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AELPLER GRUPPE SWISS CLUB

Founded 1925

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https://www.aelplergruppe.com/

Volume XXXII Issue 1, January - March 2024

Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club Christmas Luncheon

Aelpler Gruppe held its annual Members Christmas luncheon on December 2nd, 2023, Set up for the event began around 9 am with volunteers decorating the hall, setting up tables and place settings and prepping the food for the event.



in a delicious mushroom sauce, mashed potatoes, bread rolls, and green beans. Our chefs for the afternoon were Steven & Suzanne Ambiel. Following dinner, traditional Swiss cookies and other treats were prepared and delivered by Lynette, Claire, Marianne & Linda. We had so many baked goods, made by our members, that the plates were overflowing.



Our raffle drawing was also a great success, with many individuals getting to take home prizes like cheese, wine, nuts, and more. Many thanks to Annamarie Jones-Zuger, with helpers Jackie, LeEarnest, Leanna, and Billy Leah for keeping the raffle organized and efficient.

Santa is always a favortie for the event, with the children getting their Christmas presents after singing carols to our members. Grant Watson was our accompanist for the afternoon, playing the piano for the carolers.

Many thanks to our new club attendees, Nathalie and Marco

for helping serve meals to our members, as well as Eva, Fritz. and Lauren for their help with salads and hot food serving.





See the video of the event produced by Tom Coroneos: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ld_gs3DyG8M

Jass Tournament Schedule

February 4 - Ripon February 25th - Newark October 27th - Newark





Fondue Dinner & lass Tournament February 25th Swiss Park Newark

Doors open at 11:45 for Jass check-in and fondue is served approx. at 4:30pm

Semi-Annual Members Meeting May 5th

Save The Date: Folklore/ **Spring Dance April 7th**



Save The Dates!

March 17th - Swiss Hike June 9th - Swiss Kids Camp **August 3rd - Swiss National Day** August 31st - Fall Schwingfest, Newark



Jass Practice

2nd Sunday of each month of from 2-4 p.m. at Swiss Park Hall



Interested in becoming an Aelpler Gruppe **Swiss Club member? Visit our online** application site for more information!

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



President's Message By Arnold Ambiel

Dear Aelplers, Thank you to Marilyn Ramsell-Manchester and Karen Dobbel who stepped off our board in December.

Welcome to Rick Steiner and Charlene Ott who have joined the Aelpler Gruppe board. And special thanks to Marilyn who is joining the Swiss Park board as Vice President.

The park is resting now before reopening this Spring. Thanks to the Swiss Park board for the cleanup of the back parking area and fence repairs. And to all the volunteers that made the hall look beautiful for our Christmas Party.

January and February are Jass months. Our monthly practice sessions have great turnouts – 12 players in January. Newark, Ripon and Sacramento are hosting Jass Tournaments....wanna be a Jass König or Königin...then you gotta show up.

Join us for our Fondue dinner on February 25th. We make it from scratch with our own time-tested recipe. It's a fun meal after the Jass Tournament and the raffle always has great items.

On April 7th we'll honor David and Margrith Reichmuth at our Spring Dance/Folklore Luncheon. It's on the 89th anniversary of the Grand Opening of our Swiss Hall in 1935. The Swiss Benevolent Society is the co-sponsor again this year.

The Young Swiss Tour for 2024 is filling up with 15 reservations so far. We just opened the tour to older travelers. Think about joining. And if you go, stay a few days extra to celebrate August 1st in Switzerland!

Next Trivia Question: What is the children's version of Jass called? What US card game is it similar to? Call/text me the answer to 510-936-2523. No winners last time so check the answer below. You'll be surprised.

Ich wünsche euch alles Gute,

Arnold

October Trivia question: What famous American actor has ancestors who came from Giswil?

Answer: Meryl Streep, whose father was of

German and Swiss descent.

Winner: No Correct Answer Recieved

Continued from page 1- Christmas Luncheon

At the end of the afternoon, we thanked our departing Aelpler Gruppe board members for their many years of service to our club. Karen Dobbel retired from the position of Membership



Director and Marilyn Ramsell-Manchester from the 1st Vice President position. Marilyn is now Vice President of the Swiss Park board and will help make decisions regarding our lovely hall and grounds.

Please give your thanks to our new Aelpler Gruppe Board members taking on leadership roles, including Rick Steiner and Charlene Ott. Michelle Bauhofer-Ott is our new 1st Vice President.



Metzgete 2023



enjoyed celebrating Metzgete with Aelpler Gruppe on November 11th.

Members from various clubs

The Gruber Family Band was a hit, with many members joining the dance floor together.



The dinner of Blutwurst, Leberwurst, smoked pork loin, Bratwurst and sides were delicious. Our young club members going on the grand tour of Switzerland this summer were our servers for the evening and we thank them for their help.



We had a record number of Social Members joining us this year! Please welcome them to the club:

Nicole Ahrens Mark & Diane Bissig Tom Coroneos Stefan Granado Jennifer Guzman Nathalie Maetzler Patricia Bamattre-Manoukian Rolf Neuweiler Megan Ott Shirley Posadas-Staub Hans Schmid Richard & Brenda Wipfli

Attention Current Social Members!

Please look for membership renewal forms coming to you soon! Send in your 2024 membership dues by March.



The Jass Tournament held in Newark on October 29th was a success with over 40 players joining in. Many individuals from the Central Valley also came to the tournament. Lunch and desert were served after announcing the winners.

Jass König: Joe Beeler Sr. Jass Königin: Karen Aufdermaur Congratulations to the winners and thank you for attending!



Scholarship Opportunity!

The Swiss Benevolent Society has a scholarship program with a list of eight scholarships available this year.
Application forms are due April 30th and can be found at:



http://www.sbssf.com/scholarships/index.php



SJVSC, Ripon - News

President Tony Berchtold is retiring as SJVSC President and Chris Portmann will become the new President. Corresponding Secretary, Chris Schallberger, is retiring and Jace Neugebaur will be the club's Corresponding Secretary. Erika Robinson, who did the SJVSC Newsletter with Chris is also stepping down.



Aelpler Gruppe 2024 Hikes:

March 17th
June 16th
September 15th
See website and email updates as hike locations are announced!





Jass enthusiasts please come to the Swiss Park Hall and join Aelpler Gruppe Swiss club for our monthly Jass Gettogether. 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 (201) 359-7604 rrsteiner1@outlook.com

Dates:

January 14th
February 4th - Tournament (Ripon)
February 11th
February 25th - Tournament (Newark)
March 10th



Grand Tour of Switzerland - July 2024

Please join our Swiss youth on a beautiful grand tour of Switzerland. This tour will be held from July 20-29 and features overnights in cities such as Zurich, St. Moritz, Lugano, Lucerne and more. An Aelpler Gruppe social member is needed to join the trip. Many have already expressed interest in this trip - find out more before it's too late! Email Monica Ulrich at

AGSwissTravelers@gmail.com for more information





<u>Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club 100th Anniversary</u> Save the Date!

The Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club's 100th Anniversary and Fall Schwingfest will be celebrated on Sept 12-14, 2025 at Swiss Park. We'll recognize our

centenary or Hundertjahrfeier with music, sport and food. This special date is due to the 2025 Eidgenössisches Schwingfest. We plan to celebrate the anniversary throughout 2025 with special events. Our club was founded in San Francisco in 1925, ten years before our Swiss Hall was dedicated in 1935.

If you would like to help organize the events or donate for the celebrations please contact us. A committee is being formed.

Aelpler Gruppe wishes Wally Betschart good health





Congratulations! Frank Imhof's daughter had a baby. We wish the family great health this year.



Our club members over 70 that are celebrating their birthdays between January and March of this year!

Christine C. Ernst H. Herb M. Robert W. Water S. Leo O. Margrith R.

Jean A. Robert F. David R. Lynn V. Kathleen Z.

Linda S.

Mary M. Bob O. Gene Jr. R. James K, Patricia S. Marilyn M.

Aelpler Gruppe 2024 Calendar of Events

www.facebook.com/aelplergruppeswissclub

January 14th Jass practice

February 4th Ripon Jass tournament

February 11th Jass practice

February 25th Newark - Jass Tournament/ Fondue

March 10th Jass practice March 17th Hiking Group

April 7th Folklore/Spring Dance

April 14th Jass practice

May 5th Semi-annual meeting

May 12th No Jass practice - Mother's Day

June 9th Jass practice

June 9th Swiss kids camp in the morning

June 16th Hiking Group July 14th Jass practice

August 3rd United Swiss - Swiss National Day

August 11th lass practice

August 31st Fall Schwingfest, Newark

September 8th Jass practice September 15th Hiking Group October 13th Jass practice

October 27th
November 3rd
November 9th
November 10th
Newark - Jass Tournament
Annual Member's meeting
Metzgete Dinner and Dance
Ripon Jass Tournament

December No Jass Practice

December 7th Member's 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 <u>esonnberger@interorealestate.com</u> <u>www.peninsulaswissclub.com</u>

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/countries/usa/en/home/living-in/clubs.html

Swiss Rifle Club Events

Contact: Stephen Hurst at (831) 927-9296 E-Mail: carmelgunclub@outlook.com

More information at: www.carmelgunclub.com



Swiss Park 2024 Events

5911 Mowry Avenue, Newark 510-793-6272

www.swissparknewark.com



SJVSC, Ripon 2024 Calendar of Events

<u>www.sjvscriponswiss.com</u> Chris Portmann, President

February 4th Jass Party

February 14th Almond Blossom Dance

March 9th Schwinger Dance

April 20th Swiss Echoes Concert/ Lunch

June 1st Spring Schwingfest

June 29th Swiss Kids Camp (Tentative)
July 27th Swiss National Day Members BBO

September 7th Fall Schwingfest October 5th Oktoberfest

October 19th Swiss Echoes Concert/ Lunch

November 10th Fall Jass Party

December 8th 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

2024 West Coast Schwingfest Schedule

April 13 April 27 June 1 June 15	Imperial Valley Swiss Club - Holtville, CA Tillamook Swiss Club - Tillamook, OR San Joaquin Valley Swiss Club - Ripon, CA San Diego Swiss Club - San Diego, CA
	(Championship Schwingfest)
June 29	Tacoma Swiss Club – Bonney Lake, WA
Iulv 5-7	Lewis-Pacific Swiss Club – Frances WA

July 5-7
July 20
August 3
August 31
August 31
September 7

Tacoma Swiss Club – Bonney Lake, WA
Lewis-Pacific Swiss Club – Frances, WA
Sierra Swiss Club – Truckee, CA
Portland Swiss Club – Portland, OR
Tacoma Swiss Club – Bonney Lake, WA
Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club – Newark, CA
San Joaquin Valley Swiss Club – Ripon, CA

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

For other updates go to:

https://esv.ch/ https://schlussgang.ch/

https://www.facebook.com/groups/luttesuisse/

Steinstossen:

www.steinstossen.ch

For Swiss events in the USA and Swiss news, check out:

https://swissimpactusa.com/

Obituaries

Robert Dobbel

08/06/1949 - 10/28/2023

Robert Allen Dobbel (Bob) passed away October 28, 2023 at home. He was born in Hayward August 6, 1949 to Julius C (Bud) and Barbara Jean (Bobbie) Dobbel, He was the 3rd child of four.



While in High School he worked for Union 76 Station in the tire shop. On graduating from Castro Valley High he worked at Cunha's, building jo dogs for the semitrailers.

He then joined the U.S. Naval Air Reserves. That took him to Memphis, Tenn. for basic training, then to Alaska, Guam, Vietnam

and Japan. On returning from the service, he married Karen Lutschan in April 1971. Of this union was born two daughters: Michelle (deceased) and Julia (John) Hester.

Bob worked for Cal Trans and for California Dept of Water Resources, retiring after 32 years as a hydroelectric plant electrician. After retiring he continued working as Robert Dobbel Electric. Through that he enjoyed working with and making many friends at Al's Food Market, San Francisco Hat Company, Galant Foods, Bear Equipment and Alameda County Industries.

He loved cooking for others, and some of his greatest memories were cooking for the foreign students of American Conservation Experience at Groveland, CA. Bob was a people person and loved helping others. To him, it wasn't just working, it was just what you do.

He will be missed by many. Bob is survived by his wife of 52 years, Karen, his daughter Julia (John) Hester, granddaughter, Josie Hester, sisters: Carol Goularte of Tracy, CA, Joanie Calhoun of Caldwell, ID, and Susan Sabala of Gooding, ID, and many nieces and nephews, cousins and friends. As Bob was a descendant of Dublin Pioneers, he was laid to rest at Pioneer Cemetery in the Heritage Park on Donlon Way in Dublin.

Donations can be made to Aelpler Gruppe memorial fund

Rosie Imhof

09/28/1932 - 11/05/2023

Lifetime Member, Rosie was born September 28th, 1932 in Muotathal, Switzerland to the late Frank and Rosa Sutter. She immigrated to the United States with her mother in 1933. She was a lifelong resident of California, spending



the majority of her adult life in the San Francisco Bay area.

Rosie met the love of her life and married Edward "Shorty" Imhof in 1957 and settled in Fremont. She was a dedicated homemaker for many years until she joined the workforce and retired as a Safeway warehouse employee. In her spare time, Rosie was a volunteer at Kaiser Hospital and enjoyed traveling with family and friends.

One of her favorite pastimes was exploring her Swiss heritage and she was an active member of the Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club. A farm girl at heart, gardening was also her passion. Rosie leaves behind her children Mike (Kris), Frank (Theresa) and Annett (John) Williams. She was the grandmother of seven and great-grandmother of two with one on the way; her sister Emmy Silva and brother Joe Sutter. Rosie was preceded in death by her husband Shorty Imhof, parents Rosa and Frank Sutter, and brother Frank Sutter.

Rosemary Streich

05/21/1940 - 11/18/2023

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Rosemary Streich (Portmann). She was surrounded by family and passed peacefully at their home at 83 years old.



Rosemary enjoyed spending time with family and friends, especially her grandchildren, gardening, cooking, canning fruits and vegetables from their garden, sewing and traveling (including seeing almost all 50 U.S. states with her good friend Mary Lou Haslemann and three trips to Switzerland with her good friend Trudy Schumacher, her family and later again with Cathu, Rene & Simon).

Rosemary is survived by her husband Otto of 55 years, son Eric (Lauren) Streich, daughter Cathy (Rene) Rogenmoser, grandchildren Simon Rogenmoser, Will Streich & Shelby Streich. Also survived by brothers Otto (Emi) Portmann, Bill Portmann, Pete (Chris) Portmann, Joe (Robin) Portmann, sisters Gerry (Joe) Deiringer and Kate (Dick) Pierce; sister-in-laws Jeanette Bosson and Rosie (Richard) Francisco.



Passing of individuals in the greater Swiss community:

Edwin Genasci: Member of SJVSC, Ripon Nita Wagner: Member of SJVSC, Ripon Ida Sciarini: Member of SJVSC, Ripon

Frank Werner: Member of Lewis Pacific Swiss Society

Louie Durrer: Member of SJVSC, Ripon



Memorial Fund donations can be sent in through the Aelpler Gruppe website: https://www.aelplergruppe.com/donations/ We are grateful for donations to the Memorial Fund to honor members who have passed. The & Silvia Gwonden

In memory of **Rosie Imhof**Conrad & Karen Grass
Heidi Ambiel
Dave & Margrith Reichmuth
Frank Schmidig Jr.
Agnes Reed
Leo & Charlene Ott
Pat Schaffarczyk
Gery & Rosemary Wagner
Pete & Jackie Zuger
Antoinette Betschart
Robert & Mary Montonye
Carl & Cookie Aufdermaur

Margaret Ann Marchy

Urs & Silvia Gwerder Geraldine Betschart Joe & Theresa Beeler Marilyn Manchester

In memory of **Robert Dobbel**Dave & Margrith Reichmuth
Marilyn Manchester

In memory of **Rosemary Streich**Dan & Lynn Vogt
Pete & Jackie Zuger
Joe & Mary Ann Russo
Leo & Charlene Ott
Phyllis Grab Denby



Whom to contact when a Swiss Club member is deceased: Please e-mail our Corresponding Secretary,

Kathi Mathys-Imholz at aelplergruppe@gmail.com or call 530-949-1872



Edward L. Ott President ed@colonylandscape.com



4911 Spreckles Ave, P.O. Box 940, Alviso, CA 95002

T: 408.941.1090 F: 408.941.1094 www.colonylandscape.com

MÜRREN, SWITZERLAND



Hosts: Steve & Monika Ambiel



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www.ediths-alpenrösli.ch/





www.chasaberggold.com

Situated just above the lakeside promenade in Brienz, our heritage holiday house has amazing views of the Brienzersee and the alps and is less than a minute walk from the lake. The famous Rothorh Bahn is steps from the house and Ballenberg and Interlaken are nearby too. Entire house sleeps 6 people. Chasa Berggold is the perfect jumping off point to explore the entire Berner Oberland

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www.GGBC.org Phone: 510-887-4311 Steven J. Meyer, Artistic Director



Excavations in Kyburg in canton Zurich have uncovered a 14th-century armour glove in exceptional condition.

During the winter of 2021/22, the archaeologists managed to find all iron parts of the glove.

Some of the fingers had completely escaped corrosion enabling specialists to recognize a particularly high number of manufacturing and decorative details.

The metal parts of the glove were originally riveted to a leather glove.

The 25 pieces were also firmly attached to each other, giving the glove great flexibility. A copy of this armour glove will be on display at Kyburg Castle from the end of March as part of its permanent exhibition, complemented by a reconstruction of the rest of the armour. The original will be on display for three weeks in September.



ISS 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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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 25, 2024

Jass Party check-in begins at 11:45; Jass play starts at 1:00 PM Refresher/Beginners practice from 12 noon - 1 pm, joining the regular games at 1 pm.

Jass Player Donation \$10.00 - Prizes to be awarded

Fondue Dinner served at approximately 4:30 pm

Cost: \$25.00 per person

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

Bring your Fondue pot, forks, & lighter 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 11, 2024 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 eaReservation(s) for Fondue Dinner @ \$25.00 ea					
Reservation(s) for Child's hot dog @ \$5.00 eaCheck enclosed for \$					
Name(s): Phone:					

Make check payable to: Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club Mail to: Charlene Ott Attn: Fondue Dinner 609 Stardust Lane, Los Altos, CA 94024





Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club, Inc. and Swiss Benevolent Society of San Francisco



Invites you to:

Swiss Folklore Luncheon & Dance Honoring Dave & Margrith Reichmuth

Sunday, April 7, 2024

Newark Swiss Park 5911 Mowry Avenue, Newark, CA

12:00 Noon: No-Host Bar

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm: Luncheon & Dessert

Bratwurst or Roasted Vegetables over Polenta

Cost: \$25.00

** FREE Meal for Seniors over 70 and Children under 15 ** Gift Baskets for all Seniors over the age of 90

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm: Program
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm: Dancing to the Gander-Scheiber Kapelle

Please enter date-of-birth (DOB) for free meals and gift baskets

Check meal preference of Bratwurst (BW) or Roasted Vegetables over Polenta (RV) below

Adult(s) Name(s)	DOB:	BW:	RV:
	DOB:	BW:	RV:
Children:	DOB:	BW:	RV:
	DOB:	BW:	RV:

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NO LATER THAN March 30, 2024

Mail check payable to Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club and reservation form to: AGSC c/o Charlene Ott, 609 Stardust Lane, Los Altos, CA 94024

Venmo



Contact: 510-936-2523 or E-mail aelplergruppe@gmail.com with questions

** Send in your reservations early to allow us to make Gift Baskets for those Seniors over 90!

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

Third 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 Marilyn Ramsell Manchester
Treasurer Carl Ramsell

Secretary Susanne Cameron Assistant Secretary Herman Betchart

Swiss Park Manager Robert Fuchslin

Newsletter Editor Rose & Lauren Satariano

aelplergruppe@gmali.com

Videographer Tom Coroneos

Memorial Fund Chairperson Jackie Zuger

Have you moved?

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

()fficers

Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club Board of Directors for 2024

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1st Vice Pres
2nd Vice Pres
Recording Secretary
Corresp. Secretary
Treasurer

Assistant Treasurer Past President

Director 1 - Music/Historian Director 2 - Membership

Director 2 - Membership
Director 3 - Newsletter Editor
Director 4 - Historian

Director 5 - Wrestling Sennenmutter Sennenvater

Sennenvater USS Delegate Michelle Bauhofer-Ott
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Monica Ulrich
Kathi Mathys-Imholz
Margrith Reichmuth
Charlene Ott
Kurt Clausen
Pat Wipfli-Schaffarczyk
Rick Steiner
Rose Satariano
Darrell Ramsell

Arnold Ambiel 510-936-2523

Dominick Reichmuth Heidi Ambiel Pete Zuger Arnold Ambiel



View the calendar of upcoming events and more on our website!

Scan the QR Code to learn more

How an Oshkosh Family Preserves a Swiss Holiday Tradition With 4,000 Cookies Baked Over an Open Flame:

From the "Fond du Lac Reporter" written by Sharon Roznik

OSHKOSH – In 1910 Swiss immigrants carried with them an oldworld holiday tradition, tucked away in steamer trunks, on their long voyage to Wisconsin. The precious cargo were cast-iron bratzeli molds that had been in the family for generations and would be passed down to their descendants whose lives were rooted in a new country.

Bratzeli are delicate butter cookies made from dough.





When pressed into the cast iron mold and cooked to just the right temperature on each side, the biscuits emerge with delicate designs imprinted on the surface. The bratzeli dough is rolled into balls about the size of a walnut, then placed inside the press, which is turned by hand over the open fire. An old hand-written recipe calls for 12 cups of flour, nine eggs, three cups of sugar and a pound and a half of melted butter to produce 12 dozen cookies.

Bratzeli irons were originally made for individual families, political parties and Cantons, which refers to the different districts in Switzerland. The word bratzeli can be spelled or pronounced differently. In Switzerland, the cookies are also referred to as bratzil, bretzel, brezel and even bern cracknels. They are often compared to Italian pizelle cookies that are also pressed in molds, using batter instead of dough.