

# Swiss Club of Washington D. C. April 2018 Postillion

by Lynn Zipf



## President's Message

Gruezi, bonjour, salve, hello:

We had a great Jass on Sunday March 18 with 24 participants in attendance, which is the most participants in a long time. The following weekend, close to 100 children and adults gathered at the Swiss Embassy grounds for the Easter Egg Hunt. Thanks to the leadership and work of board members and embassy staff a great time was had by all! Finally the Fondue Evening, March 3 at the Swiss Bakery was very successful and participants were commenting about the Gemütlichkeit and "Swissness" they enjoyed. This was a trial run to hold this event outside the embassy grounds when it will not be available for Swiss Club activities in 2019-20.

Martin Perret-Gentil

**Billy Goat Trail Hike - Saturday, April 7** Please join members of the Swiss Club of Washington DC and the New Helvetic Society of Pennsylvania, a Delaware Valley Swiss Club for a hike on Maryland's beautiful and thrilling Billy Goat Hiking Trail which offers great views of the Potomac River, especially in the Mather Gorge area. After the hike, around 3 pm, we will relax with food from the grill close to the picnic pavilion at the Carderock Recreation Area. After our meetup at noon (12 pm) at the Anglers Inn parking area, we'll hike a short piece of the towpath and then pick up the Billy Goat trail, which runs about two miles along the river.

This year, we'll enjoy the company of more than dozen hikers from the Delaware Valley, members of the New Helvetic Society, who plan to spend the weekend in the Washington, DC area.

For those who have never hiked the trail, this will be an adventure, as you'll get the sense that we are in the wilderness, miles away from the city. Although it starts out flat we will encounter some rugged terrain which requires a bit of rock scrambling; therefore, good hiking shoes are recommended. Those seeking a less challenging walk can hike a parallel route along the towpath, and meet up with the rest of us at the point where the "billy goats" come back out onto the towpath. Then, we'll hike back to the starting point as a group. The total length of the hike is a little less than five miles. **The registration fee of ten dollars covers the meal after the hike, including sausages, salads, and drinks at the barbecue site at Carderock.** We will meet on Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at noon at the parking lot across from the Old Anglers Inn on [10801 MacArthur Boulevard, Potomac MD 20854](https://www.google.com/maps/place/10801+MacArthur+Boulevard,+Potomac,+MD+20854)

RAINDATE, Sunday April 8<sup>th</sup>. Deadline to register is COB, Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup>.

Here is the link to register - [Billy Goat Hike and BBQ](#)

Please contact Bernard Unti at 202-548-774 or [bernard.unti@swissclubdc.org](mailto:bernard.unti@swissclubdc.org) with any questions, or for registration, if you have no access to a computer.

## Seeking Children's Activity Coordinator

Do you want to get more involved as a volunteer with the Swiss Club? Do you have a background in education, a love of arts and crafts, or a natural inclination to work with children? If so, we need you.

We're seeking a new Children's Activity Coordinator to lead and manage our programs for children, especially those associated with Swiss National Day, the annual Easter Egg hunt, the Christmas holiday party, and the Grüttibenz event. The coordinator will be assisted by other volunteers at all events.

We encourage you to consider this fun way to get involved. For further details, please contact Catherine Gees at [catherine.gees@swissclubdc.org](mailto:catherine.gees@swissclubdc.org) or Lynn Zipf at [lynn.zipf@swissclubdc.org](mailto:lynn.zipf@swissclubdc.org)

## Swiss Benevolent Society

Are you a High School student planning to attend college this fall? Are you already in college, or are you planning to go to graduate school?

If you are of Swiss descent and in need of extra money for your higher education, we may have funds for you! In past years, we have helped many young people in the Washington DC area with financial support for their education. Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity! Qualifications are based on scholastic achievements,, educational goals, recommendations or references, and financial needs. Last year, we were able to help out several young Swiss students, and we received lovely thank you notes from them, describing how the funds helped supporting their education.

If you are interested, and live in the Washington Metropolitan area, please send an e-mail to: [Regula.guess@yahoo.com](mailto:Regula.guess@yahoo.com), and an application form will be sent to you. It is due July 1st, and the decision will be made at the end of August by the board of the Swiss Benevolent Society Board of Trustees.

## Swiss Club Events for 2018

April 7	Billy Goat Trail Hike with the New Helvetic Society
May 5	Bike ride at Lake Accontic starting at the Swiss Bakery or at the Angler's Inn on the C+O canal.
June 2	Tour of <i>Portraits of the World: Switzerland</i> at the National Portrait Gallery
July 28	1st of August celebration at the Swiss Embassy
November 10	Raclette Evening at the Swiss Embassy
December 2	Grittibänz at the Swiss Bakery
December 9	Samichlaus Party at the Swiss Embassy



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## Postillion Newsletter

April 2018

Billy Goat Trail  
Children's Activity Coordinator  
Swiss Benevolent Society