



AELPLER GRUPPE SWISS CLUB

Founded 1925

NewsLETTER

www.aelplergruppe.com

Swiss owned and operated since 1935

Volume XXIX Issue 4, October - December 2021

President's Message

By Arnold Ambiel



Dear Aelplers,

What a summer it was. We had three Outdoor events with hundreds of people attending. It was a lot of work, but well worth it to see our members and friends back at Swiss Park. Thank You everyone who attended, volunteered, donated, cooked or wrestled. We could not have done it without you.

Park and Hall rentals have been very strong all year as people catch up with their events as Alameda County reopens. Swiss Park's Bier Garten had a great summer and closes for the season at the end of October. The Swiss Hall bar will re-open then.

The August First Picnic that Swiss Park and the Aelpler Gruppe held was very successful. Thanks to the United Swiss for the Online Auction and Video that we showed that day. Who knew that Swiss would be so competitive bidding for items on the auction site.....they must all be Jass players and hate to lose.

Our afternoon Schwingfest was very well attended. The remodeled Schwinger Platz was well received. The food was great. Kapelle Gander Scheiber was awesome and the wrestlers were all pleased. Thanks to everyone who supported this event through your attendance, work or donations.

Our next events will all be indoors: the Annual Meeting, Metzgete and Member's Christmas Party. We are excited for you to see the hall. Space is limited so sign up early. And make sure to vote and mail back your Board of Directors ballot when it arrives.

Next Trivia Question: What's the difference between Samichlaus and Father Christmas (Santa Claus)? Call/text me the answer at 510-936-2523. We'll draw a winner from the first 3 received. Rose Satariano is our July winner. Two correct answers were submitted. Look inside for the answer to the last question.

Ich wünsche euch alles Gute,

Arnold

***Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club
Annual Member's Meeting
Sunday, November 7th at 2:00 p.m.***

We will meet at the Swiss Park hall



***Come to support our club
We will be voting on Board of Director
positions that are up for election.***

***Metzgete Dinner
Saturday, November 13th at 6:00 p.m.***

Send in your reservations now

***Please see the flyer inside the newsletter
for reservations and information***



***NEW TIME for our
Annual Member's Christmas Party
Noon – 5 p.m.***

***(Flyer with all the reservation information
will be in the mail to you soon)***

Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club Facebook page
www.facebook.com/aelplergruppeswissclub

Welcome New Social Member:

David Kuettel



Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club hosted Swiss National Day Celebration

The Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club hosted a mini Swiss National Day Celebration on August 1st, 2021. We had a small group attending an outdoor picnic and viewing of the United Swiss Societies of Northern California's 1st of August video presentation. The Swiss National Day celebration was held in the beautiful picnic grounds at Swiss Park in Newark, CA. Guests came to celebrate the 730th Anniversary of Switzerland, to eat Bratwurst, visit each other, and watch the broadcast by United Swiss of Northern California.

The Aelpler Gruppe volunteers prepared the park for visitors and made a yummy lunch of barbecued Bratwurst, Aelplermagronen, and side dishes. We were fortunate that the temperature was just right to have a picnic and visit with our Swiss friends; many of whom had not seen each other in over a year due to Covid.

We thank all those members who donated door prize items that were a wonderful representation of our Swiss community. They were very well received and made many guests happy. We also appreciate those who came forward to donate items for the United Swiss Societies on-line auction. This was a huge success and benefits all of our local Swiss Clubs. Thank you!



Aelpler Gruppe Swiss club's first club hike

A group of Aelpler Gruppe and Peninsula Swiss club members went on a hike at Coyote Hills park in Newark on Sunday, September 26, 2021. It was a wonderful morning with the mist clearing over the San Francisco Bay.

We would like to continue to have hikes a few times each year and will rotate the hiking areas through the North Bay area, East Bay, South Bay and West Bay areas.



Thank you to Patricia Wipfli-Schaffarczyk and Michelle Ott for organizing the hike! We also appreciate Tom Coroneos who documented the lovely day and made a video for all to enjoy.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IB4MnxwTOiM&t=2s>
produced by Tom Coroneos

Get Well Soon!

Get well to Mariette Franke who fell and fractured her hip.
Get well to Jakob Schallberger who tore his ACL

NEW – For those Jass enthusiasts among us – and anyone else as well – the Aelpler Gruppe Swiss club would like to initiate a monthly **Jass Get-together**.

At this time, we have chosen the 2nd Sunday of each month. We will meet at Swiss Park from 2 pm to 4 pm; tentatively starting on November 14th. (then December 12th, January 9th).

All interested players regardless of skill level or familiarity with the game are welcome.



For more information, please contact:
Patricia Schaffarczyk (510) 677-8461
Rick Steiner (201) 359-7604

Welcome to our new Consul General of San Francisco, Nicolas Descoeudres.

Would you like to Join Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club?

To join; please send your name, email address, postal address, phone number to:

Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club Attn: Membership
5911 Mowry Ave., Newark, CA 94560

Questions; aelplergruppe@gmail.com or 510-936-2523

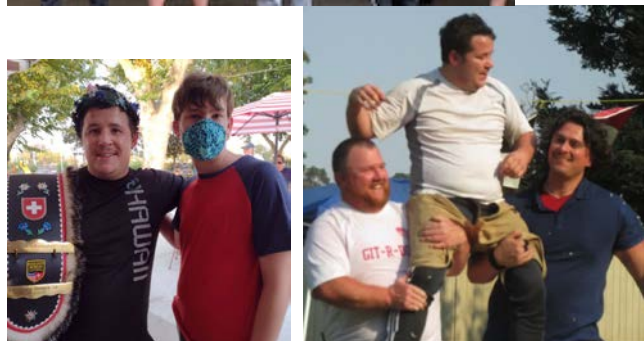
<https://www.aelplergruppe.com/memberships/>

Fall Schwingfest at Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club

On a beautiful late summer day we enjoyed our Fall Schwingfest. We thank all those who came out to help make this a great event! We could not have done it without you. Thank you also the wrestlers and their families who worked hard all day and showed us true sportsmanship! Thank you also to the judges. We received many donations for the nice Schwinger prizes and crowns.

Thank you also to the great BBQ crew who kept us fed with delicious BBQ wurst. The lunches were delicious and gave everyone, especially the kids, energy for the afternoon wrestling and Steinstossen sessions.

We enjoyed music in the afternoon by Kapelle Gander Scheiber. There is nothing like authentic Swiss music to reminisce and think of our youth in Switzerland or for those of us born here; the trips we have made to Switzerland.



Aelpler Gruppe 2021 Fall Schwingfest Rangliste

Seniors

1	Steven Widmer	Ripon, CA	57.75
2	Aaron Robinson*	Ripon, CA	56.00
Above with Crowns			
3	Patrick Richardson	Frances, WA	55.00
4	Stefan Granado	Newark, CA	52.75

Juniors

1	Issac Schali*	Ripon, CA	59.75
2	Carl Ming	Elk Grove, CA	56.75
3	Sam Ming	Elk Grove, CA	56.25
4	Walter Bynum	Manteca, CA	55.75
5	Belle Beglinger	Manteca, CA	55.25
Above with Medals			
6	Jared Ott	Walnut Creek CA	55.00
7	Kevin Kaslin	Auburn, CA	52.50

Group 2 ages 9-13

1	Niko Birakos	Oakdale, CA	57.75
2	Grace Beglinger	Manteca, CA	56.00
3	Nicholas Johnson	Manteca, CA	55.00
4	Tanner Schmidig	Truckee, CA	53.75
5	Alex Kuttel	Sacramento, CA	Unfall

Group 1 ages 6-8

1	Maximus Durrer	Ripon, CA	58.75
2	Jayse Birakos	Oakdale, CA	55.75
3	Dominic Johnson	Manteca, CA	53.75
4	Charlie Widmer	Manteca, CA	52.75

*Schoenschwinger

Steinstossen

1	Fred Kaslin	Auburn, CA	11' 10"
2	Bob Ness	Newark, CA	10' 4"



A wonderful Fall Schwingfest YouTube video was produced by Tom Coroneos. He spent all day taking photos and making a video to give highlights our our event!

Enjoy watching the video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ABCuxcGopg>

Aelpler Gruppe 2021 Calendar of Events

www.facebook.com/aelplergruppeswissclub

Nov 7 Annual Member's Meeting 2:00 p.m.
Nov 13 Metzgete Dinner 6:00 p.m.
Dec 4 Member's Annual Christmas Dinner **Noon- 5pm**



United Swiss Societies

Diane Wagner, President 510-582-0698

www.unitedswissnorcal.org

Peninsula Swiss Club

Contact: Erich Sonnberger 650-505-9802

esonnberger@interorealestate.com

www.peninsulaswissclub.com

Interim Swiss Consulate General, Nicolas Descoeudres

Pier 17, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94111

Phone: 415-788-2272

www.eda.admin.ch/sanfrancisco

Contact information for Western US Swiss Clubs:

Visit the Swiss Consulate General's website:

https://www.eda.admin.ch/dam/countries/countries-content/united-states-of-america/en/112.0_CHclubsSF.pdf

Swiss Rifle Club Events

Contact: Stephen Hurst at (831) 927-9296

E-Mail: carmelgunclub@outlook.com

More information at: www.carmelgunclub.com

Sierra Swiss Club Calendar

Contact: Urs Gwerder 530-587-8316

<http://sierraswissclub.homestead.com>

Pro Ticino

<http://www.proticino.ch/>

Cancelled in Switzerland - June 25-27 2021 **Eidgenössisches Jodelerfest** and Sept 5, 2021 **Eidgenössisches Jubiläums-Schwingfest**

June Trivia question: "What is Wildheuen and where is it practiced?"

Answer: Wildheuen or "Wild hay" is common throughout the Alps to obtain hay on high, steep meadows that are difficult or impossible to reach with animals, right up to the alpine pastures (alpine mowing, alpine hay). This form of haymaking is dangerous; fatal accidents occur again and again. In 2006 the Swiss filmmaker Erich Langjahr dedicated the film The Heritage of the Mountains to the wild haymakers in the Muotatal.

Winner: Rose Satariano



Swiss Park 2021 Events

5911 Mowry Avenue, Newark 510-793-6272

www.swissparknewark.com

SJVSC, Ripon 2021 Calendar of Events

www.sjvscripsonswiss.com Tony Berchtold, President

Oct 23 ~~Swiss Echoes Fall Dinner & concert~~ Cancelled

Nov 14 Fall Jass Party

Dec 5 ~~Swiss Echoes Christmas dinner~~ Cancelled

Dec 12 Children's Christmas party

West Coast Swiss Wrestling Association Board

Board President – Arnold Ambiel

Vice President – Urs Gwerder

Treasurer – Don Widmer

Secretary – Chris Schallberger

West Coast Schwingfests are now online at

<http://schlussgang.ch/>

2021 Schwingfest Dates:

**Oct 23 Imperial Valley Swiss Club – Holtville, CA
Championship - 100 year Anniversary**

West Coast Swiss Wrestling – Josef Inderbitzen Perpetual

Trophy: The Perpetual Trophy will be awarded during the awards at the Imperial Valley Championship Schwingfest.

Year End Total – Perpetual Trophy

0.50 Steven Widmer Rank 1

1.33 Andrew Betschart Rank 2

1.83 Aaron Robinson Rank 3

2.17 Dawson Galvan Rank 4

2.75 Mike Berchtold Rank 5

2.75 Sean Magato Rank 5

3.00 Stefan Granado Rank 7

3.00 David Mitrovich Rank 8

(* from WCSWA newsletter dated October 14, 2021)

Steinstossen at our Fall Schwingfest



We had a great group of young and senior participants in the Steinstossen event. Our youngest member, Josie, wore a cute Swiss dress and enjoyed her first Steinstossen! Thank you to Tony, Adam, and Mark for helping the kids throw the stone as far as they possibly could.

Steinstossen is the Swiss variant of stone put, a competition in throwing a heavy stone. Practiced among the alpine population of Switzerland since prehistoric times, it is recorded to have taken place in Basel in the 13th century. During the 15th century, it is frequently recorded to have been practiced alongside the *Schützenfeste* of the Old Swiss Confederacy. It is also central to the Unspunnenfest, first held in 1805, with its symbol the 83.5 kg Unspunnenstein (throwing stone).

Obituary – Rebecca Haslemann of Santa Clara, Ca and her daughter, Emma Nutter

passed away suddenly in August due to a tragic auto accident. Rebecca is the daughter of Life Member, Walt and Maggie Haslemann. Emma is the granddaughter of Walt and Maggie. Becky was a school teacher, girl scout leader, mother of three. Emma was an all-around athlete and was one of those who lit up a room when she walked in with so many hopes and dreams. Becky was the 5th of 6 children of Walt & Maggie. We send our deepest condolences to the family.



Obituary - Life member Elsie Holdener

Elsie was a longtime resident of Livermore, CA who passed to eternal life on August 22, 2021 at the age of 96. Elsie was born in beautiful Lauerz, Canton Schwyz, Switzerland on July 4, 1925 in a home built in 1776 called Klostermat. She is the 2nd of six children to Gottfried and Agatha Ott.

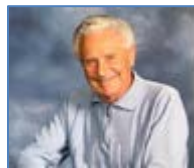


Elsie grew up on the 20-acre dairy farm her parents bought in California. She attended Lathrop Grammar School, grateful to her first-grade teacher, Mrs. Alan, who helped her learn her second language of English. Elsie and her family loved and kept alive their Swiss heritage; they also enjoyed and were proud to be active American citizens. Elsie welcomed her 20th and still-counting great grandchildren. She was a lifelong member of the Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club and the SJVSC in Ripon.

Obituary - Life member Pieter "Piet" Groenveld

June 7, 1929 – September 20, 2021
Pieter Groenveld passed away on September 20th, in Modesto at the age of 92. He was born on June 7, 1929, and he was the seventh born of nine children. Piet was born and raised in The Netherlands; he then immigrated to the US in 1953 to work on a local farm. He was drafted into the US Army a year later, and served from 1954-1956. After completing his service, he worked at various dairies before starting his own in 1962. He then retired from the dairy business in 1980 to become an almond farmer in Escalon. Piet loved to ride his bicycle, shipped from Holland, around the neighborhood daily. Piet will be deeply missed by his family and friends, both here and home in The Netherlands.

Piet is preceded in passing by his Son, Walter, and all 8 of his siblings; Janie, Klaas, Lena, Marijt, Arie, Bert, Nel and Reijer. He is survived by his beloved wife of 64 years, Ethel Groenveld, and children; Mike (Jeanette) Groenveld; and Nel Groenveld and her partner, Hector.



Obituary - Social member Willy Ostertag

Aelpler Gruppe Social member Willy Ostertag passed away peacefully in September. Willy was born March 22, 1939 in Amriswil, Switzerland, the youngest of four children. He was a brother to Alfred (Lydia), Erwin (Marie), and Ursula Dupuis (André). After completing his education in Switzerland along with his apprenticeship as a master mechanic, Willy emigrated to the United States on the maiden voyage of the SS France in February 1962 with 20 Swiss francs in his pocket and his chest x-rays under his arm. He was also a member of Swiss Club Tell. Willy is survived by his loving wife, Sandy; his four daughters, Madeleine Bucher, Bernadette Whitney, Michele Ostertag and Renée Ostertag; two sons-in-law, Brian Bucher and Steve Whitney; and his nine grandchildren from around the world; Matthew Bucher, Renata Kolinko (Matthew), Jakob Bucher, Mary Whitney, Wesley Whitney, Susan Whitney, and Joseph Whitney, Alexandria Bagot, and Thomas Bagot; and uncle to many nieces and nephews.

Obituary – Robert Enz son of Rosemary Aufdemaur passed away in July 2021 at Doctors Medical Center in Modesto, California. Robert was born on June 19, 1953 in Calexico, California to loving parents Walter and Rosemary (Auf der Maur) Enz.



He is survived by mother Rosemary Enz-Auf der Maur; brothers Walter (Cyndy) Enz of Cedar City, Utah, Paul (Shirley) Enz of Holtville; sister Alice (Ed) Inderbitzin of Acampo; Aunt Sister Bernadette Muller of Los Angeles; nephews Cory (Erin) Enz, Kellen (Sarah) Enz, Alan (Marie) Enz, Steven Inderbitzin; nieces Megan (Isaac) Smith, and Erin Inderbitzin. Robert is preceded in death by his father Walter Enz, Sr., and Grandparents Joe and Emma Enz, and Clem and Marie Muller.

Passing of individuals in the greater Swiss community:

Trudi Herzog of Oregon passed away

Lydia Taylor of Washington passed away

Pierre Vireday of the Portland, OR area

Ernie Leimgruber of Imperial Valley Swiss club

Edmund Sciarini of Modesto, California who was the Stanislaus Swiss Club President

Rosemarie Ott of Modesto, CA

Memorial Fund Donations - We are grateful for donations to the Memorial Fund to honor members who have passed.

In Memory of **Rebecca Haslemann and Emma Nutter:**
Dan & Lynn Vogt

In Memory of **Willy Ostertag** donations from:
Dave & Margrith Reichmuth

In Memory of **Elsie Holdener** donations from:
Karen & Conrad Grass Joseph & Mary Ann Russo
Geraldine Betschart Dave & Margrith Reichmuth
Dan & Lynn Vogt Kurt & Linda Clausen
Cathy Baxter Peter & Jackie Zuger

In Memory of **Margaret (Gigi) Britschgi** donations from:
Heidi Ambiel

In Memory of **Heidi Britschgi** donations from:
Heidi Ambiel

In Memory of **Ethel Lutschan** donations from:
Heidi Ambiel

In memory of **Anna Dalgaard** donations from:
Heidi Ambiel



Whom to contact when a Swiss Club member is deceased:

Please e-mail our Corresponding Secretary at jerikroske@gmail.com or call 408-842-4621

Memorial Fund donations thru the Aelpler Gruppe website: <https://www.aelplergruppe.com/donations/>



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Thank you Heidi Ambiel for your generous donation to help off-set the quarterly printing and mailing of the Aelpler Gruppe's newsletter!

Europe's first female night watch keeps vigil over Lausanne (www.swissinfo.ch)

Every evening, Lausanne's night watch climbs to the top of the ancient cathedral bell tower to call out the time each hour, keeping alive a 600-year-old tradition. For the first time, the job is now held by a woman. Lausanne announced that 27-year-old Cassandre Berdoz had taken over from René Häusler as the city's night watch, a tradition that goes back to 1405. The job of the night watch, one of the last in Europe, is no longer to warn the Swiss city of fires as in former times, but to help residents keep track of the time. Berdoz will continue to call the time from the bell tower from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. using the traditional call: "C'est la guette! Il a sonné dix...Il a sonné dix!" (It's the night watch. It's ten o'clock. It's ten o'clock). She will be supported by five replacements.

Also from www.swissinfo.ch: Swiss Post will launch the "Swiss Crypto Stamp", the first stamp of its kind in Switzerland. The stamp is worth CHF8.90 (\$9.50), and every crypto stamp also has a related digital image. The Swiss Crypto Stamp looks like any ordinary stamp. It is self-adhesive, shows the Matterhorn and the moon on a blue background, and has a face value of CHF8.90.

SWISS 6 US GATEWAYS to ZURICH 1 US GATEWAY to GENEVA

DAILY NON-STOPS from San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago, New York, Newark, Boston & Miami; fly into one city, return from another European city. **BOOK EARLY** - For Economy book by mid-Jan and for Business Class by mid Feb. for lowest fares!

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Join your friends at the

Metzgete - Schlachtfest

Saturday, November 13, 2021

Newark Swiss Park

5911 Mowry Avenue, Newark, CA 94560

Sponsored by Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club, Inc.

Doors open at 5:00 p.m. - No assigned seating

Dinner served from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Dancing to "Showcase the Band" from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Admission - \$30.00 Includes complete dinner and dance

Children 14 years and under - \$5.00 for hot dog dinner

Prepaid reservations are due by November 1, 2021

Masks are required; limited to 150 dinner guests per current Covid restrictions

Name(s): _____ Phone #: _____

Email: _____ Adult(s) _____ Children 14 & under _____

Mark "2" meat choices per guest: Bratwurst _____ Rippli (Kassler) _____

Leberwurst _____ Blutwurst (if available) _____

Check enclosed in the amount of \$ _____

Please mail reservation and check to arrive by November 1, 2021

Make check payable to: Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club,

Attn: Metzgete

5911 Mowry Avenue, Newark, CA 94560



Aelplergruppe@gmail.com (510) 936-2523



General Information

Aelpler Gruppe Board of Directors Meeting

First Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Newark Swiss Park unless otherwise notified

Newark Swiss Park Board of Directors Meeting

Second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Newark Swiss Park unless otherwise notified

Newark Swiss Park Board of Directors

President	Thomas Imholz Jr.
Vice President	Pete Zuger
Treasurer	Carl Ramsell
Secretary	Susanne Cameron
Assistant Secretary	Herman Betchart

Swiss Park Manager Robert Fuchslin

Newsletter Editor: Rose Satariano
aelplergruppe@gmail.com

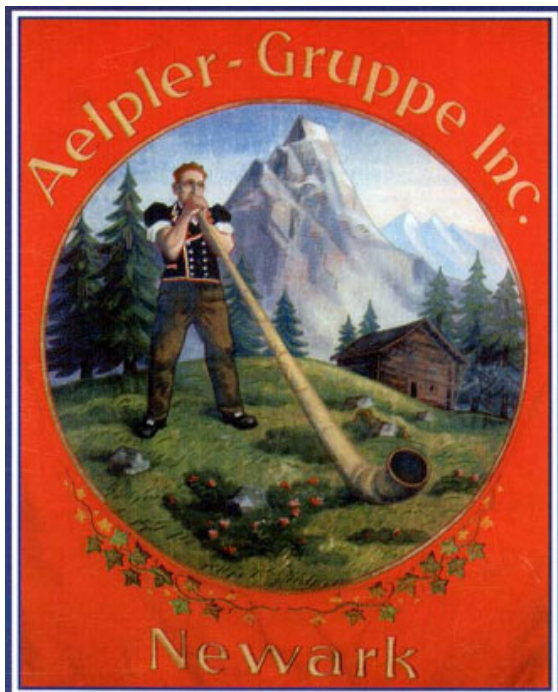
Have you moved?

Please forward your new address to Jerilyn Kroske, Corresponding Secretary, via e-mail to:
aelplergruppe@gmail.com Thank you.

Officers

Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club Board of Directors for 2021

President	Arnold Ambiel	510-936-2523
1st Vice Pres	Marilyn Ramsell	Manchester
2nd Vice Pres	Bill Bauhofer	
Recording Secretary	Julia Dobbelt	Hester
Corresp. Secretary	Jerilyn Kroske	
Treasurer	Margrith Reichmuth	
Assistant Treasurer	Michelle Bauhofer-Ott	
Past President	Kurt Clausen	
Director 1 – Music/Historian	Pat Wipfli-Schaffarczyk	
Director 2 – Membership	Karen Dobbelt	
Director 3 – Newsletter editor	Rose Satariano	
Director 4 – Historian	Darrell Ramsell	
Director 5 – Wrestling	Dominick Reichmuth	
Sennenmutter	Rosemary Ramsell	
Sennenvater	Pete Zuger	
USS Delegate	Arnold Ambiel	



For News – Swiss Consulate:

<https://www.eda.admin.ch/sanfrancisco>
or Auslandschweizer-Organisation www.aso.ch

Stay up to date with the latest Aelpler Gruppe news

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Instagram: [@aelpler_gruppe_sc](#)

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aelplergruppe@gmail.com