

September 2015 Postillion

by RossanaDelucchi

www.SwissClubDC.org

President's message



Hello everyone,

As the summer winds down we can now turn our attention to fall activities. Some of the events scheduled are the Swiss Shooting Day in Thurmont, the raclette, the Grittibenz and the Xmas party.

There is one official meeting that's required by our By-Laws and this General Assembly will take place on Friday, Oct. 23, starting at 7pm. It's a potluck event where everyone is encouraged to bring a dish to share. You'll hear a recap of this past year, and it'll be a chance to bring up any idea or suggestion you may have regarding the Club's activities. If you have ever wanted to become more involved with the Swiss Club, this is the time when we elect new members to the board. One of the requirements is that you need to be a dues paying member of the Club and, we hope, have been attending some of our events. Let me know, or any of the other board members, if you would be interested in joining us on the board.

We would like to once again thank everyone who came to our First of August celebration. We hope you all had a good time, made some new friends, and maybe went home with a beautiful tombola or raffle prize. Pictures are now available for viewing on the Photo Gallery page of our website at www.swissclubdc.org.

The Jassers will meet two more times this fall, and it's never too late to join the group. Simply get in touch with us.

Enjoy the rest of the summer, Eveline Roberts

Swiss National Holiday Celebration at the Swiss Embassy in Washington, D.C. - By Michael Herzfeld

The first of August celebration hosted by the Swiss Club of Washington D.C. at the Swiss Embassy was very memorable this year. It was a beautiful sunny day with an azure sky and white clouds. You could tell that there was an event happening at the Embassy by the people queueing up before the gates to the Embassy grounds opened at 4 p.m. The Swiss Club volunteers and staff had worked very hard to prepare for a special day. The tombola and raffle ticket sales were brisk and the tombola tickets were sold out quickly. The refreshment stand was popular, as were the vendor stands, notably that of the Swiss Bakery.

The Swiss embassy had opened its pool for the event too. As the guests arrived, they were greeted with lively tunes from a couple playing accordion and guitar, flag throwers, alp horn blowers, and drums and fifes from the 3rd Regiment Old Guard in succession. For those who were thirsty, there was wine and beer on sale, and for those who were hungry, sausages with fresh baked bread and different salads.

The Swiss bakery provided wonderful desserts. After the dinner the official part began with the playing of the national anthem of Switzerland and a taped speech from Simonetta Sommaruga, the president of the Federal Council, to the Swiss living abroad and the friends of Switzerland. Following this speech, that praised the direct democracy enjoyed by the Swiss, where every vote really counts, the Swiss Ambassador Martin Dahinden gave a good speech that elaborated on the president's themes in the context of the friendship and cooperation with the United States. A letter from U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry that reiterated the close ties between Switzerland and the United States was read. The ambassador had provided Swiss wine for a

toast following the speeches and took time to meet and greet guests. The final part of the picnic included a raffle drawing with wonderful prizes and the children's lampion parade to the traditional, magnificent bonfire.

Swiss Club 4th Jass Tournament Join us for the fourth Jass Tournament of the year!

When: Sunday, September 13 at 1:30 pm

Where: Perret Residence

5604 Inverchapel Road, Springfield, VA 22151

Jass Rules & Scoring can be found on our website.



Please register with MargritZeender(301-262-3253) by sending an email to rzeender@comcast.net

Registration Fee: \$5 per Swiss Club member and \$10 per guest, collected at the Jass.

Registration deadline is September 10th, 2015 **We look forward to playing with you!**



Save the Date: Swiss Shooting Day

Join us on **Sunday, October 18**, for the annual Swiss Club Fall Picnic in Thurmont, Maryland, for food, fun, and festivities!

The Swiss Rifles at the Swiss Federal Shooters Festival

16 members of the Swiss Rifles of Washington DC participated at the Eidgenössische Schützenfest as one of the 15 Swiss abroad clubs among about 36,000 shooters gathering June and July in Raron, canton of Valais. They earned 20 medals, which they displayed proudly at the big parade in Visp on June 28 as one of 60 marching groups.



Save the Date: General Assembly

Please join us for our General Assembly Meeting!

The Board of the Swiss Club of Washington DC cordially invites you to attend its annual General Assembly. We appreciate your participation, input, ideas and suggestions!.

When: Friday, October 23, at 7pm

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



Swiss Benevolent Society

The SBS Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the 2015 scholarship award recipients, they are: Shannon Hall (University of Maryland), receiving the Monique Fürst Price Honorary Scholarship; Trevor N. Kunz (Bucknell University); Richard Pierre Arundel Merkle (The University of Arizona - Tucson); and Mathew F. Zipf (Columbia University).

The applications are evaluated and rated on scholastic achievements, educational goals, recommendations, and financial needs.

Our heartiest congratulations are extended to all.

At the Board meeting it was decided to hold a special event in celebration of the SBS 150th Anniversary. Plans are underway for a gala evening with details to be announced later.

Sincerest appreciation is extended to all who have supported the SBS with donations and active participation in the annual SBS fundraising auction held during the Swiss Club November Raclette Dinner.

The Board of Trustees

2015 UCI Road World Championships

From Saturday, September 19, 2015
to Sunday, September 27, 2015

The Road World Championships is cycling's premier event and you don't want to miss it!

This nine-day event will feature 12 Championship races for Elite Men and Women, Under 23 Men and Junior Men and Women.



About 450,000 on-site spectators from the Richmond region and across the globe are expected during the event, and another 300 million people will watch the live broadcast of the competition.

The Road World Championships provides a rare opportunity for the athletes to compete for their country, just as they do at the Olympic Games.

The Swiss team will be competing, so come and show your support.

www.swiss-cycling.ch

Find more information for Richmond 2015 www.richmond2015.com

Please join us to cheer on Swiss athletes and enjoy the thrilling atmosphere of one of the greatest global sporting events ever!

Save the Date: Meeting about trip to Nueva Helvecia and other cities

Let's meet to talk about all the details of this opportunity to know beautiful places

When: Saturday, September 26th at 10.00 AM

Where: Le Pain Quotidien. 800 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20006



If you would like to visit a piece of Switzerland in Uruguay, Colonia del Sacramento, and Punta del Este (one of the most glamorous resorts in the world) you are cordially invited to come and know more about this trip, the activity program, what you can expect, what we offer and everything that will make this visit one to remember forever.

Bring all your questions, I will be glad to answer them and give you all the details.

You do not need to register but in order to have enough place for everyone at the table, please, let me know if you plan to attend at: rossdelucchi@hotmail.com, or call me at [571-312-5300](tel:571-312-5300).

If you are interested but cannot attend, please, let me know and we can fix a day and time to meet.

I am looking forward to seeing you on September, 26th!

Swiss Club Quiz

Answers to the August Quiz:

1315: Battle of Morgarten: Swiss defending independence by throwing heavily armed Habsburgs into the lake of Ägeri with rocks and trees.

1415: Swiss conquering Aargau, establishing the first of their own subject territories.

1515: Battle of Marignano: brother against brother, (almost) end of mercenary fame and of expansion politics.

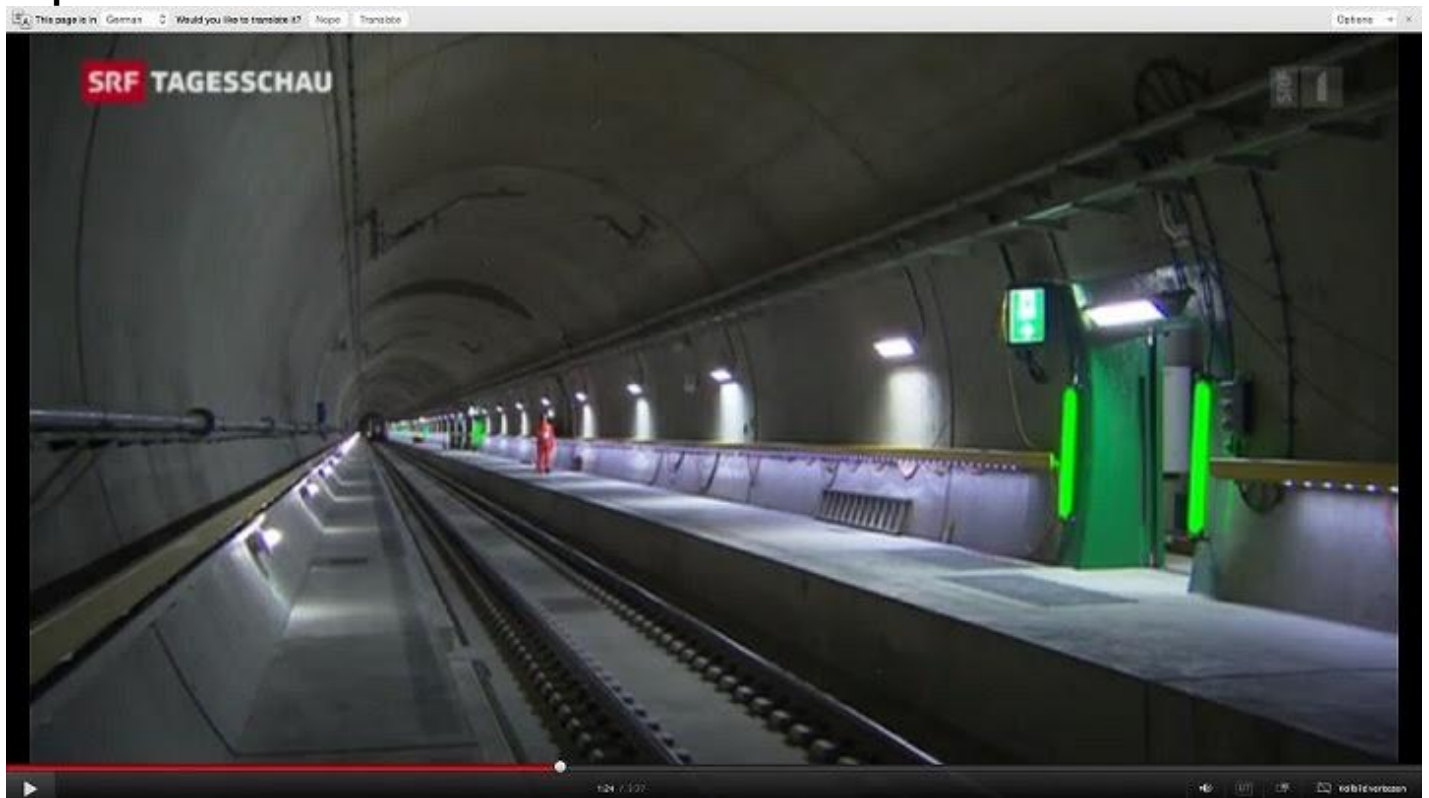
1815: Recognition of permanent neutrality of Switzerland at the Congress of Vienna; integration of the new French-speaking cantons of Geneva, Valais and Neuchâtel.

(Worth reading about Morgarten and Marignano:

<http://www.tagesanzeiger.ch/wissen/geschichte/schlachten-ohne-ende/story/31222762>

<http://longform.tagesanzeiger.ch/marignano/>)

September Quiz:



The Gotthard base tunnel, the longest railway tunnel in the world, between Bodio and Erstfeld, is about to be opened for test drives. How long is it? At what speed are the trains expected to pass through? (Hint: it is so fast that the driver cannot read conventional railroad signals).

Swiss Club Events for 2015

September 13- 4th Jass tournament , at the Perret Residence, Springfield

October 18 - Swiss Shooting Day

October 23 - General Assembly

November 14 - Raclette

November tba - Jass tournament

December 6 - Grittibenz, at the Swiss Bakery, Springfield

December 13 - Samichlaus



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*"For My yoke is easy, and My burden light." -
Matthew 11:30*

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