

Postillion Newsletter

July 2013

by Rossana Delucchi



Message from the President

Grüezi Swiss Club Members!

The organization of the **Swiss national Day** which will take place on **August 3** this year is in full swing. For the last couple of months our board has been hard at work coming up with new ideas to make this year's event a special one. As part of the Swiss Club's year long 90th anniversary celebration we are offering a special discount to our dues paying members. Purchase your tickets by July 26 and it'll only cost you \$9.00 each for adults and children. Please take a look at the program and sign up for this big event.

June took us on a sunny hike to the **Billy Goat Trail** led by Paul Amstad. Our youngest participant was just 7 month old, but take a look at the photo gallery and see how well she handled the rock climbing. All the exertion was rewarded by a delicious lunch supplied by the Swiss Bakery.

Our second **Jass tournament** found us in an unusual predicament - some Jassers had to be turned away for lack of table space. A big thank you to Margrit and Roland Zeender for opening their lovely home to twenty players. Don't forget to check the photo gallery to see who the "lucky" winners are. So, remember for next time, signing up early reserves you a seat at the Jass table.

See you all on August 3rd Reto Weber
Your opinion counts! Call me at 703 624 6880

Swiss Club Kaffee Klatsch

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...

When:

Saturday, July 13, 2013 at 9am

Where:

The Swiss Bakery,
5224 Port Royal Road,
Springfield VA 22151



Come and celebrate the Swiss National Day!

When: Saturday, August 3rd, 2013

Where: Embassy of Switzerland, Washington DC

What we offer:

Swiss Food & Music ~ Bonfire ~ Alphorns ~ Fifes & Drums ~ Lampion Parade ~
Swiss Beer & Wines ~ Swiss Bakery ~ Tombola ~ Swiss Souvenirs ~
Super Raffle Prizes~ Flag Swinging ~ Kids' Corner ~ Swimming Pool ~
Moonbounce ~ Games ~ Swiss Traditions ~ Swiss Dogs ~ Soccer

Gate opens at 4:00pm.

Gate closes to entry at 6:00pm.

Event ends after dark. No rain date.

Special 90th Anniversary registration discount!

Program:

3:45 pm	Alphorns
4:00 pm	Gate opens
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Tombola Booth is Open
4:00 pm - 6:30 pm	Pool, Games, Swiss Dogs, Kids Corner & Moonbounce
4:00 pm - 8:30 pm	Entertainment Program
4:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Swiss Village
5:15 pm - 7:00 pm	Food Service

Entertainment Program:

4:00 pm	Traditional & Modern Swiss Music
5:00 pm	Welcome by Swiss Club President
5:05 pm	Basler Fifes & Drums
6:00 pm	Official Address, National Anthem w/ Wine Toast
6:30 pm	Taler Schwingen, Alphorns & Fahنشwingen
6:45 pm	Super Raffle Drawing
8:15 pm	Lampion Parade to the Bonfire

Bring lawn chairs, beach umbrellas, swimsuit for the pool, and sun screen!

Entrance fee includes:

All entertainment, Swiss sausages, salads, dessert and non-alcoholic beverages.

And, children (2 to 12 years of age) will receive a Swiss lampion.

Swiss National Day August 3rd, 2013 Registration Form



Names: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____

Special 90th Anniversary registration discount ~ members who send in their registration form and payment before July 26th pay only \$9 per person!

	By July 26th	After July 27th and at the door
2013 Member Adults	\$9 anniversary price!	\$25
2013 Member Children	\$9 anniversary price!	\$15
Guest Adults	\$30	\$35
Guest Children	\$15	\$20

Children are ages 2 - 12. Entrance for children under 2 years of age is free. Food and lampions for them may be purchased separately. Guest tickets include a 7 day temporary membership.

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Only checks accepted. Please make check payable to: "Swiss Club" and enclose a self addressed, stamped envelope to receive tickets by mail.

Mail Registration to: Alexis Sullivan, 2717 Colt Run Road, Oakton, VA 22124

Not a Swiss Club Member? Be sure you are a current member to get the special Anniversary discount! (If you receive this print edition by mail you are probably a current member. If not sure, call Eveline at 301 460 9671).

Sign up as a VOLUNTEER! We need help for several stations at the event. Volunteers get free admission and meal in return for a 3 hour commitment. To volunteer, please contact Alexis Sullivan 703-774-3132. Volunteer tickets will be waiting at the volunteer desk.

"Colonia Suiza" (Swiss Colony) a small part of Switzerland in Uruguay

Colonia Suiza (Swiss Colony) or Nueva Helvecia (New Helvetia) is a small town in Uruguay, located 120 kilometers west of Montevideo, Uruguay's capital. This quaint little town has often been described as a bit of Switzerland in the heart of South America. It shares many similarities and common traits with Europe as a result of a close link with Swiss, German and French culture.

Europeans, mostly Swiss, first arrived in the area in 1861. The town was officially founded by Swiss, German, Austrian and Alsatian settlers on April 25, 1862, date on which the majority of its original settlers arrived. It soon became one of Uruguay's most important agricultural centers. It was there where in 1868 Uruguay's first mechanical threshing machine was installed, soon followed by the city's first steam-powered mill in 1876.



Nueva Helvetia strives to maintain a traditional Swiss agenda. Swiss National Day is commemorated each year on August 1st and many activities and festivities throughout the month of August. The celebration lasts the whole month as each weekend different clubs offer a wide variety of typical lunch gatherings and plenty of entertainment.

An important aspect of the "New Helvetian" architecture is that each house carries a shield, symbolic reference to the different Swiss cantons from where the first settlers were. New Helvetia gastronomy is based on the traditional Swiss cuisine, comprised mostly of a wide range of different cheeses, dairy and its derivatives.

New Helvetia maintains strong ties with Switzerland. Today it is very noticeable how, despite the elapsed time, it is deeply related to their ancestors customs.

The Swiss legacy is highly appreciated and recognized in the whole Uruguayan soil and all the descendants of those brave settlers feel very proud of our roots and honor them by teaching the new generations everything they have left during their lives full of hard work and perseverance .

(various sources)

Member's Corner

We are pleased to offer all our members a space in the Postillion to share all the news, tips, recipes, travel experiences and everything you would like to share with all the members of our club.

Swiss Club Quiz

Answer to the June Quiz: The Swiss Civil War (Sonderbundskrieg) lasted 27 days, from November 3 to November 29 1847. Austria, France and Prussia, offering "help" with peace negotiations on November 30, came one day too late, after the last secessionist canton (Wallis) had already capitulated. General Dufour's order the day to the federal army 6 days before the war was over, precedes Lincoln's Gettysburg address delivered almost 16 years later and is also worth remembering:

"Soldiers of the Swiss Federation! You are going to storm the canton of Luzern. When you pass the borders, let your anger behind you and think solely about your duties....But as soon as the victory is ours, forget any feelings of vengeance, behave like magnanimous warriors, as this is the way to proof your true courage.....Don't destroy anything, don't waste anything, with one word, behave in a way that you always earn respect and are worthy of the name that you carry."

Regula Munz sent me the correct answer. She will be at the Swiss National Day celebration (August 3, 4pm at the Swiss embassy) with Swiss Traditions, a crafts and souvenir shop selling, among other typical Swiss things, this cute puppy.

QUIZ: Where in Switzerland were these famous dogs originally bred? By whom? What for? What is in the barrel around his neck? What is the name of the most famous one, said to have helped rescuing some 40 to 100 victims of avalanches in the alps? Are there any good representatives of this breed here in the Washington DC area?

So many questions in one single quiz! Even if you have only some of the answers, I would like to get them when you leave a message at 301 251 5808, as usual for fun and recognition only, with no prizes whatsoever.



Swiss Club Agenda for 2013

Kaffee Klatsch Saturday, July 13, the Swiss Bakery

Swiss National Day August 3, Swiss Embassy

Lesezirkel, September 2, location tbd

Fall Festival Picnic Sunday September 8, Thurmont, MD

3rd Jass Tournament September, Backus residence, MD

Kaffee Klatsch Saturday, September 28, location tbd

General Assembly Friday, October 18, Swiss Embassy

4th Jass Tournament Sunday in October, location tbd

Kaffee Klatsch Saturday, November 2, location tbd

Raclette Evening Saturday, November 16, Swiss Embassy

Grittibenz Baking Sunday, December 8, Swiss Bakery

Samichlaus/Christmas Party Sunday, December 15, Swiss Embassy

Postillion Newsletter



July 2013

Kaffeeklatsch,
Swiss National Day

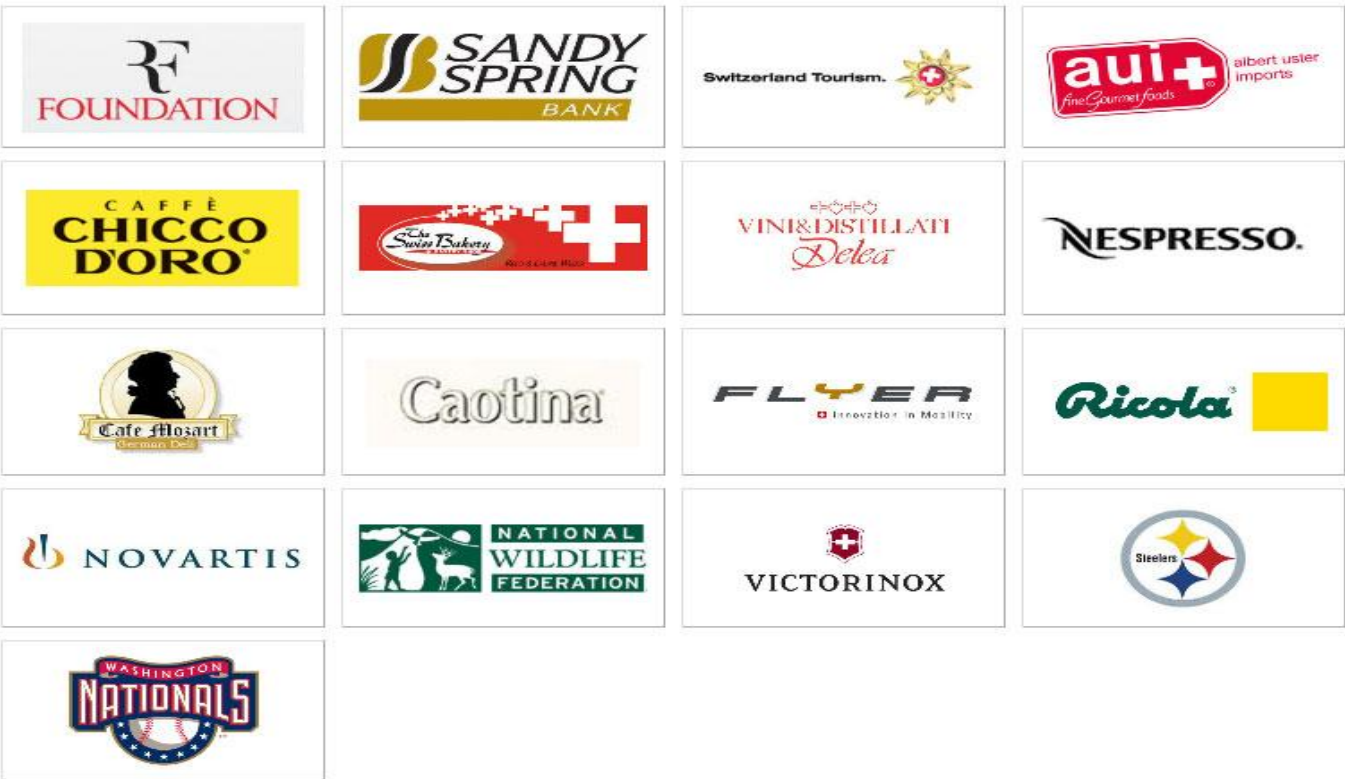
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