



AELPLER GRUPPE SWISS CLUB

Founded 1925

NEWSLETTER

www.aelplergruppe.com

SWISS PARK

Swiss owned and operated since 1935

Volume XXXI Issue 1, January - March 2023



Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club Christmas Luncheon

This year the Aelpler Gruppe held its annual Members Christmas luncheon on December 3rd, 2022. It was a great success with many attendees and volunteers. This is the second year that we have hosted the event at lunch time rather than in the evening which many enjoyed.

Lunch included chicken in a creamy mushroom sauce, cheese tortellini, fruit salad, mixed green salad, and bread rolls. After our delicious meal, the club sang Christmas carols and Santa brought gifts for the waiting children. Soon followed our raffle drawing, which brought in many prizes including wine, chocolates, cheese and much more. We thank you for all generous contributions; with over 60 items having been donated!



The club also said their farewells to three wonderful members of the Swiss Park and Aelpler Gruppe boards. Leaving the Swiss Park board is Pete Zuger who has been a member for many years. Leaving the Aelpler Gruppe board of directors is Julia Dobbel-Hester and Bill Bauhofer. We thank them for their many years of service to our club!



Fondue Dinner & Jass Party February 26th

Swiss Park Newark
Doors open at 12:30 for
Jass check-in and fondue
is served approx. at 4pm.



**Save the Date:
Folklore/Spring
Dance
April 16th**

Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club Semi-Annual Members Meeting May 7th

Save The Dates!

**Swiss Benevolent Society Spring Picnic
(May 21)**

**United Swiss Societies Kids Camp (June 11th)
Swiss National Day (August 5th)**



Jass Practice

2nd Sunday of each month
from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.



**Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club Facebook page
www.facebook.com/aelplergruppesswissclub**

Christmas Luncheon Continued

The volunteers helped make this a night to remember, arriving before the event to set up tables, decorations and the Christmas tree. Volunteers also helped serve dinner, plate homemade cookies, pour Kaffee Schnaps, pull raffle winners, and help Santa bring presents to the kids! We could not have had such a great event without these helpers.



**View this event's
video, produced by
Tom Coroneos on
YouTube:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tGRrwKHLZQE&t=248s>



President's Message By Arnold Ambiel

Dear Aelplers,

We owe thanks to Rose and Lauren Satariano for our new newsletter layout. They do great work. This format will put the most important things on the front page for you to see.

The winter rains are here. We're all thankful that the hall and park have survived thus far with no damage. We pray that everyone else has been as lucky, especially our friends at the Humboldt Swiss Club in Loleta, Ca.

Thanks to all who attended our Members Christmas lunch on a rainy December day. We all enjoyed the great food and got to recognize Julia, Bill and Pete who retired from their boards in December. Please welcome Monica Watson and Hugo Reichmuth to the Aelpler Gruppe Board. If anyone would like to serve on the Swiss Park Board, please let Tom Imholz know.

We also need to thank Bob Fuchslin, Wanda Lee and the Swiss Park staff for another great year managing the hall and park. And the recent WiFi upgrade will be great in 2023.

I also want to thank Tom Coroneos for always taking great pictures and videos of our events. Thank you also to Jackie Zuger who had a busy year in 2022 with all of the Memorial Donations the club received.

Life Members, look for a mailing from us at the beginning of February. The proposed By-Law changes will be enclosed.

Join us on February 26th for Jass and Fondue (new date.) We're back after a pandemic hiatus and ready to serve the best Fondue around. If you've never come, step out this year and join us. No fondue pot? No problem, borrow one of ours.

Next Trivia Question: Where will the 120 best Schwingers in the world be this August? Call/text me the answer at 510-936-2523. We'll draw a winner from the first 3 received. Pete Zuger texted the correct answer last time. (Please look for the last trivia answer inside.)

Ich wünsche euch alles Gute,

Arnold

Metzgete Dinner & Dancing

This year's Metzgete dinner was lively and full of excitement. Dinner included Blutwurst, Leberwurst, smoked pork loin and Bratwurst along with delicious sides. Thank you to Steve Ambiel, who was visiting from Switzerland and was our chef for the evening! Guests enjoyed dancing to the Steve Balich Band.



Jass enthusiasts please come to the Swiss Park Hall and join Aelpler Gruppe Swiss club for our monthly **Jass Get-together**.

Meet us on the **2nd Sunday of each month** at Swiss Park from 2 pm to 4 pm. All interested players regardless of skill level or familiarity with the game are welcome.

For more information, please text:
Patricia Schaffarczyk (510) 677-8461
Rick Steiner (209) 359-7604



Bay Area Trio Completes Nifty 90 Peaks Challenge!

In an article by Susan Alcorn of the Sierra Club, two of Aelpler Gruppe's members are hailed for completing the Nifty 90, a list of ninety peaks to hike in the greater Bay Area. These members are Patricia Wipfli-Schaffarczyk and Tom Coroneos! The peaks covered in the list include Mount Tamalpais, Mount Diablo, Nob Hill, Rose Peak, and Mount Sizer, with the last two being mentioned as the most challenging. Alcorn notes that "even though I have lived in the Bay Area about 75 of my 81 years, there are always new trails, new backroads, and new vistas to be explored!" Congratulations to Pat and Tom for their dedication to completing the challenge!

Sennenmutter

This past year our Sennenmutter, Rosemary Ramsell, passed away after serving Aelpler Gruppe since 2009. A Sennenmutter should be a Life Member of Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club, Inc. She should be supportive of the Club through active participation and be of Swiss heritage.

Please email your nomination(s) to aelplergruppe@gmail.com or leave a message/text at 510-936-2523. We will compile a list, notify the nominees, and place the interested parties on the ballot for the membership to vote on in May.



Angel Island Hike

In our most recent club hike, eleven members met in San Francisco and took a ferry to Angel Island to walk the perimeter. The 5.5 mile loop around the island brought beautiful views of the bay, island wildlife, and many historical sites scattered throughout the island.

The history pertained to the story of immigrants coming to the city on boats from all over the world, including Switzerland. We hope you join us for our next hike!



View the video produced by Tom Coroneos from this fun adventure!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F6HjMs8tiw8&t=1s>

Attention Social Members!

Please look for membership renewal forms coming to you soon! Send in your 2023 membership dues by March.



Fall Schwingfest Video:

Visit YouTube to view the lovely video produced and submitted by Tom Coroneos.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pviR_qp9pco

Aelpler Gruppe 2023 Calendar of Events

www.facebook.com/aelplergruppeswissclub

| | |
|-------------|---|
| February 26 | Jass Party & Fondue Dinner |
| April 16 | Folklore/Spring Dance |
| May 7 | Semi-Annual Members Meeting |
| May 21 | Swiss Benevolent Society Spring Picnic |
| June 11 | United Swiss Societies Swiss Kids Camp |
| August 5 | United Swiss Societies - Swiss National Day |
| August 26 | Fall Schwingfest in Newark |
| November 5 | Annual Members Meeting |
| November 11 | Metzgete Dinner |
| December 2 | Members Christmas Lunch |

Jass practice - 2nd Sunday of each month (see email updates)
Club hikes - See Newsletter, email updates, Facebook page



United Swiss Societies

Diane Wagner, President 510-582-0698
www.unitedswissnorcal.org

Peninsula Swiss Club

Contact: Erich Sonnberger 650-505-9802
ersonnberger@interorealestate.com
www.peninsulaswissclub.com

Swiss Consulate General, Balz Abplanalp
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/unitedstates-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

October Trivia question: What's the oldest Swiss organization in Northern California (not the consulate)?

Answer: Swiss Benevolent Society of San Francisco, formerly called the Swiss Relief Society, founded in 1886 to aid Swiss Immigrants in need. They organized the August 1st Swiss National Day event until World War II began. The United Swiss Society took over the event sometime after WW II.

Winner: Pete Zuger

Swiss Park 2023 Events

5911 Mowry Avenue, Newark 510-793-6272

www.swissparknewark.com

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| January 2 | Bingo Monday |
| January 28 | Crab Feed |

SJVSC, Ripon 2023 Calendar of Events

www.sjvscsripsonswiss.com Tony Berchtold, President

| | |
|-------------|--|
| February 4 | Fasnacht |
| February 19 | Jass Party |
| February 25 | New Almond Blossom Dance |
| March 11 | Schwinger Dinner/Dance |
| April 15 | Swiss Echoes Concert / Swiss Club Lunch |
| April 29 | Kids Swiss Camp |
| June 3 | Spring Schwingfest |
| July 29 | Members BBQ and Buebe/Meitli Schwingfest |
| September 2 | Fall Schwingfest |
| October 7 | Oktoberfest |
| October 21 | Swiss Echoes Fall Concert |
| November 12 | Fall Jass Party |
| December 10 | Children's Christmas Party |

Sierra Swiss Club Calendar

Contact: Urs Gwerder 530-587-8316
Sierraswissclub.org

Pro Ticino

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

West Coast Swiss Wrestling Association Board

Board President - Arnold Ambiel
Vice President - Urs Gwerder
Treasurer - Don Widmer
Secretary - Chris Schallberger

West Coast Schwingfests are online at
<http://schlussgang.ch/>

March 25 Imperial Valley Swiss Club - Holtville, CA
June 3 San Joaquin Valley Swiss Club - Ripon, CA
June 17 San Diego Swiss Club - San Diego, CA
June 24 Tacoma Swiss Club - Bonney Lake, WA
July 1-2 Lewis-Pacific Swiss Club - Frances, WA
July 15 Sierra Swiss Club - Truckee, CA (Championship Schwingfest)
August 5 Portland Swiss Club - Portland, OR
August 11-14 Tacoma Swiss Club - Bonney Lake, WA
August 26 Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club - Newark, CA
September 2 San Joaquin Valley Swiss Club - Ripon, CA
TBD Tillamook Swiss Club - Tillamook, OR



For other updates go to:
<https://esv.ch/> <https://schlussgang.ch/>
<https://efsv.ch/FrauenSchwingen>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/luttesuisse/>

The Swiss Park Board of Directors is looking for any life member that might have an interest in joining the Board. If interested or seeking information about what we do please contact Tom Imholz @ (510)517-8312 or tjimholz@comcast.net.

Pacific Cup 2022 Sailboat Race

Submitted by Life Member:

Heinz Baumann



Recently, we participated in the Pacific Cup 2022, a 2000 nautical mile (2300 statute miles) sailboat non-stop, open ocean race, that starts from San Francisco, California and ends in Kane'ohe, Oahu. Our crew of four consisted of Karin, Andrea, Raffi and myself.

We sailed on my 38ft sailboat under the Swiss flag. On July 4th, the race began in front of the St. Francis Yacht Club in San Francisco and headed under the Golden Gate Bridge into the Pacific Ocean. Due to the calm conditions on the first 3 days, we only made 50 nautical miles in 36 hours and had much time to watch the whales.



Later the wind picked up and we were able to travel 140 - 170 nautical miles per day. From here on out we had our hands full with handling sails, boat duties and navigation. After 2400 nautical miles (2760 miles) at sea, we crossed the finish line! An hour later we had a warm welcome at Kane'ohe Yacht Club with about a hundred other Pacific Cup participants, families and staff members. Quite an overwhelming welcome! We finished the race in 5th place in our fleet of 11 boats. After celebrating our successful passage to Hawaii as well as getting some well-earned rest, we set out to do repairs, reprovision and prepare the boat for our passage to Kodiak, Alaska, another 2400 nautical miles (2750 miles) on the North Pacific. Karin left us to return back to Switzerland. We continued our adventures as a crew of three...



You will find more about our adventures in our blog post on www.swissadventures.com/blog and many of our pictures on www.swissadventures.com/gallery.

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

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

In memory of **Karl Omlin**

Robert & Mary Alice Montonye
Pete & Jackie Zuger
Heidi Ambiel
Arnold Ambiel

In memory of **Kathy Koller**

Agnes Reed
Heidi Ambiel
Arnold Ambiel

In memory of **Louie Ettlin**

Heidi Ambiel
Arnold Ambiel
Joseph & Mary Ann Russo
George Todorow

In memory of **Carol Kappen**

Kent Kappen

In memory of **Walter Vogel**

Heidi Ambiel

In memory of **Mariette Franke**

Stephen Franke
Arnold Ambiel

In memory of **Alan Franke**

Stephen Franke
Arnold Ambiel

In memory of **Lenard**

Marchy
Arnold Ambiel

In memory of **Emil Zollinger & Caroline Zollinger**

Arnold Ambiel

In memory of **Rosemary Ramsell**

Kurt & Linda Clausen
Kathy & Frank Zanger
Agnes Reed
Stephen and Mariette Franke family

Heidi Ambiel
Dixie Rohrman
Patricia Schaffarczyk
Susan Bystrom
Margrit Gipner

Dave & Margrith Reichmuth
Danny & Lynn Vogt
Karl & Kathy Omlin
Joseph & Mary Ann Russo

George Todorow
Conrad & Karen Grass
Bill & Marilyn Bauhofer
Frank Jr. Schmidig

Gery & Rosemary Wagner
Donna Cornett
EyeMD Laser and Surgery Center
Antoinette Betschart

Tom & Mary Rivers-Luck
Wally Betschart
Gayle Russell

Bertha "Millie" Gaehwiler
Pete & Jackie Zuger
Suzanne Pacheco

Robert & Mary Alice Montonye
Leo & Charlene Ott
Arnold Ambiel

In memory of **Elizabeth Rickenbach**

Arnold Ambiel

In memory of **Hugo Straub**

Arnold Ambiel



Passing of individuals in the greater Swiss community:

Carolyn VonFlue - Member of Ripon Swiss Club

Hans Mader - Member of Golden Gate Swiss Club.

Henry Charles Long - Member of Ripon Swiss Club

Bob Ulrich - Corvallis, Oregon

Whom to contact when a Swiss Club member is deceased:

Please e-mail our Corresponding Secretary,
Kathi Mathys-Imholz at 56kmathys@gmail.com
or call 530-949-1872



Get well to Bob Dobbel,
Greg Ambiel, Bob Ulrich,
John Schallberger and Jim
Kroske! We wish them
well!

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Hosts: Steve & Monika Ambiel



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Edward L. Ott

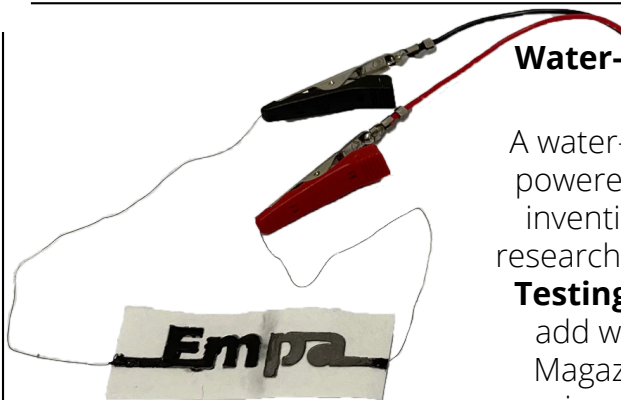
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Water-activated paper battery named among world's best inventions

A water-activated biodegradable battery made of paper and powered by salt and inks was featured among the 200 best inventions of the year in TIME Magazine. It was created by researchers at the **Swiss Federal Laboratory for Materials Testing and Research (EMPA)**. "It sounds impossible: Just add water to a piece of paper and get energy," said TIME Magazine, who chose the Swiss-made battery as one the winners in this year's "Experimental" invention category.

SWISS 6 US GATEWAYS to ZURICH 1 US GATEWAY to GENEVA

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Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club

at Newark Swiss Park
5911 Mowry Ave, Newark, CA 94560



Bring your Friends to the

Cheese Fondue Dinner and Jass Party

with The Aelpler Gruppe Fondue Crew

Sunday, February 26, 2023

Jass Party check-in 12:30; play starts at 1:00 PM

Jass Player Donation \$10.00 - Prizes to be awarded
Beginners please join us at our learners table

Fondue Dinner served at approximately 4:00 pm

Cost: \$25.00 per person

Children 14 and under - \$5.00; Hot Dogs available for children

Bring your Fondue pot and forks if you have them; burner fluid will be provided

There will be a raffle - please bring your raffle donations to the event.

Please make your reservations by February 15, 2023 by:

mail, using the form below; by email to: aelplergruppe@gmail.com or by calling the Club at:
510-936-2523.

----- Cut here -----

I/we will bring a fondue pot(s): Yes ☐ No ☐ ** We have a limited number of fondue pots

Reservation(s) for Jass @ \$10.00 ea _____ Reservation(s) for Fondue Dinner @ \$25.00 ea _____

Reservation(s) for Child's hot dog @ \$5.00 ea _____ Check enclosed for \$ _____

Name(s): _____ Phone: _____

Make check payable to: Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club
Mail to: Michelle Bauhofer-Ott Attn: Fondue Dinner
1651 Belvoir Dr., Los Altos, CA 94024

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 | (Vacant) |
| Treasurer | Carl Ramsell |
| Secretary | Susanne Cameron |
| Assistant Secretary | Herman Betchart |

Swiss Park Manager Robert Fuchslin

Newsletter Editor Rose & Lauren Satariano
aelplergruppe@gmail.com

Videographer Tom Coroneos

Memorial Fund Chairperson Jackie Zuger

Have you moved?

Please forward your new address to Kathi Mathys-Imholz, Corresponding Secretary, Via e-mail to: aelplergruppe@gmail.com Thank you.

Officers

Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club Board of Directors for 2023

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| President | Arnold Ambiel 510-936-2523 |
| 1st Vice Pres | Marilyn Ramsell Manchester |
| 2nd Vice Pres | Hugo Reichmuth |
| Recording Secretary | Monica Watson-Ulrich |
| Corresp. Secretary | Kathi Mathys-Imholz |
| 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 | |
| Sennenvater | Pete Zuger |
| USS Delegate | Arnold Ambiel |



2023 Fasnacht San Joaquin Valley Swiss Club

**February 4th, 2023
6pm-11pm
This is a 21 and over event**

Ripon is excited to have FASNACHT back in 2023!

They will have casino games, wine tasting, and small bites.

Tickets are \$45.00

The theme is ONCE UPON A FASNACHT
A Disney themed costume contest will be held
with the winners receiving prizes!

Contact Sylvia Berchtold at 209-712-1117 for
tickets