

# Postillion Newsletter November 2012

By Rossana Delucchi



## Message from the President

Grüezi Swiss Club Members:

Hopefully all of you stayed out of harm's way during the monster storm, "Sandy". Should you know of somebody in the club who needs help, please let us know.

We are just few weeks away from a New Year. It is unbelievable how fast this year passed by. Our very popular **Raclette evening** is just around the corner. This event is sure to be sold out like the other upcoming **Grittibenz** and **Samichlaus** events- registration is open for all 3 events on the website and in this Postillion, so hurry and secure your spots!

In other news, we have a new jass king. This year **jass tournament** ranking for the top 3 are: 1. Marc Borbely, 2. Senta Speight, 3. Elsbeth Backus. Congratulation to the three winners!

Finally, we will be starting a Book Group "**Lesezirkel**" soon - so if you like to read and share your thoughts on books with others, watch for more information in this postillion below.

I look forward to seeing you soon. With my best wishes,

Reto Weber, Swiss Club of Washington, D.C.

Your opinion counts. Call me at (703) 624-6880

## Swiss Club Agenda for 2012

**Raclette Evening**, November 10, Swiss Embassy

**Kaffee Klatsch**, Saturday November 17, Le Pain Quotidien, Bethesda, MD.

**Grittibenz Baking**, Sunday December 2, Swiss Bakery

**Samichlaus Party**, Sunday December 9, Swiss Embassy

**Lesezirkel**, Monday December 17, Tenleytown.

Who is willing to help with a new event? Please contact Alexis at (703) 774-3132

**Swiss Benevolent Society of Washington** Founded in 1865 the Swiss Benevolent Society (SBS) is the oldest Swiss organization in Washington. Over the 147 years, direct help has been provided many Swiss nationals to overcome financial difficulties; some were extended travel assistance to return to Switzerland.

In 1980 a scholarship program was initiated to help Swiss and descendants of Swiss with the ever increasing costs of college education. Eligibility to apply for grants has been extended Swiss descendants residing in the tiny West Virginia community of Helvetia.

Assistance to individuals in need, and attention to elderly and shut-ins continues as cases are brought to the Society's attention. The Scholarship Program has become the major focus. With the recent precipitous drop in earnings from our conservative investments, fund-raising events, such as an auctions or Tombola, and gifts from individuals and corporations have become increasingly more important. The Swiss Club of Washington and the Stauffacherin Group make annual donations. The SBS maintains the capital fund, modestly increased by inflation, and expends only income from investments and gifts which average about \$5,000 annually.

The Society is governed by a Volunteer Board of Trustees. Its members are Campbell Graeub, President; Regula Guess, Secretary; Alfred Kessi, Treasurer, Elizabeth vonKaenel, Andrew Graeub; Reto Weber; Christian Haudenschild; and Eduard Krall, Consul General, ex-officio.

The Society is a 501c (3) tax-exempt organization allowing donations to be fully tax-deductible. There are literally no overhead expenses, which means that all contributions flow directly to those in need.

**Swiss Benevolent Society News** The Board of Trustees is pleased to announce this year's three scholarship winners, each having high academic achievement, educational goals, and good references and demonstrated financial need. It is always difficult to rate worthy applicants. The funds are limited and must be conserved in order to continue this program that is now in its 33rd year. Jennifer Canon-Rothkopf is the recipients of the Monique Fürst Scholarship, made possible by the generous gift of 50-year Swiss Club Member, Monique Price of Lake Ridge, VA. Jennifer of Lovettsville, VA is attending the Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University studying Biochemistry and Chemistry. The next two recipients are twins, Emily Ann Biggs and Alexander Rex Biggs of Buckhannon, WV both of whom are enrolled at West Virginia Wesleyan College studying engineering and physics. The Swiss Benevolent Society extends its congratulations to these outstanding candidates, and wishes them a successful and rewarding year.

## Swiss Club Raclette Evening

Join us for our traditional and very popular Raclette Dinner! And, **silent auction** to benefit the Swiss Benevolent Society...so bring your checkbook along.

**When:** Saturday, November 10th at 6pm

**Where:** Embassy of Switzerland,  
2900 Cathedral Ave., Washington DC

### Admission includes:

Raclette, all you can eat (with potatoes, Bündnerfleisch, pearl onions & cornichon), dessert, water, sodas, coffee & tea. Cash bar will be open for beer & wine. The SBS will accept cash and checks at the auction, so bring your checkbook.



## Registration for Raclette Evening

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

(Cell) Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Are you a Swiss Club Member for 2012? yes / no (You can register or renew for 2013 at the entrance)

\_\_\_ x \$25 each Swiss Club Member Adult

\_\_\_ x \$10 each Swiss Club Member Child (age 6 to 12)

\_\_\_ x \$35 each NON Swiss Club Member Adult

\_\_\_ x \$15 each NON Swiss Club Member Child (age 6 to 12)

Total amount enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to Swiss Club of Washington DC and send with this registration form to: Heidi Amstutz, 9907 Trosby Court, Vienna, VA 22181. If you have any questions please contact Heidi at 703-953-7763

**Registration Deadline is Tuesday, November 6th.**

NOTE: For safety reasons, the room capacity is 110 persons, requiring registration on a first come first serve basis and no registrations at the door. Please add your email or phone so we can confirm your registration.

## Swiss Club Kaffee Klatsch

Come join us for 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. At the last KK, the French table overwhelmed the others with their numbers... where will you sit?

Le Pain Quotidien is a lively café in Bethesda and is conveniently located only a few blocks away from the Bethesda metro station on the red line. There is free parking on Saturday at the county Elm Street Garage on the same side of the block close to Woodmont Ave. The parking garage right next to the cafe is pay parking.



**When:** Saturday, November 17th at 9am

**Where:** Le Pain Quotidien, 7140 Bethesda Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814

## 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..

## Swiss Club Quiz



Answer to the October Quiz:

The picture on the stamp was flipped left-right. Only if you reverse it, the contours of Jungfrau, Mönch and Eiger match exactly the actual view from the Aletsch glacier.

The Postal Service then regretted that the stamp did not have a higher than 2 Franc denomination, because collectors started hoarding it, speculating that a corrected edition would come (which did) and the faulty originals would be rare (they are, somewhat) and have a higher value (they don't).

The only correct answer came from Johannes Hofer.

## November Quiz:

Back to William Tell with an easier question.

On this stone you can read:

"DEM SAENGER TELLS

DIE URKANTONE 1859"

"To the singer of Tell, the original cantons"

Questions:

Who was this singer of Tell? (I covered his name)

Who were the three original cantons?

Where is this stone located?

What did Tell do there (or nearby)?

Again, no prizes, this is for fun only.

But I always appreciate when you send your

answers to [info@swissclubdc.org](mailto:info@swissclubdc.org)



## Grüttibenz Baking

Come and bake your own Grüttibenz!

Join us for an afternoon of holiday baking in a professional bakery, hot cider and cookies! Each participant will be able to make at least one Grüttibenz. Light refreshments will be served.

Participate in this truly unique Swiss Tradition!

**When:** Sunday, December 2nd from 1 - 3pm

**Where:** The Swiss Bakery, 5224 Port Royal Road, Springfield VA 22151



### Registration for Grüttibenz ~ HURRY, space is limited

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

REGISTRATION FEE for each attendee is \$10. All attendees must be Swiss Club members or accompanied by a member.

Make check payable to Swiss Club of Washington DC and send with this registration form to: Heidi Amstutz, 9907 Trosby Court, Vienna, VA 22181. Questions? Please contact Heidi at 703-953-7763

## We invite you to our annual Christmas Party

Enjoy dinner with the traditional "Schinken im Teig" served by the Swiss Bakery.

Samichlaus will visit and bring something for all the children. He will have a special reward for all who recite a poem, sing a song or draw a picture.

**When:** Sunday, December 9th from 4 - 7pm

**Where:** Embassy of Switzerland, 2900 Cathedral Ave., Washington DC

**Who: Members Only!** Free to all members! Cash bar will be available for Swiss wine & beer. We will have our favorite Swiss vendor booths for your holiday shopping.



Pre-Registration is required. Absolutely no admission without prior registration, postmarked by **December 5th**. Space is limited to the first 100 persons who register.

### Registration for the Christmas Party

Name(s) of Adults: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of Children: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (please write clearly): \_\_\_\_\_

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

Send this registration form to: Eveline Roberts, 14624 Chesterfield Rd., Rockville, MD 20853. Questions? Please contact Eveline at tel 301-460-9571.

Registration Deadline: Wednesday, December 5th.

## Swiss Club Lesezirkel

Attention all 'Bücherwürmer' - or bookworms!

The Swiss Club of Washington D.C. offers its members and friends who love to read books in German an opportunity to share their passions with like-minded friends. Marcus Geisser, originally from Arbon am Bodensee, looks out for fellow Bücherwürmer - book worms – who are passionate not only about reading books, but also about exchanging views about the books they have read. The first session of the Lesezirkel - reading club - will convene on Monday, evening, 17 December, 2012, in Marcus' flat in Tenleytown, next to the American University. The book is Alex Capus' "Léon und Louise". The book of the Swiss author Alex Capus received highest praise, and was amongst the nominee of the German Book Award 2011. It is hoped that this love story set in the war torn part of France in 20st century will lead to animated debates. Every participant is asked to read the book in advance.



**What:** Lesezirkel featuring Alex Capus' "Léon und Louise"

**When:** Monday, December 17th at 7pm

**Where:** 3101 New Mexico Ave NW, Sutton Tower, Apt 219, Washington DC 20016



2900 Cathedral Avenue

**POSTILLION  
PRINT EDITION  
November 2012  
Samichlaus Sun December 9**