



Newsletter

# POSTILLION



## AGENDA 2010

<b>Saturday, January 23</b>	Fondue Evening	6:00 pm Swiss Embassy
<b>Saturday, February 13</b>	Fasching with Saengerbund	7:00 pm Fairfax, VA
<b>Saturday, April 17</b>	Fahrt ins Blaue	TBD
<b>Sunday, April 28</b>	Easter Egg Hunt	TBD
<b>May</b>	Billy Goat Trail	TBD

\* Events are subject to change



Every child made something for Samiclaus at the annual Christmas party and received a gift and photo-op with Samiclaus.



## Message from the President

Dear Swiss Club Members:

So much is going on that there is no need to repeat it all in this message. We had a great year thanks to all the volunteers, board members, embassy staff and not least thanks to you, our members, who participate so enthusiastically. The next year also looks very promising; the board is joined by five new members, and all named positions are filled! Especially in hard times, we hope that this club can offer something for everyone to look forward to.

With the best wishes for happy holidays and a successful New Year,

Christian Haudenschild

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)



## Swiss Club Board & Volunteer Coordinators...

**President:**

Christian C. Haudenschild  
e-mail: christian.haudenschild@swiss-clubdc.org, tel: 301-251-5808

**1st Vice-President:**

Eric Russi  
e-mail: eric.russi@swissclubdc.org,  
tel: 301-585-5844

**2nd Vice-President:**

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e-mail: ursula.banzhaf@swissclubdc.org, tel: 703-248-1144

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**Swiss Embassy Liaison:**

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email: christinehassig@yahoo.com,  
tel: 202-243-1010

**Board Member:**

Paul Amstad  
e-mail: paul.amstad@swissclubdc.org, tel: 410-465-5417

**Board Member:**

Yvonne Worrell Pover  
e-mail: yvonne.pover@swissclubdc.org, tel: 703-370-2600, 571-236-1125

**Board Member:**

Adrian Ineichen  
e-mail: adrian.i@gmx.ch,  
tel: 202-550-1466

**Board Member:**

Hisham Shaheen  
e-mail: hhsffl@yahoo.com,  
tel: 571-431-6695

**Board Member:**

Lukas Sieber  
e-mail: lukas.sieber@gmx.ch,  
tel: 202-258-0605

### JASS VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

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

### **VOLUNTEERS**

A club is only as strong as its members so we are always happy to have our members volunteer to make our events successful. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact Christian at christian.haudenschild@swissclubdc.org.

Arnold (second place 2009 Jass) and Senta



### Other Swiss Groups...

**The Swiss Rifles**

Walter Braendli  
302-995-1035

**Folklore Group**

Erwin Buerlimann  
703-548-6349

**Swiss Benevolent Society**

Campbell Graeb  
301-652-2007

**Die Stauffacherin**

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

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL 2010 +

The membership year runs from Jan. to Dec. Membership is required to attend club events

Check:  New Member  Renewal  Swiss National  Swiss Descendent  Friend of Switzerland

If a Swiss National or Descendent, canton of origin: \_\_\_\_\_

Last name: \_\_\_\_\_ First: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Dependent children (under 18) and 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: \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to receive the Postillion  **in color by email only**  **printed B/W by postal mail**

I would like to volunteer or help organize a Swiss Club event:  **YES**

I would like to be included in the club's printed membership directory:  **YES**  **NO**

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+)

Make check payable to **Swiss Club of Washington, D.C.** Mail to Eric Russi, Swiss Club of Washington, 2100 Washington Ave. Apt 6D, Silver Spring, MD 20910

My favorite club events:

Fondue/Raclette dinner \_\_\_ Wine Tasting \_\_\_ Walking/hiking \_\_\_ Films \_\_\_ Fall Festival \_\_\_

Cultural Evening \_\_\_ Christmas Party \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_ Comments and suggestions:

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## Jass News 2009

The 4th and final Jass for 2009 was hosted by Monika and Jürg Roth and Senta Speight at the Embassy on Sunday, December 6th. A total of 24 people attended and played. It was a great afternoon and as always, everyone had fun and enjoyed playing. Congratulations to the 2009 winners! Thank you once again to all the 2009 hosts! Happy Holidays! ~Senta Speight Jass Coordinator

Name	01. Mrz	31. Mai	06. Sep	06. Dez	Two Best	Rank
Reto Weber	1906	1834	2215	2142	4357	<b>1</b>
Arnold Brossi	2081		2078	2256	4337	<b>2</b>
Eveline Roberts	2032	1948	1658	2233	4265	<b>3</b>



2009 Jass Winners; Reto Weber, Arnold Brossi, and Eveline Roberts



Backus Score Keepers



Swiss Folklore Group Dance Practice every second and fourth Wednesday of the month. Call Ursula 703-248-1144 for confirmation.



Enjoying an evening of Raclette!

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



Join us for a traditional  
**Fondue evening!**  
 Saturday, January 23, 2010 at 6 PM

at the Embassy of Switzerland  
 2900 Cathedral Ave. NW  
 Washington, D.C. 20008



Register early, space is limited !

**Swiss Club Members: Adults: \$ 25.00 – Children 6-12 : \$ 10.00**  
**Children under 6: free – Guests: add \$ 5.00 for temporary membership**

(all included: fondue, wine, dessert, coffee/tea, sodas)  
 The food will be prepared by the Swiss Bakery and Pastry Shop!

**BRING YOUR OWN FONDUE SET!!!!**

**Registration deadline: Friday, January 16<sup>th</sup>**

(check payable to: Swiss Club of Washington DC)

Send your registration and check to:

Yvonne Pover, 222 Medlock Lane, Alexandria, VA 22304-7787,  
 Tel 703-370-2600 days; 703-370-3303 eves

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Fondue - Saturday 01-23-2010 - adult: member \$25/- children 6-12: \$10  
 Guests: add \$ 5.00 Limit 100; first come first serve.

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Name:.....

Number of people: adults: .... guests: .... children: .... children guests:.....

Amount \$: ..... (Check enclosed!!!)

Phone:.....

## **+ WELL ATTENDED GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

A record-number of members attended the Swiss Club of Washington, D.C. held its 87th Annual Membership Meeting. Featuring for the first time a guest speaker, the Annual Meeting was held at the Embassy of Switzerland on Friday, November 13, 2009. Over 38 members attended to conduct the Club's business, network with old and new friends alike, enjoy tremendous food, and listen to a fascinating presentation on one Swiss family's immigration to Washington, D.C. and subsequent influence and impact in the U.S.

Christian Haudenschild, President, conducted the formal events of the evening. He welcomed all guests and thanked the current Board, members, and volunteers for their hard work throughout the year. He also expressed gratitude to the Embassy of Switzerland and its staff, who were so instrumental in ensuring the success of the Club's many initiatives in 2009.

Pete Amstutz, Treasurer, reported on the Club's finances. The Club's recognized a profit in 2009 of \$1,213 and its cash balance at year-end was \$22,000. These numbers were slightly lower than in 2008: a \$710 decrease in cash and approximately \$1,000 less in profit. The Club's overall performance, however, remained sound and stable. Pete Amstutz accordingly recommended keeping membership dues unchanged for 2010. He also recommended – and the membership enthusiastically approved – a \$200 donation to the Swiss Benevolent Society, consistent with historic practice.

Claudia Tobler, Secretary, gave a quick summary of the minutes from the 86th General Assembly meeting. She also summarized proposed amendments to the bylaws. These included some technical amendments, as well as edits to the provisions regarding election and composition of the Executive Committee. The amendments are intended to align the Club's functions and operations more closely with its bylaws, and to introduce flexibility into the Executive Committee to allow the Club to expand and respond to the changing needs of its members. Members are strongly encouraged to review the changes and any additional amendments will be discussed in upcoming editions of the Postillion. Copies of a new, printed telephone directory were also distributed and can be requested from the Secretary (by email or phone).

Campbell Graeub was appointed to nominate the Executive Committee for 2009. Christian Haudenschild was excited to announce five new volunteers for the Board, each of which the members unanimously elected. In addition, the new Treasurer who could not attend the Assembly, was appointed by the President according to the bylaws. The Board for 2010 will comprise: Christian Haudenschild, President; Eric Russi, First Vice President / Membership Coordinator; Ursula Banzhaf Second Vice President; Reto Weber, Event Coordinator; Stephanie Kvamme & Andreas Rufenacht, Publicity Officers; Yvonne Pover, Member at Large; Paul Amstad, Member at Large; Jacqueline Ebell, Secretary; Eveline Roberts, Treasurer; Hisham Shaheen, Member at Large; Lucas Sieber, Member at Large, and Adrian Ineichen, Member at Large. Pete Amstutz, Treasurer, and Claudia Tobler, Secretary, both have served three-year terms and submitted their resignations; they received the sincere thanks from the members for their hard and reliable work, and huge Poinsettia plants. Both will keep consulting the board as financial auditor and for the completion of the bylaw revision, respectively.

Following the official business for the evening, the Club was delighted to have June Vail as guest speaker. Professor in the theater and dance department at Bowdoin College in Maine, Ms. Vail presented a fascinating, well-researched and well-illustrated history of the Hitz family in the USA. Landammann Hans Hitz emigrated from Davos/Graubunden in 1831 and settled in Washington, D.C. Since then, Hitz family members have had an influence and tremendous impact on the people and communities around them. The presentation, which focused on families, fatherland, faith and song, perfectly summed up the goals of the Club and the aspirations of its members: celebration of our Swiss heritage, camaraderie, and the creation of a legacy for future generations. ~Claudia Tobler



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## PAST EVENT...

21 children and 19 adults attended the "Make Your Own Grittibaenz" event at Reto and Laurie's The Swiss Bakery. They made over 220 of these original and creative delicacies!! The happy faces (both on the children and the Grittibaenz say more than any words. Look for more pictures in the GALLERY of our web site ([www.swissclubdc.org](http://www.swissclubdc.org)).



What a great afternoon!

Thank you all, especially Steffi and Roman!





## \*\*\*Annual Fasching/Mardi Gras Prize Masquerade Ball\*\*\*

Saturday, February 13, 2010 - 7pm to midnight

Held at the elegant Kena Ballroom, 9001 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax, Va. 22031. Continuous dancing to live music on a large dance floor with waltzes, polkas, popular, latin. Lots of fun and merriment. Prizes awarded to best individual and group costumes. German food, beer, wine, champagne, sodas available.

We will join the Saengerbund for their Fasching Ball. Details are on their web site [www.saengerbund.org](http://www.saengerbund.org). We'll have one (or more) Swiss Club tables, for which you can be seated by calling Ms. Eva Brandt, 703-280-1772 (email [evafbrandt@aol.com](mailto:evafbrandt@aol.com)) after January 1.



Children with Samichlaus Helper Liz in front of the beautiful tree calling Samichlaus with a song

### Bylaw Amendments

We are seeking comments to proposed amendments to the Club's bylaws. Consistent with our initiative to modernize our bylaws and bring them into conformity with the Club's current organization and practices, the Executive Board presented proposed amended bylaws to the members present at the General Membership meeting; the draft will also be posted on our web site. If you would like a printed copy of the proposed amendments, please email [ctobler@comcast.net](mailto:ctobler@comcast.net). We encourage members to review and comment on the proposed amendments, which the Executive Board intends to present to the membership for adoption at the 2010 General Assembly Meeting.



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## Raclette Suisse Romande, 7 novembre

**Un nouveau grand succès populaire et gastronomique à mettre au crédit de notre président, Christian Haudenschild, et des nombreux volontaires qui soutiennent son dynamisme inépuisable.**

Accompagnés parfois d'amis américains, près d'une centaine de Suisses et Suissesses, jeunes et moins jeunes, Romands - pour une fois presque majoritaires - et moins Romands, ont pacifiquement comme il se doit envahi l'Ambassade pour partager les raclettes préparées de mains de maîtres par l'équipe de la Swiss Bakery et quelques autres volontaires. Parmi ces derniers, l'on relèvera par exemple la participation d'un jeune New-Yorkais qui nous a fait le plaisir d'obéir à sa maman qui souhaitait qu'il apprenne à racler, tout double national qu'il puisse être... Les files d'attente devant les fours à raclette auraient pu ressembler à celles de skieurs un jour ensoleillé de poudreuse, si ce n'est la fantastique bonne humeur qui y régnaient. Ces moments d'attentes se sont ainsi très vite transformés en chaleureux moments de rencontres et d'échanges, liant des participants qui ne se connaissaient pas encore et remplissant ainsi à merveille un but du Club suisse. Ce n'est que très tard dans la soirée, bien après l'heure fédérale bien connue à Berne, que les derniers convives ont finalement dû se séparer, digérant encore non seulement les raclettes mais aussi de succulents cornets à la crème, en se promettant de revenir à la prochaine soirée raclette ou bien déjà pour la fondue du 23 janvier 2010. Qu'elle soit romande ou non d'ailleurs, peu importe!  
~Guillaume Scheurer



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