



# POSTILLION NEWSLETTER

## Print Edition May 2012

### Swiss Club Agenda for 2012

**Kaffee Klatsch**, Saturday May 12  
**Billy Goat Trail**, May 19  
**2nd Jass Tournament**, Sunday June 24: Roberts Residence  
**Fahrt ins Blaue**, in June  
**Kaffee Klatsch**, Saturday July 14, Swiss Bakery  
**Swiss National Day**, Saturday July 28, Swiss Embassy  
**3rd Jass Tournament**, Sunday in August/September: Suitor Residence  
**Fall Picnic with Swiss Rifles**, Sunday September 9, Thurmont, MD  
**Kaffee Klatsch**, Saturday September 22  
**Annual General Meeting**, Friday October 12 or 19, Swiss Embassy  
**Metzgete**, Sunday October 28, Swiss Bakery  
**4th Jass Tournament**, Sunday October 28, Swiss Bakery  
**Raclette Evening**, November 10, Swiss Embassy  
**Kaffee Klatsch**, Saturday November 17  
**Grittibenz Baking**, Sunday December 2, Swiss Bakery  
**Samichlaus Party**, Sunday December 9, Swiss Embassy

### Message from the President...

Grüezi Swiss Club Members

This was the first **bike ride** organized for all members of the Swiss Club. We made some some great last minute adjustments to accommodate two issues we faced namely weather (possible rain) and the differences of strong and weaker bike riders. This could possibly a future event for our club. Thanks to Martin and Hannes for organizing the day. I was not the only one forced to dig out and dust off the bike from winter storage and go for a bike ride. The weather was just perfect and the riders could make choices for longer or shorter rides from less than 12 miles or more. We started in Purcellville and ended there again for a nice lunch outside at the Magnolia Restaurant.

This month we have the **Kaffeeklatsch** at a new location. Please stop by for a cup of coffee at the Café Mozart in DC. The second and very popular event is the **Billy Goat Trail hike**. We are featuring a slightly challenging trail along the river for the sporty ones (good hiking shoes recommended), and a pleasant, but not less scenic, walk along the canal for all those who prefer to take an easier walk (sneakers will do). At the end we all will get together for a delicious Swiss BBQ held at the nearby picnic place.

We are looking for additional help to organize the **Swiss National Day**. Any help is welcome; it can be as a sponsor or volunteering as an MC, Grill Chef or raffle seller. We have lots of work to cover for this event and are looking forward to receive extra hands.

Always glad to hear from you, with best wishes,

Reto Weber

Your opinion counts! Call me or leave a message at 703-624-6880.

## Swiss Club Billy Goat Trail Hike and BBQ

### We invite you to our annual Billy Goat Trail - Hike and Barbecue

On Saturday, May 19, 2012      10801 MacArthur Boulevard, North Potomac MD 20854

After everyone has arrived we will hike a short piece of the towpath and then pick up the Billy Goat trail, which is about two miles along the river and in stretches offers excellent views, 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 climbing, therefore, good hiking shoes are recommended. For those seeking a less adventurous activity, you can hike parallel to the towpath and meet the group at the point where we come back out to the towpath, then hike back to the starting point as a group. Total length of the hike is a little less than five miles. Please bring your own water/drinks to the hike and protection against poison ivy etc. if you have allergic reaction. Once we are all back we will drive to the picnic area at Carderock (see map below) where grilled sausages with bread and soft drinks will be served.

#### Hike will take place rain or shine.

We will meet at the parking lot across from the Old Anglers Inn on MacArthur Boulevard in Maryland at 12 noon.

#### Registration for Billy Goat Hike and BBQ

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell )Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Email (if available; please write clearly):

# of children: \_\_\_\_\_

Children's' names and ages: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a Swiss Club Member for 2012? yes / no

**check payable** to Swiss Club of Washington DC and send with this registration form to: Paul Amstad, 3993 High Point Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042.

Price per person \$10 - children age of 10 and under are free. Total amount enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_, paid by check # \_\_\_\_\_

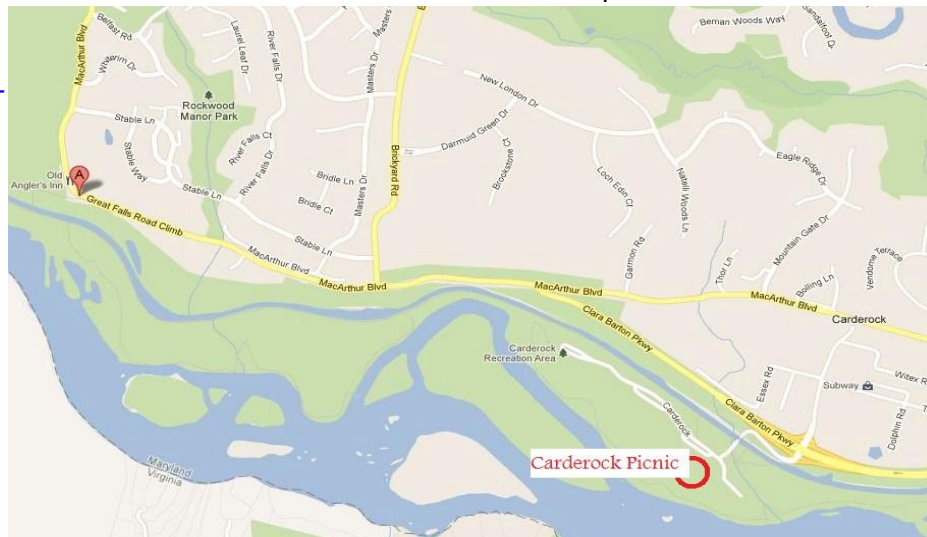
#### Registration Deadline is Tuesday, May 15, 2012

If you have any questions please contact Paul Amstad at 410-465-5417 for updates.

Meeting Point A (12 noon)-----

10801 MacArthur Boulevard,  
North Potomac MD 20854

(Parking lot across Angler's Inn)



## Swiss Club Quiz

### Swiss postage stamps: A little piece of Home...

... from the time when you could send postage for two cents. That was in August 1909, as you can see from the devaluation of the stamp on the right.

The stamp on the left, however, cannot be dated with this method since not enough devaluation is visible to show the date. However, besides of the slightly different shade of brown, there is another clear indication that the stamp to the left was issued later than 1909.

**Quiz:** What is the major difference in the design of the two stamps?



As you look with the magnifying glass you may notice another detail that nobody noticed throughout the years 1909 to 1933 when this types of "Tellenbuebchen" (little son of [William] Tell) were issued: The boy proudly holds the apple that his father had shot from his head, with the arrow in it going from bottom to the top of the apple. Thus the apple must have been balancing on its side on the boy's head without rolling down and with the stalk, a target of about 3 millimeters in diameter, exactly facing the shooter..... What a shot, indeed! Even better than the legend would have it.

The winner is selected by lot from the correct entries sent to Reto Weber, The Swiss Bakery, 5224 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22151, and receives an original Tellenbuebchen stamp that looks like the one on the left.

And here is the answer to the **April quiz**:

The name of the girl is Vreneli. The mountain is Vreneli's Gaertli in the Kanton of Glarus, and it had a lot more snow and ice 50 years ago, that disappeared due to global warming.  
The winner is **Lily Guenther**.



2900 Cathedral Avenue  
Washington DC 20008

# POSTILLION

## NEWSLETTER PRINT EDITION

Registrations Kaffee Klatsch,  
Billy Goat Trail Hike

**MAY 2012**

### **Come join us for Swiss Language Coffee Hour!**

This is an informal gathering of people who want to nibble on delicious pastry, sip good coffee, and talk... or just listen. All skill levels are welcome and we have had native speakers as well as beginners with dictionaries join us. Sit at the French, Italian, or Swiss-German table, or spend time at each if you just can't choose... Café Mozart is a café owned by one of our members who has been a club member since the 1950's! It is conveniently located downtown with ample street parking on Saturday morning and very close to the McPherson Square metro station.

**When:** Saturday, May 12, 2012 at 9am

**Where:** Café Mozart, 1331 H Street NW, Washington DC 20005

#### **Registration for Kaffee Klatsch**

Although the event is free of charge, we'd like to know to expect you! Just let us know how many are coming and what language you'd like to speak. Please contact Alexis Sullivan with any questions and to register.

She can be reached at 703-774-3132

If you are not sure you can plan ahead, feel free to appear at the last moment...

### **Can you host a Swiss Young Boy?**

**Maurice Mändli** (14. Jahre alt) sucht eine Gast Familie fuer einen Sommer Besuch. Seit längerem befasse ich mich einmal Amerika zu besuchen. Ich habe seit ca. 1 Jahr dafür gespart um vorerst einmal für 2-3 Wochen nach Amerika zu reisen. Für diesen Aufenthalt suche ich eine liebe Familie mit eventuell gleichaltrigen Kindern. Selbstverständlich würde ich mich anpassen und auch gerne im Haushalt helfen. Ich bin in der 8.Klasse in der Rudolf Steiner Schule in Schaffhausen. Meine Englischkenntnisse sind so la la, werden aber von Tag zu Tag besser. Meine Freizeit verbringe ich bei den Verkehrskadetten in Schaffhausen wo ich es bis heute zum Adjutant gebracht habe. Ansonsten bin ich ein anspruchsloser Junge. Ich würde mich freuen dass ich mein Traum von Amerika bald erleben darf. Bitte kontaktieren Sie mich auf [m.maendli97@gmx.ch](mailto:m.maendli97@gmx.ch) (*Recipients of the print edition, please write to Reto Weber, The Swiss Bakery, 5224 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22151, if interested, or call 703-624-6880*).

Ich bedanke mich im voraus für Ihre Bemühungen, und grüsse Sie freundlich aus der Schweiz.

**Maurice Mändli, Neuhausen am Rheinfall**