



NEWSLETTER – JULY, 2008

Bundesfeier – Saturday, August 2, 6:00 p.m. at the Chalet Reservations to be received no later than July 29

This is the next event scheduled at our chalet (map attached to back page) and arguably the most important one of the year as we celebrate with our Swiss kin the declaration of independence of Switzerland as a democracy for over 715 years!

We KC Swiss always enjoy creating a memorable experience, and it all begins with your view of the huge Swiss flag greeting your entrance to the meadow, followed by the view of flags of all cantons proudly blowing in whatever Midwestern breeze is available!

The meadow is the perfect site for the young, and the young at heart, to play soccer, perhaps other games, horseshoes, bocce ball, and always the Chalet's grounds present a perfect venue for lighthearted fun, visiting with old and new friends, and a sense of peace and restfulness. However, the live music provided by Betty Simon's group, the playing of the alphorn by Franz Leuthardt, and his incomparable flag throw which is spectacular is a great boost to the spirit!

The well used beautifully wrought outdoor stone grill will be laden with bratwurst that will be eaten along with the yummy green bean salad, rolls and the exquisite dessert that Andre's does so well – nussgipfel, and those are included in your ticket price, including fresh brewed iced tea or coffee. You may purchase the sodas, bottled water and beer at the event.

Towards dusk, the children will be led down the trail towards das Fruedenfeuer itself, carrying their lampion to the tune of the great Kupfer cow bell. Everyone will join together at the bonfire to sing the traditional songs, and we will stay as long as we wish to enjoy the lovely evening hours at our Chalet.

The pro patria pins will be available this year, and they are quite lovely, a contemporary rendering of the Swiss cross on a red slab and the symbolism is that of the "cultural routes of Switzerland." Lampions, t-shirts, Swiss music CD's and ball caps will also be available.

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With sadness we report the death of one of our longtime KC Swiss members, Mrs. Gladys Cooper, who passed away on July 2. Her lovely remembrance reception was held at the Andre's on Main Street in Kansas City on July 9, 2008.

Our treasurer, Harry Newby, reports that several memorial donations have been made to KC Swiss in Gladys' honor.

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On August 2, you will notice that a really beautiful 2008 calendar from Switzerland is hanging on the wall in the meeting room, a gift from our KC Swiss Helvetia Society, for whom we are thankful.

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Speaking of the 2008 pro patria pin which promotes the cultural routes of Switzerland, it brings to mind the beautiful opportunities available for the Swiss to enjoy the country by means of hiking, and beyond that, the meaning of the German word, wandern, which is a cut above the English version of the word "wander." According to The New Swiss Journal, the German verb, wandern, connotes traveling between two fixed points on a usually predetermined route on Schusters Rappen, and further expresses freedom for the soul to get away from daily worries enjoying beautiful countryside and spending a full day or longer filling the lungs with clean, fresh air. "Some even call wandern a luxury of modern times, because when one is hiking, time suddenly loses its importance, thereby releasing pressure and refreshing body and soul."



This is a picture at dawn, in the summer time, over the Rosenlauri glacier, the Wellhorner, the Rosenhorn and Wetterhorn.

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Are you following the Tour de France? As of this writing, Fabian Cancellara, a world time champion, and Swiss, is struggling to stay in fifth place overall in the standings. There is still time left for surprise finishes this year, and the Tour is always a sports event that gives us great views of the European countryside. If only we did not have to stay up until 3 a.m. to catch it "live."

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Speaking of sports, Roger Federer has proved again that he is a competitor but also a true gentleman, both in victory and defeat. BLICK reports that Federer played but Nadal played to win at Wimbledon, but whatever the outcome, by all accounts we can feel great pride in our own Roger Federer as he continues his stellar professional tennis career.

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Swiss Info has published a rather lengthy article championing the Swiss predilection for waste management in this waste challenged world. One Swiss parliamentarian is calling for a ban on all plastic bags used in the retail sector. As Americans, we can be more conscious of our role in waste management as well, so it is truly gratifying to see many shoppers carrying their own bags to the market and other retail venues. Even re using paper bags until they fall apart, rather than throwing them away is a step in the right recycling direction!

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The Board of Directors of the KC Swiss Society met on July 9, and the Chalet was the topic of discussion. We are in debt to Henry Kupfer for his oversight of the premises, and to Don Neese for his upkeep of the meadow and all of the surrounding grass areas on the property. There will be shortly more sturdy, secure doors placed at the entrance and exit of the Chalet itself, and you will see soon that painting of the inside and outside of the Chalet will be done, probably in the Autumn months. One or more of the directors makes it a point to be at the Chalet off and on throughout each week to check on conditions and to monitor security along with the regular security force.

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Reminder: All dues paying KC Swiss members will find their membership roster available for picking up at the Bundesfeier, and we should also have your membership cards ready at that time as well.

Your membership card will be business card size, and it can be used for your discounted purchases at (as of now) Andre's Confiserie Suisse, and Pryde's in Westport. This is just a nice little benefit to being a dues paying member of the KC Swiss.

Upcoming events:

Schutzenfest/Raclette – Sunday, October 12, 2008 at the Chalet

EVENT COUPON – Bundesfeier – August 2, 2008 at the Chalet – 6:00 p.m.

**Your name _____ Names of your
guests _____**

of tickets for Adults @ \$12.00 each (\$13 at the door) _____

of tickets for Children @ \$3.00 each (\$4 at the door) _____

**Mail this coupon with your check payable to the KC Swiss Society to our
treasurer, Harry Newby, 8038 Halsey Street, Lenexa, Kansas 66215 no later than
7/29**

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**KC Swiss Society
Becci Jones, Secretary
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