

# Swiss Club of Washington, DC February 2026 Postillion



## Message from the President

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Warmest greetings to all of you during this cold, snowy, and icy weather here in the Washington area! I hope that all of you are staying safe and healthy.

A special thank you to all who were able to attend the January Happy Hour in Bethesda, and the January Jass game in Maryland. I heard that both events were very fun!

Despite the weather, we have a few events planned for this short month of February. Our much anticipated annual Fondue dinner and Swiss Benevolent Society auction is next weekend! The event is already sold out, and we are looking forward to a great evening of delicious food and bidding (and hopefully winning) some Swiss branded products. There is also the Swiss heritage event at the Meridian House in DC later this month (see more details below).

Also, I encourage all of you to please consider making an individual donation to the Swiss American Historical Society (SAHS) for their upcoming centennial year (<https://www.swiss-american-historical-society.org/centennial-2027>). They have several events planned including an exhibit that will travel to multiple cities in the US. Registration is also open for a group trip to Switzerland (scheduled for late 2027) that they are coordinating. The Swiss Club Board has voted to make a donation of \$1,000 on behalf of the Club as a whole, but we encourage you to make an individual donation as well to support SAHS's effort to preserve and share the history of Swiss-Americans.

In honor of the Fasnacht season in Switzerland, Frohe Fasnachtzeit! Have a great February!

# Thanks to all who attended the Happy New Year Stammtisch

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It was a really fun night connecting with old friends and making new connections! We look forward to seeing you at the next one!



## **SOLD OUT :** **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. Thank you to all of those who registered. We look forward to seeing you there!

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

Please bring your own fondue set up including pot, stand, forks, burner, fuel, etc. Remember that it is usually very warm in the Chevrolet room for this event, so dress in layers! Electric Fondue pots cannot be supported at this event. If you do not have your

own fondue pot, please reach out to a board member for support!

**Embassy of Switzerland**  
2900 Cathedral Ave., NW  
Washington, DC



Swiss  
Benevolent  
Society of  
Washington DC  
*Founded 1865*

Join us at Fondue Night for our LIVE auction fundraiser. We have an amazing lineup of auction items for you this year, including an exclusive Mondaine watch, SBB train tickets and the always popular wine from the Ambassador's cellar.

Cash and check are the best form of payment. Credit cards are accepted but only if the embassy Wi-Fi is cooperating. Come ready to score great prizes and remember to be generous. All the proceeds go to support our local Swiss community.

If you would like to learn more about the Swiss Benevolent Society of Washington DC, or would like to donate without bidding on an auction item, please visit the following website for more information: [Swiss Benevolent Society of Washington DC](https://www.swissbenevolent.org/)

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## **Swiss Heritage Outing to the Meridian House Saturday, February 28, 2026 (Note the new date and time)**



The Swiss club is organizing a tour of the Meridian House on the the morning of Saturday February 28, 2026 at 10 am. At the request of the Meridian house, the date of the tour has been rescheduled from the original date of February 20. If you have already signed up for

February 20, Richard will reach out to you directly. If you are interested in joining on the rescheduled date (Saturday, February 28), please contact Richard Bottonari to coordinate. [richard.bottanari@swissclubdc.org](mailto:richard.bottanari@swissclubdc.org)

[Details of the Meridian House](#)  
1630 Crescent PI 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.

## Friendly reminder to renew your Swiss Club of Washington DC 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 reminders 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.

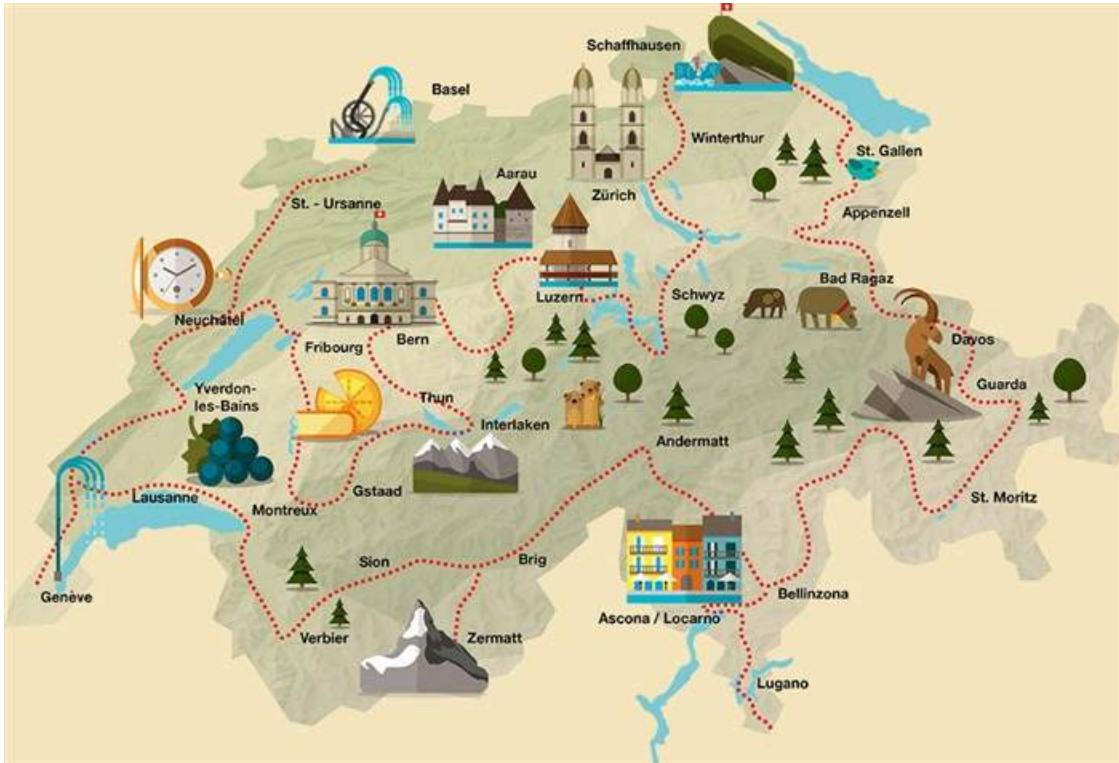
**Swiss American Historical Society Trip  
September 2027  
Reserve your spot today!**

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To celebrate the Swiss American Historical Society's centennial in 2027, the Society is organizing a 10-day trip to Switzerland, September 19–29, 2027. [Click here](#) for the itinerary and information about the trip.

If you are interested, a deposit of \$500 is due on March 15, 2026. A minimum of 12 people have to make a deposit in order to move forward with the trip. Please complete the Google Form [linked here](#) which includes payment options for the deposit.

Feel free to forward this to anyone you know who might be interested. Thank you!



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## Swiss Kids Corner

There is no gathering planned for February. We will resume outdoor playdates in March!

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

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

