer coordinators ...

### OFFICERS

<b>President:</b>	Adrian Wiestner, <a href="mailto:adrian.wiestner@swissclubdc.org">adrian.wiestner@swissclubdc.org</a> , phone: 301-571-0977
<b>1st Vice President:</b>	Evaldo Roos, <a href="mailto:evaldo.roos@swissclubdc.org">evaldo.roos@swissclubdc.org</a> , phone: 202-362-6020
<b>2nd Vice President:</b>	Stanley Cook, <a href="mailto:stanley.cook@swissclubdc.org">stanley.cook@swissclubdc.org</a> , phone: 202-244-3275
<b>Secretary:</b>	Claudia Tobler, <a href="mailto:claudia.tobler@swissclubdc.org">claudia.tobler@swissclubdc.org</a> , phone: 240-672-6590
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Pete Amstutz, <a href="mailto:pete.amstutz@swissclubdc.org">pete.amstutz@swissclubdc.org</a> , phone: 703-242-4224
<b>Program Coordinator:</b>	Susann Kollmar, <a href="mailto:susann.kollmar@swissclubdc.org">susann.kollmar@swissclubdc.org</a> , phone: 301-571-0977

### VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

<b>Publicity/Website:</b>	Elizabeth Wilson, <a href="mailto:elizabeth.wilson@swissclubdc.org">elizabeth.wilson@swissclubdc.org</a> , phone: 703-481-5810
<b>Jass Coordinator:</b>	Marlies Hazan, <a href="mailto:marlies.hazan@swissclubdc.org">marlies.hazan@swissclubdc.org</a> : 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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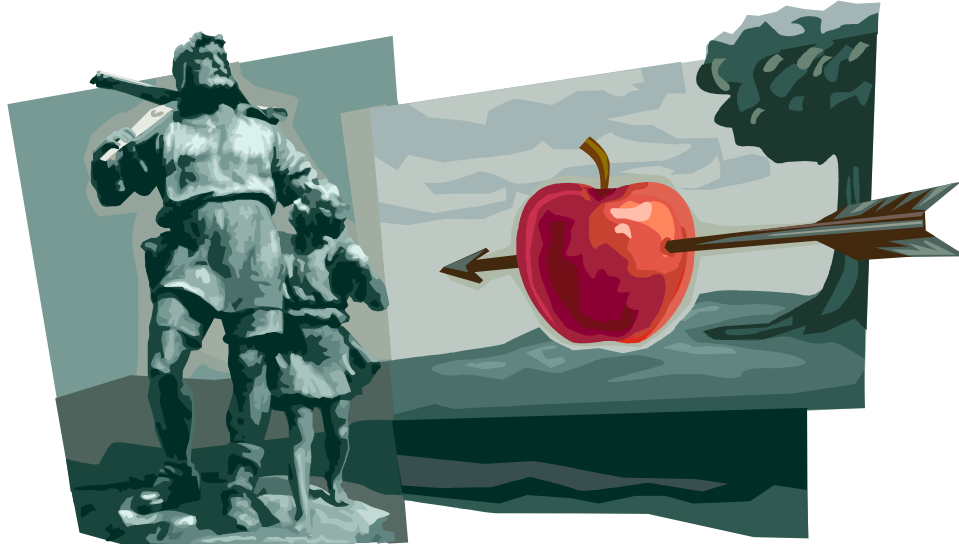
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As a UBS Swiss Financial Advisor, I guide individuals, corporations and nonprofit organizations on a wide range of financial strategies to meet their needs and achieve their objectives. I focus on investment strategies, tax-exempt investments, education funding and retirement planning.

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## STORAGE SPACE NEEDED !!



**The Swiss Club needs storage space to store Club materials. We are looking for a dry place to keep numerous boxes etc. If you have room please volunteer the space– let us use our funds for exciting activities, rather than costly storage.**

**VOLUNTEERS RECEIVE A FREE MEMBERSHIP AND A CHANCE TO WIN A ROUNDTRIP TICKET TO SWITZERLAND! VOLUNTEER TODAY!!**

If interested, please e-mail Claudia Tobler at [claudia.tobler@swissclubdc.org](mailto:claudia.tobler@swissclubdc.org)

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**It's that time already!**

**Please renew your membership for 2008 promptly.**

(Fees are due January 1, 2008)

**We value your continued participation in the Club and look forward to having you join us again next year.**

Membership applications are available on-line at [www.swissclubdc.org](http://www.swissclubdc.org). If you want a renewal application by mail, please e-mail Claudia Tobler at [claudia.tobler@swissclubdc.org](mailto:claudia.tobler@swissclubdc.org)



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## Join us for an evening with two pillars of Swiss life abroad: Soliswiss & Swiss wine

**Monday October 29, 2007 at 6pm – 8pm**  
**Embassy of Switzerland, multipurpose room**

There will be Swiss wine tasting, light fare and a presentation by Soliswiss representatives.

### Soliswiss

Under the auspices of the Embassy of Switzerland, Washington D.C. You are cordially invited to attend a symposium on

**“Political Risk Exposure: Solutions for the Swiss Community Abroad”**

***Dr Felix Bossert (HSG)***  
***CEO, Soliswiss***

***and***

***Dr Doron Zimmermann (Cantab)***  
***Soliswiss Political Risk Advisors, Soliswiss***

Historically, the Swiss who have elected to emigrate have identified and acted on opportunities, but many of our fellow citizens living abroad have at one time or another been confronted with serious, even existential, risks. Soliswiss, the Cooperative Society Solidarity Fund for Swiss Nationals Abroad, has been active in its endeavour to support Swiss citizens abroad since 1958. We have 50 years of experience in offering our services in terms of providing a unique cover against existential loss due to political risk exposure. The requirements of Swiss nationals living abroad have changed considerably in the past few years. In particular, the aspect of asset security in politically unstable countries has regained prominence.

What are the benefits of a membership with Soliswiss: What is the value added? Take, for example, our claim to “live abroad with Swiss security.” Is it, indeed, a valid proposition? What is the significance of political risk exposure and solidarity among the 650,000 Swiss nationals abroad? And what is the individual responsibility of each of us to arrange for provisions against an uncertain financial future?

**All are welcome!**

**RSVP** by 10-24-07 to Susann Kollmar –Program Coordinator- (301) 571 0977 or email [susann.kollmar@swissclubdc.org](mailto:susann.kollmar@swissclubdc.org)



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# NEXT EVENTS...

Announcement of our 85<sup>th</sup> annual meeting:

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY of the SWISS CLUB

**Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup> 2007 @ 7 p.m.**

Embassy of Switzerland, 2900 Cathedral Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20008

**Food: Pot luck**, bring your favorite dish!

**The Swiss Club will provide the drinks and there will be a door prize !!!**

The board cordially invites you to participate. What is a General Assembly without the Club members? Also, there are several board positions opening up and the Club needs new people and welcomes fresh ideas.

**Agenda:**


1. Reading and approval of the minutes from the 84<sup>th</sup> annual membership meeting from November 10, 2006.
2. The President's report
3. The Treasurer's report
4. Election of the 2007 Executive Board.  
Several positions in the board will become available. Please consider your participation or help us identify people interested in joining the board.
5. Upcoming Club Activities
6. Membership fees
7. Historic Swiss Club items: continued storage or disposal?
8. Questions, Miscellaneous
9. Adjournment

Please register, so we can plan ahead, and contact:  
Susann Kollmar –Program Coordinator- (301) 571 0977 or email  
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## 4th 2007 Jass Tournament

**WHEN:** Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> – 1:30pm

**HOSTED BY:** Flory and Eric Hess  
 5252 Sangamore Road  
 Bethesda, MD  
 Tel. 301 229-3226

**Deadline for registration:** November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2007

**Registration fee:** \$5.00 per person

**Please contact Marlies Hazan at 301-603-0536 or pmhazan@comcast.net if you would like to attend.**

**Directions:** [www.mapquest.com](http://www.mapquest.com)

## PAST JASS EVENT

Only 12 members could come together for the third “Jassen” this year, but we had a very good time. Hosted by Christina and Hubert Leveque in their beautiful home and even more beautiful garden with a marvelous pool (no swimming, we had to play!), everybody tried very hard to make as many points as possible. Of course there were winners – the three “Er’s” (Eric, Erwin and Erna) –, but the others had as much fun.

Christine and Hubert invited us to stay for dinner, and they really gave us a formidable treat. Once again, thank you very much, Christina and Hubert!

*Flory Hess*



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## PAST EVENTS ...

### AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup> CELEBRATION IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

On Saturday July 29, 2007, the Swiss Club of Washington, DC held one of its most successful national holidays ever. Over 700 guests were in attendance.

Everything from the auspicious weather (the forecasted rain never materialized) to the meticulous preparations by the staff and dedicated volunteers contributed to making it a memorable occasion.

Traditional Swiss Gemütlichkeit and friendly hospitality were everywhere. The minute guests were welcomed at the Embassy gate with a warm Gruezi, the festivities began:

Children and adults splashed happily in the refreshing swimming pool; families picnicked gaily on the grassy grounds enjoying the grilled Bratwurst and Cervelat, Kartoffelsalat, capped by delicious bakeries and Swiss chocolate ice cream.

The Alte Kameraden band provided an engaging traditional musical background. This was punctuated by folk dancing exhibitions, not to mention the stirring Alphorn melodies and enthusiastically acclaimed yodeling performances. Well over 100 Tombola prizes (all donated) were raffled and distributed by volunteers to the many delighted winners – isn't it fun to be a winner...?

Adrian Wiestner, President of the Swiss Club, welcomed the capacity crowd and thanked all those who helped organize this great get together. He announced the winners of the raffle prizes including the grand prize of two round trip tickets to Zurich.

The annual address by the President of Switzerland was played over the loud speakers. In his speech, Ambassador Urs Ziswiler, emphasized the many common bonds and values uniting Switzerland and the United States. He suggested that every Swiss citizen here act as a 'transatlantic goodwill ambassador' whenever he or she visits family and friends back home.

As dusk morphed into the evening, the traditional children's lampion parade along with the great sing-along, with accordion accompaniment by Roland Zeender, ushered the grand finale to a glorious day.

Everyone left feeling a sense of gratitude to all the organizers and volunteers who made this very special event possible. As the families and guests departed the Embassy grounds, their smiling faces conveyed one resounding message:

THANK YOU ONE AND ALL — SEE YOU ALL NEXT YEAR!.....



Pictures courtesy of Paul Hazan



Paul Hazan







## Visit to the Hillwood Museum and Gardens

On a beautiful sunny and warm June 10<sup>th</sup>, 23 members of the Swiss Club enjoyed a wonderful tour of the Hillwood Museum and Gardens, followed by a tasty lunch at the delightful Café on the estate grounds. Hillwood, the estate of Marjorie Merriweather Post, is renowned for her collection of Russian art and the magnificent European style gardens, which are unsurpassed in the area. The Russian art collection, consists of paintings, icons, porcelain, chalcises and approximately 80 pieces of Faberge objects, including two imperial Easter eggs. Outside of Russia, the collection is reputed to be the finest in the world, other than that owned by the British Royal family.



Mrs. Post had the mansion designed to serve as her residence and as a museum for her art collection. She intended for visitors to Hillwood to delight in the treasures



found inside as well as outside the Mansion. She wanted her guests to experience her collections and gardens with in an ambience that she purposely worked to create. Her wishes came true for our Swiss group because we were fortunate to have the Hillwood tour guide who is one of our own, namely Susann Kollmar, as our tour guide throughout the entire visit. Susann did a wonderful job of providing us with the life history of Marjorie Merriweather Post, and the creation of the Hillwood estate, collection and gardens. Susann made the tour so interesting that the one child on the tour, seven year old Britteny Backus, ask Susann “when can I come back?” As I am sure Mrs. Post desired, Museums can be made educational and interesting to

children as well as adults.

Dick Backus

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Pictures courtesy of Paul Hazan