



POSTILLION



Newsletter of the Swiss Club of Washington DC
2900 Cathedral Ave. N. W.. Washington DC 20008

May 2010

www.swissclubdc.org

Agenda 2010

Billy Goat Trail, Hike and BBQ, 2 nd Jass Tournament at Backus', Farmers Breakfast, Swiss Rifles Shooting,	Carderock, MD, Potomac, MD, Swiss Bakery, Thurmont Club, MD,	Saturday, May 15 Sunday, June 6 Sunday, June 13 Sunday, June 20	410-465-5017 301-530-0699 703-624-6880 302-995-1035
Swiss National Day,	Swiss Embassy,	Saturday, July 31	301-585-5844
3 rd Jass Tournament, Fall Festival Picnic Kummli Farm,	to be determined (tbd), Flint Hill VA,	Sunday, Sept tbd Saturday, Sept tbd	301-530-0699 703-370-2600
Annual General Meeting, Raclette Evening,	Swiss Embassy, Swiss Embassy,	tbd Saturday, Nov 6	301-251-5808 703-370-2600
4 th Jass Tournament "Saujassen",	Swiss Bakery,	Sunday, Nov 14	703-624-6880
Grittibenz Baking, Samichlaus Party,	Swiss Bakery, Swiss Embassy,	Sunday, Dec 5 Sunday, Dec 12	240-672-6590 301-585-5844



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Board & Volunteer Coordinators...

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Dear Swiss Club Members:

our volunteers earn lots of compliments for offering an increasing number of great events, but we need to tell you earlier and better when what happens. The idea of 6 postillions per year was too difficult and also too expensive to produce, so we'll try to send more frequent, but simple electronic newsletter to all active (translation: dues paying) members of whom we have email addresses. For those (only about 40) without any access to computers we'll send a one page flyer by conventional mail. In addition there will be 2 bigger Postillions: one at the beginning of the calendar year for a preview of activities, and one with bylaws and phone directory for the Geneal Meeting. We also intend to improve the web site further so that it is worth checking it at least once a week for something new and interesting.

I hope that better communications will bring us closer together and encourage many to participate more actively; I have been at almost every event lately and had so much fun that I really desire to share that with all of you.

Christian Haudenschild

PAST EVENTS



FAHRT INS BLAUE

by Adrian Ineichen

On Saturday, April 17, a slight wind, sunshine, and humming engines made the perfect setting for our volunteering drivers who took their clueless passengers on a journey also known as the "Fahrt ins Blaue" to undisclosed destinations. 28 daring Swiss Club DC members were greeted with a Swiss lantern by an enthusiastic Chris Haudenschild, he himself a former Swiss Air Force pilot, and our special guest, Peter Egger, military attaché of Switzerland here in Washington, DC and also former Swiss Air Force pilot, at the National Air & Space Museum Udvar-Hazy Center near Dulles Airport as the first destination.

With split up in groups, and Peter and Chris guided our members through the exhibits, from the supersonic reconnaissance plane "Blackbird" to the Vietnam-era "Phantom" and to the new prototype of the fifth generation "Joint Strike Fighter". After a first tour, we gathered in a conference room with comfy chairs and enjoyed listening to the stories of Chris about his activities as leisure radio operator and then how he got into the pilot training, flying the "Venom" (made partly of wood!) and the acrobatic "Buecker". Peter introduced us to modern pilot training and showed a breath-taking movie clip about the Axalp air show displaying gorgeous maneuvers (every fall in the Berner Oberland in Switzerland). It is impressive how close and fast those fighter jets fly in formation at air shows! Chris was exuberant and impressed his listeners with stories and intelligible explanations on various planes. Now I know how the Buecker's engine can get sufficient fuel even if it is flown upside down.

Then, the 28 adventurous "Fahrt ins Blaue" participants moved to the Swiss Bakery in Springfield, where Reto and Laurie Weber did a fantastic job in preparing their store for a wine tasting, starring Chris as presenter. We could test and guess nine different wines, covering a diversity of flavors from a fruity white wine with elements of fresh hay to crisp, balanced and silky red wines. This was a great opportunity to learn the basics of wine tasting, as well as to challenge and to coddle one's senses. A delicious dinner with Swiss bread, cheese and meat gave this year's "Fahrt ins Blaue" a fantastic finish, not to mention the outstanding desserts ... mjam.

I would like to thank Chris, Reto and Laurie and of course Peter Egger for their great contribution and passion to make the "Fahrt ins Blaue" a memorable event of the Swiss Club DC. I am sure future "Fahrt ins Blaue" will be at least as great and fun!

FIRST JASS 2010

by Senta Speight

A big thank you on behalf of all the Jassers to Christian and Changting Haudenschild for hosting the 1st Jass for 2010 and the so generous dinner followed the tournament. The Goulash was just outstanding! Everybody had a great time. Thank you!

The top 3 finishers are: Reto Weber with 2320, Margrit Zeender with 2220 and Christian Haudenschild with 2167 points. We had a total of 16 jassers.

Mark your Calendar for our next Jass Tournament hosted by Elsbeth and Dick Backus, 10501 Oaklyn Drive, Potomac MD 20854, on June 6th

NEXT EVENT



Billy Goat Trail - Hike and Barbecue on May 15, 2010...

On **Saturday, May 15, 2010** we will meet at the parking lot across from the Old Anglers Inn:

10801 MacArthur Boulevard, North Potomac MD 20854, at noon.

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 scrambling, therefore, good hiking shoes are recommended.

For those seeking less adventurous traveling, you can hike parallel on 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. Once we are all back we will drive to the picnic area at Carderock and grilled sausages with bread and soft drinks will be provided.

Hike will take place rain or shine.

Please Contact Paul Amstad: 410-465-5417 paul.amstad@swissclubdc.org

Price per person \$10 - children under 10 are free.

Send check payable to the Swiss Club DC (not refundable):

Paul Amstad, 3993 High Point Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042

Member's name: _____

Phone # _____ email: _____

of people over 10: _____

of children: _____

Children's' names and ages: _____