



February 2009

# POSTILLION

Newsletter



## AGENDA 2009

*ALL EVENTS AND DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE*

<b>Sunday, March 1</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Jass Tournament / Swiss Bakery
<b>Saturday, April 4</b>	Osterhase, Egg Hunt / Swiss Embassy
<b>Saturday, May 16</b>	Billy Goat Trail / Carderock
<b>Sunday May 31</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Jass Tournament / tba
<b>June/July tba</b>	Swiss Breakfast / tba
<b>Saturday, August 1</b>	Swiss National Day / Swiss Embassy
<b>Early September</b>	Fahrt ins Blaue
<b>Sunday, September 6</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Jass Tournament / tba
<b>Early October</b>	Fall Festival Picnic, pumpkin carving
<b>Friday, October 30</b>	Halloween Party/Dance / Swiss Embassy
<b>Friday, November 18</b>	Annual General Meeting / Swiss Embassy
<b>November</b>	Grittibenz Baking / tba
<b>Sunday December 6<sup>th</sup></b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Jass Tounament / tba
<b>Sunday December 13</b>	Samichlaus Party / Swiss Embassy

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## Message from the new President

Dear Members of the Swiss Club,

With the fondue evening (see inside) we had a great start of the new year, and the tentative agenda for the rest of the year (on this page, for you to cut out and magnet onto the refrigerator) also looks quite attractive.

In addition, there is work in progress. Two enthusiastic, young computer specialists are designing a new, interactive web site where you can get up to date information about all our activities, register for events and renew membership on line, and maybe post comments and ideas that will tie us together closer as a community. We will *not* display a membership list on this site, however; instead, we'll *print* one with name, city and phone number only. It will take some time, but we intend to meet this request. All who, for privacy protection, explicitly

do not wish to be on that printed list, can tell us so on a new line of the membership registration/renewal form and, for those who have already registered/renewed, just fill out the exclusion part on the form on page 3.

Now with the days getting longer and warmer, we are looking forward to the Easter Egg Hunt on April 4 at the Embassy. Remember this is one of our *free* events, or, more precisely, included in the membership fee that you have paid for this year. See you there!

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)



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

### OFFICERS

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

### BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

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

### VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

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

## Other Swiss Groups ...

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

**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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full-page \$150

### **MEMBERSHIP FEES:**

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



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## 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 the 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? 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: Swiss Club of Washington, D.C., 2900 Cathedral Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20008



## PAST EVENTS ...

# Fondue and Raclette Evening at the Embassy



During those recent icy cold days at 15 degrees F I was really looking forward to that traditional hot Swiss treat. That the actual day was the first one in the sixties, did not diminish my joy and apparently not anyone else's, such as Eric Russi, the coordinator. Thanks to the ingenuity Jürg Roth, his helpers, and Liz Wilson, we could



accommodate over 140 people, yet we still had to turn some late registrants away (apologies also to those who could not sit exactly where they wanted to initially).

It is always amazing how an unshapely lump of cheese combines with the wine into that creamy delicacy in a fondue caquelon; to see that happening several times in gigantic pots for about 50 under the strong hands (actually both hands and muscular arms) of Reto Weber's Swiss Bakery crew is plain miraculous, maybe only surpassed by the speed by which our volunteers were able to cut endless fresh (still warm) baguettes into little pieces of bread.

When two raclette ovens got very busy and board members came up serving the individual caquelons, they found everybody already quite happy with images of flights over the Swiss Alps, simple folk songs from the piano that made you home sick, and, especially, with the Swiss white wine generously donated by our ambassador, Urs Ziswiler. (That was so popular that, later, he rushed into the cellar to get another case!)



After the first serving, Urs Ziswiler introduced the members of the embassy who honored us with their presence, and awarded Adrian Wiestner, the former president of the Swiss Club, with a new book about the ThinkSwiss program.



A choral warm-up exercise was followed by a sing-along in three languages, led by prominent soloists, while the big screen slowly changed to aerial pictures of the Suisse romande.

In response to a question about another round of fondue, almost all hands went up, and this time, even the ambassador himself and his lovely wife joined the board in serving.

In the meantime, the Swiss Bakery prepared a whole array of different desserts that looked really good and tasted phantastic. So many people helped to make this event a success, too many to be mentioned individually, but thanks to all! Just one example: down in the kitchen was a boy named Nico, in perfect baker's outfit, helping to decorate the cakes and meringues. When people left, I saw him at the door, hands on his back, in the best tradition of Swiss Hostellerie, elegantly bowing good bye to all the guests.

What an evening! Now I am looking forward to the egg hunt on April 4 at the embassy.

Christian Haudenschild

# NEXT EVENTS ...



## 1st Jass Tournament for 2009

**WHEN:** March 1st 1.30pm

**HOSTED BY:** Reto & Laurie Weber  
Swiss Bakery  
5224 Port Royal Road  
Springfield, VA 22151

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

Please contact Senta Speight at (301) 530-0699 (H)  
(202) 745-7907 (W) or [senta.speight@swissclubdc.org](mailto:senta.speight@swissclubdc.org)

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



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9536 Old Keene Mill Road  
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703-569-3670

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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### 2009 Jass Events

March 1st	1st Jass Tournament
May 31st	2 <sup>nd</sup> Jass Tournament
September 6 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Jass Tournament
December 6 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> Jass Tournament



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(703) 668-0520



## NEXT EVENTS ...



# Easter Egg

Join us for an afternoon of fun!

Decorate your own Easter basket and then join us for an  
Easter Egg Hunt on the Embassy grounds.

Date: Saturday, April 4, 2009

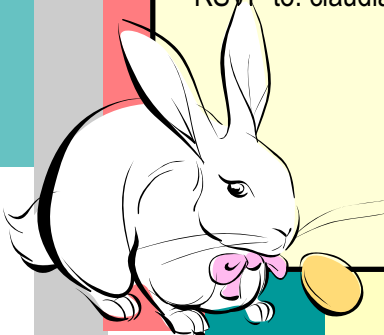
Time: 1:00 to 4 PM

(basket decorating from 1:00 to 2:30 pm;

the Easter Egg Hunt will start promptly at 2:30 pm)

Cost: Members Free; Non-members \$10.00 per family

RSVP to: [claudia.tobler@swissclubdc.org](mailto:claudia.tobler@swissclubdc.org) or 240-672-6590 (leave message) by 3/30/09





## "Billy Goat Trail" Hike and Barbecue

On **Saturday, May 16**, we will meet at the parking lot across from the Old Anglers Inn on MacArthur Boulevard in Maryland at **12 noon**.

After everyone has arrived we will hike a short piece of the tow path and then pick up the Billy Goat trail, it is about two miles along the river and in stretches offers excellent views from on high, especially in the Mather gorge area. For those who have never hiked the trail this will be an adventure as you get the sense that we are miles away from the city in the wilderness. Although it starts out flat we will encounter some rugged terrain which requires a bit of rock scrambling, therefore, good hiking shoes are recommended. For those seeking less adventurous traveling, you can hike parallel on the towpath and meet the group at the point where we come back out to the tow path, then hike back to the starting point as a group. Total length of the hike is a little less than five miles.

Once we are all back we will go to a picknick place and grill sausages with bread and soft drinks provided.

For information about the event or changes in case of rain, call Paul Amstad: 410-465-5417; paul.amstad@swissclub.org

**Price per person \$10 - kids under 10 are free.**

Send in a check, payable to the **Swiss Club DC** (not refundable)

To: Paul Amstad, 3993 High Point Road, Ellicot City MD 21042



**Member's name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of adults over 10:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of children:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Childrens' names and ages:** \_\_\_\_\_

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