

# Swiss Club of Washington, DC

## January 2026 Postillion



## Message from the President

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Happy New Year! I hope that all of you had great holiday and conclusion to 2025, and I wish you fresh and exciting start for 2026!

As you can see in this month's Postillion, we at the Swiss Club Board are off to running start. We are also pleased to offer a happy hour in January, the annual fondue dinner and SBS auction in February, and a local Swiss Heritage event in February as well. As a reminder, please remember to renew your membership registration at the earliest convenience.

And speaking of the Swiss Club Board, I am happy to announce that Club member Sara Ackermann has been elected to the Board as a Board Member at Large. We're excited to serve with Sara and appreciate her willingness to serve the Club in this role.

It was so great to celebrate the holidays with many of you at the Samichlaus/Grittibaenz event last month! We had a great turnout with over 120 people, 75 of whom prepared a Grittibaenz. A special thanks to Helen Bircher, Gabriela Meier, Markus Pfeiffer, Alex Phillips, the Phillips Family, the Swiss Club Board, and all other volunteers for their hard work in making this event a success! And thank you to Samichlaus for stopping by the Embassy to spread some holiday cheer! Looking forward to seeing you all at a Swiss Club event very soon!

Best,  
Kevin Sprenger





## **Happy New Year! We look forward to a great year with many Swiss Club events. Renew your membership today!**

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We love our members, and are able to organize and host many great events throughout the year because of your support. Please renew your membership, or become a new member today!

Members enjoy the following benefits:

- Attend the Easter Egg Hunt at no cost
- Attend the members-only Grittibaenz and Samichlaus Party
- Pay the reduced member price for all Swiss Club events
- Get priority registration for events with limited seating
- Receive our monthly newsletter and reminder about upcoming events
- The joy of being an official member of the Swiss Club of Washington DC

Renew your membership [here](#), or email our membership coordinator, Michael Marti, with any questions. [michael.marti@swissclubdc.org](mailto:michael.marti@swissclubdc.org)

Membership renewal includes two steps: (1) Complete and submit the membership form, (2) submit payment via your preferred method. As a reminder, our membership runs on a standard calendar year term (January 2026 to December 2026). Membership renewal is not automatic, so please visit the site to obtain your 2026 Swiss Club of Washington DC membership.





## Advertise your business on our website and in our newsletter!

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The annual cost **\$75** for members and **\$100** for non-members.

If interested, please email our treasurer Melanie Way  
[melanie.way@swissclubdc.org](mailto:melanie.way@swissclubdc.org)

## Happy New Year Stammtisch (Happy Hour) Thursday, January 22

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Start the new year off right! Catch up with your Swiss Club friends and/or make some new ones at our January Stammtisch! We look forward to seeing you there!

Where: [Black's Bar and Grill](#), Bethesda, MD  
When: Thursday, January 22 @ 6:30 pm

[Facebook Event Link](#)

**Save The Date:**

# Fondue Dinner at the Swiss Embassy Saturday, February 7

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We look forward to hosting our 2026 Fondue Dinner at the Swiss Embassy, Saturday, February 7. Registration will be sent out in mid-January.

Admission includes all you can eat fondue, dessert, and non-alcoholic drinks, as well as access to the Swiss Benevolent Society Silent Auction. A cash bar will be open for beer and Swiss wine.

**Embassy of Switzerland**  
2900 Cathedral Ave., NW  
Washington, DC  
Sunday, December 14th, 2025



## Swiss Heritage Outing to the Meridian House February 20, 2026

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The Swiss club is organizing a tour of the Meridian House on the afternoon of Friday February 20, 2026 at 3 pm. If interested, please contact Richard Bottonari [richard.bottanari@swissclubdc.org](mailto:richard.bottanari@swissclubdc.org) to let him you know you plan to join the outing

[Details of the Meridian House](#)  
1630 Crescent Pl NW, Washington, DC 20009

The Swiss connection is that Irwin Laughlin, an American diplomat who built the Meridian House was married to Therese Iselin, daughter of Adrian Iselin, Jr., a New York banker whose grandfather was Isaak Iselin-Roulet (1783–1841). Iselin-Roulet was born in Basel and worked at the Swiss New York Consulate.

Site tours are offered Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., subject to house schedule. We plan to meet there as a group for a scheduled tour on Friday February 20 at 3pm. Please contact [Richard.bottonari@swissclubdc.org](mailto:Richard.bottonari@swissclubdc.org) to arrange for your participation.

**Follow us on Social Media  
Facebook and Instagram Page!!**

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Share your pictures and your experiences with the Swiss Club!

Thanks to some new additions to our club's executive board, we are renewing our social media presence and have started an Instagram page to share our updates. Feel free to follow us to receive timely updates on events and opportunities!

[Link](#) to Swiss Club of Washington DC's Instagram Page

[Link](#) to Swiss Club of Washington DC's Facebook Page

## Interested in Playing Jass?

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Reach out to Will Roberts for more information!

[will.roberts@swissclubdc.org](mailto:will.roberts@swissclubdc.org)

New to the game? No problem, join a Jass clinic to learn to play!



## Swiss Club Events for 2026

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- Stammtisch: Bethesda
  - Fondue Dinner, Swiss Embassy
  - Meridian House tour, DC
  - Easter Egg Hunt
  - Hike/Brewery visit
  - Potential Swiss trip
  - Swiss National Day
  - Hike/Winery Visit
  - Raclette Dinner
  - General Assembly
  - Grittibaenz and Samichlaus
- Thursday, January 22, 2026  
Saturday, February 7, 2026  
Friday, February 20, 2026  
March  
May  
June  
August  
September  
October  
October  
December

## Board Members and Club Support Positions

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**President:** Kevin Sprenger, [kevin.sprenger@swissclubdc.org](mailto:kevin.sprenger@swissclubdc.org)

**1st Vice-President:** Olivia Hauser, [olivia.hauser@swissclubdc.org](mailto:olivia.hauser@swissclubdc.org)

**2nd Vice-President:** Susann Kollmar, [susann.kollmar@swissclubdc.org](mailto:susann.kollmar@swissclubdc.org)

**Secretary:** Roger Wespe [roger.wespe@swissclubdc.org](mailto:roger.wespe@swissclubdc.org)

**Treasurer:** Melanie Way, [melanie.way@swissclubdc.org](mailto:melanie.way@swissclubdc.org)

**Membership Coordinator:** Michael Marti, [michael.marti@swissclubdc.org](mailto:michael.marti@swissclubdc.org)

**Logistics Coordinator:** Richard Bottonari [richard.bottonari@swissclubdc.org](mailto:richard.bottonari@swissclubdc.org)

**Children's Activities Coordinator:** Gabriela Meier [gabriela.meier@swissclubdc.org](mailto:gabriela.meier@swissclubdc.org)

**Board Member:** Martin Perret, [martin.perret@swissclubdc.org](mailto:martin.perret@swissclubdc.org)

**Board Member:** Alexandra Phillips, [alexandra.phillips@swissclubdc.org](mailto:alexandra.phillips@swissclubdc.org)

**Board Member,** Sara Ackermann, [sara.ackermann@swissclubdc.org](mailto:sara.ackermann@swissclubdc.org)

**Social Strategy Coordinator:** Mark McCarthy, [mark.mccarthy@swissclubdc.org](mailto:mark.mccarthy@swissclubdc.org)

**Swiss Embassy Liaison:** Annette Moser [annette.moser@swissclubdc.org](mailto:annette.moser@swissclubdc.org)

**Webmaster:** Will Roberts, [will.roberts@swissclubdc.org](mailto:will.roberts@swissclubdc.org)

## About Other Swiss Groups

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### **Swiss Rifles:**

Ken Schelbert, [ken@schelberts.com](mailto:ken@schelberts.com)

### **Swiss Folklore Group:**

Erwin Buerlimann, President, [Eburlimann@comcast.net](mailto:Eburlimann@comcast.net)

### **Die Stauffacherin:**

Susann Kollmar, President, [susann.kollmar@swissclubdc.org](mailto:susann.kollmar@swissclubdc.org)

Janine Ali, Vice President

### **Swiss Benevolent Society:**

Alfred Kessi, President, [president@sbsofdc.org](mailto:president@sbsofdc.org)

[www.sbsofdc.org](http://www.sbsofdc.org)

### **Swiss American Club of Richmond:**

[swissamericanclubrichmondva@gmail.com](mailto:swissamericanclubrichmondva@gmail.com)

### **Swiss American Historical Society:**

<https://www.swiss-american-historical-society.org/>

## Advertisement

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We invite professionals and corporations to place your ad on the Swiss Club website by contacting [Melanie Way](#).

Your ad will also appear on the e-Postillion which is sent to our membership on a monthly basis. All we need from you is a business card sized image containing your website/email information; anyone clicking on it will be linked to your website.

**2026 prices are as follows:**

\$75.00 for dues paying members and \$100.00 for non-members.

**Great exposure to the Swiss community for a small cost.**



**STABLE**  
WASHINGTON DC

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Swiss Club of Washington, D.C. | [swissclubdc.org](http://swissclubdc.org)

