



SWISS PARK

Swiss owned and operated since 1935

AELPLER GRUPPE SWISS CLUB

Founded 1925

NEWSLETTER

Enjoy Reading Our Newsletter Online at

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

Volume XXXII Issue 2, April - June 2024

Jass party/ Fondue

We had a very successful Jass turnout this year with about 50 players. Our beginner's table was also available for those wishing to learn how to play Jass. This year's König was Camille Domine with 121 points and our Königin for the second year in a row was Mary Lou Haslemann with 117 points!

She beat her score from last year by five points. We thank Arnold and his fondue crew for another delicious Swiss meal. Each year the cheese blend is freshly prepared by him and his team, and they always make it taste so delicious!

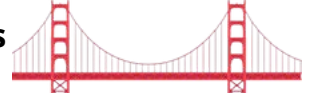


Attendees enjoyed a spread of salami, prosciutto, olives, cornichons, and pearl onions. Fondue pots were refilled as quickly as they were emptied, in big thanks to our volunteers for helping with the event.

Aelpler Gruppe ended the evening with a drawing of many fun prizes to the delight of the attendees. There were many winners who took home the gifts donated by our club members.



June 2nd- Tunnel Tops Hike, San Francisco



Semi-Annual Members Meeting
May 5th @ 2:00pm
Join us on zoom or in person!



June 9th -
Swiss Kids Camp
Swiss Park, Newark

Attention 2024 Graduates!
See notice inside to be featured in our next newsletter.



August 3rd- United Swiss Societies Swiss National Day

Save The Dates!

August 31st - Fall Schwingfest, Newark
October 27th - Jass Tournament, Newark
November 3rd - Annual Member's Meeting

Jass Practice



2nd Sunday of each month
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/>

See the event video produced by Tom Coroneos at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eymbHLIX71c>

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



President's Message By Arnold Ambiel

Dear Aelplers,
Swiss Park looks beautiful this time of year as they get ready for festival season. Event rentals continue and the first outdoor event will be at the end of April.

Our Fondue and Jass party was very popular. The Jass was excellent and the Fondue Crew did an amazing job. Thanks for all the donated prizes.

Over 140 people attended our Folklore/Spring Dance. Held on the 89th Anniversary of the opening of our Swiss Hall, we honored Dave and Margrith Reichmuth for their years of service and contributions to our Swiss Heritage. Thanks to the Swiss Benevolent Society for co-sponsoring the event and honoring our seniors with a gratis lunch and gift baskets.

The Swiss Club Tell presented a plaque about their Wilhelm Tell painting that hangs in the hall. Read it the next time you visit.

The Young Swiss Tour for 2024 has 17 travelers and room for more. It is now open to travelers of all ages. If you go, stay a few days extra to celebrate August 1st in Switzerland!

In June at Swiss Kids Camp we'll host two classes: Tschau Sepp and a Tour of Switzerland. If you'd like to help, please let me know. We have a lot to offer and are excited to showcase our Swiss Hall.

The United Swiss Online Auction is in August. If you have an item or experience to donate, please let us know. Make sure to check out and bid on the auction items.

Next Trivia Question: What are the two Swiss sausages to eat during a hike or on a stick over a fire? Call/text me the answer to 510-936-2523. We received two correct answers last time and Urs Gwerder is the winner.

Ich wünsche euch alles Gute,

Arnold

January Trivia question: What is the children's version of Jass called? What US card game is it similar to?

Answer: Tschau Sepp, which is very similar to the popular card game UNO.

Winner: Urs Gwerder

Jass party/ Fondue Continued

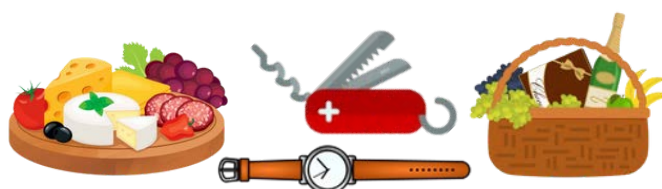


We also celebrated Dominick Reichmuth's birthday and he generously shared his birthday cake with all our jass and fondue attendees. Thank you for joining us and we hope to see you next year!



Are you ready for Swiss National Day?

The United Swiss Societies is hosting an online auction for the 1st of August celebration. We are collecting auction items. Please contact us with your donations!



Please also consider donating gently used Swiss items for our heritage booth for the 1st of August celebration.



Graduation Announcements!
Is your child/ grandchild graduating this year? If so, send in their graduation information and a photo so they can be congratulated in the next newsletter for their achievements! Please add any other info like their grade, school name, degree, or future plans.



WELCOME

Say hello to our new social members joining us this year! Please welcome them to the club:

Nicole Aherns	Tom Coroneos	Kaelin Betschart
Jennifer Guzman	Mitchell Gander	Hartley Silva
Megan Ott	Bobby Gander	Aspen Silva
Angela Freitas	Emily Joseph	Mark Satariano
Beat Henzen	Eloise Fassler	Sall Arabi

Folklore- Honoring Dave and Margrith Reichmuth

Dave and Margrith Reichmuth were both born in California to Swiss parents. They were introduced early on to Swiss culture and made many long-term friendships in the Swiss community.

Dave is the only child of Carl and Olga Reichmuth. His parents lived at and managed the Swiss Park for several years when Dave was just a youngster. He remembers riding his tricycle around the dance floor and sleeping on the benches while festivities occurred. They quit managing Swiss Park in 1950 and bought the 527 Club in San Francisco along with Joe Fuchslin which they successfully managed for 17 years. Then they sold it and became joint managers of



Swiss Park until the 1970's. Dave competed in his first Swiss wrestling tournament at the age of 15 in Ripon. The following week he wrestled in Newark and took second place. This was a favorite past time for Dave, and he traveled up and down the West Coast and even to Switzerland to compete. He received first place gold crowns in 1966 in San Diego and in 1973 in Ripon.

Dave was drafted into the Army and honorably discharged in 1966. After his discharge he was hired by the California Highway Patrol and retired after 33 years of dedicated service.

Margrith is the only child of Joseph and Anna Eberle. Margrith grew up in San Francisco's Bayview district, until the family moved to Oakland. During high school she worked for McDonald's on Telegraph. A strong work ethic was instilled in her early on.

Margrith remembers the fun times and Singing Festivals with the Swiss Singing Society of San Francisco. She was president and then secretary for many years. Her mother was also an active member. They both loved to sing, and felt close to all the members, serving as extended family to them both.



Margrith was hired by the City of Newark in 1988 as Administrative Support for the City Manager's office and held several positions until she retired as Senior Center Supervisor after 22 years with the city.

Margrith caught Dave's eye at a Swiss Singing Society concert held at the California Hall in San Francisco. Shortly after, he called and asked her out. They married in 1987 and welcomed their pride and joy, Dominick, in 1989.

They lived in Union City for the first few years they were married. Dave always said he wanted to move back to Newark, which they did in 1993.

Their son, Dominick, has closely followed in his parents' footsteps. Dominick also wrestled and won several crowns. He attended the Los Angeles Police Academy and after several years he moved back to the Bay Area and is currently employed as a Detective for the Hayward Police Department.



In 2017, Dominick purchased his first home in Ripon, California, a small quiet city in the Central Valley, home to another Swiss Club, the San Joaquin Valley Swiss Club. Several years later, Dave and Margrith purchased the house next door to Dominick and have happily settled in Ripon too. Margrith joined the local Swiss Echoes and continues her love of singing.

Within Aelpler Gruppe Swiss club, Margrith was recruited and mentored by Mariette Franke and has held the position of Aelpler Gruppe's Treasurer for the past 13 years. Dave served on the Swiss Park board and has always been a faithful supporter of Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club.

Together, Dave and Margrith built a wonderful life, filled with family, friends and good times. They extend their sincere appreciation for having been chosen as this year's honorees of the Folklore event.



Continued on page 6

Aelpler Gruppe 2024 Calendar of Events

www.facebook.com/aelplergruppesswissclub

May 5th	Semi-annual meeting
May 12th	No Jass practice - Mother's Day
June 2nd	Hike in San Francisco- Tunnel Tops
June 9th	Jass practice
June 9th	Swiss kids camp in the morning
July 14th	Jass practice
August 3rd	United Swiss - Swiss National Day
August 11th	Jass practice
August 31st	Fall Schwingfest, Newark
September 8th	Jass practice
September 15th	Hiking Group
October 13th	Jass practice
October 27th	Newark - Jass Tournament
November 3rd	Annual Member's meeting
November 9th	Metzgete Dinner and Dance
November 10th	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 Sonnenberger 650-505-9802

esonnenberger@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/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

April 27th Free Burma

May 5th Little Joe Concert

June 16th Classic Car Show

June 22nd Puerto Rican Festival

SJVSC, Ripon 2024 Calendar of Events

www.sjvsciponswiss.com

Chris Portmann, President

June 1st

June 29th

July 27th

September 7th

October 5th

October 19th

November 10th

December 8th

Spring Schwingfest

Swiss Kids Camp (Tentative)

Swiss National Day Members BBQ

Fall Schwingfest

Oktoberfest

Swiss Echoes Concert/ Dinner

Fall Jass Party

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 27

June 1

June 15

June 29

July 5-7

July 20

August 3

August 10-11

August 31

September 7

Tillamook Swiss Club – Tillamook, OR

San Joaquin Valley Swiss Club – Ripon, CA

**San Diego Swiss Club – San Diego, CA
(Championship Schwingfest)**

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/>

Aelpler Gruppe 2024 Hikes:

June 2nd- Tunnel tops, San Francisco
September 15th
See website and email updates as
hike locations are announced!



Photo from our recent club hike in Sunol. Please join us for the next one coming up in June!

Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club 100th Anniversary

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.

Happy Anniversary!

Congratulation Bob and Linda Fuchslin on your 60th wedding anniversary!

Carl Ramsell
John Ramsell
Jim Kroske
Mary Lou Haslemann

GET WELL SOON!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

Otto S.	Jacqueline Z.	Joseph M.
Pius Z.	Christine C.	Billy Leah B.
Leo O.	Jerilyn K.	Iris K.
Antoinette B.	Jim V.	Linda L.
Christa D.	Ronald S.	Rosmarie T.
Rick B.	Charlene O.	Tom C.
Rosemary W.	Daniel V.	Fred F.
Patricia M.	Albert F.	Angela F.

Obituary

Reed Kappen

July 2, 1969 - April 6, 2024



It is with great sadness that social member Reed Kappen passed peacefully on April 6th at age 54.

Reed is the son of Chuck and Carol Kappen, husband to Cyndi, brother to Grant and Kent Kappen, nephew to Bill and Marilyn Bauhofer, Linda Schaefer, and Mary and Bud Remenyi.

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 (201) 359-7604
rrsteiner1@outlook.com

Dates:

April 14th June 9th July 14th



Passing of individuals in the greater Swiss community:
Helen Sandoval, member of SJVSC, Ripon
Barbara Violet Spencer, member of SJVSC, Ripon
Allen Ming, 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.

In memory of **Rosie Imhof**

Siblings: Patricia, Barbara, Terry, and Craig
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
Otto Streich

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
Bob & Mary Montonye

Whom to contact when a Swiss Club member is deceased:

Please e-mail our club at aelplergruppe@gmail.com
or call 510-936-2523

Folklore Luncheon- Honoring Dave and Margrith Reichmuth



Aelpler Gruppe's Swiss Folklore luncheon and dance honoring Dave & Margrith Reichmuth was held on Sunday, April 7th in conjunction with the Swiss Benevolent Society of San Francisco's annual event. The luncheon was delicious with food prepared by Chef Charlie Schonenberger and Sous-chef Suzanne Ambiel. Guests were delighted with an alhorn performance by Mary Archer and Jonathan Stillman with dancing in the afternoon to the Gander- Schieber Kapella.



Dave and Margrith graciously welcomed many guests to join them in celebrating and sharing the afternoon by also honoring Swiss members over 70 years of age. We enjoyed hearing about Dave and Margrith's life as presented by their son Dominick.

It was fun to hear stories of the couple from other club members, who were eager to share. Later afternoon we enjoyed a wonderful black forest cake that was big enough to share with all the guests.



Watch Tom Coroneos' video from the event here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VKLcELsNWjU>



Edward L. Ott
President
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Hosts: Steve & Monika Ambiel



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 Rothorn 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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6074 Giswil
Switzerland

Tel. 041 676 00 36

www.ediths-alpenrosli.ch/

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www.GGBC.org Phone: 510-887-4311

Steven J. Meyer, Artistic Director



Thank you to Jason Travel and Brigitta Ammann for your years of advertising with Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club!

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 Editors Rose & Lauren Satariano
aelplergruppe@gmail.com

Videographer Tom Coroneos

Memorial Fund Chairperson Jackie Zuger

Have you moved?

Please forward your new address to us at aelplergruppe@gmail.com
Thank you.

Officers

Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club Board of Directors for 2024

President	Arnold Ambiel 510-936-2523
1st Vice Pres	Michelle Bauhofer-Ott
2nd Vice Pres	Hugo Reichmuth
Recording Secretary	Monica Ulrich
Corresp. Secretary	Kathi Mathys-Imholz
Treasurer	Margrith Reichmuth
Assistant Treasurer	Charlene Ott
Past President	Kurt Clausen
Director 1 - Music/Historian	Pat Wipfli-Schaffarczyk
Director 2 - Membership	Rick Steiner
Director 3 - Newsletter Editor	Rose Satariano
Director 4 - Historian	Darrell Ramsell
Director 5 - Wrestling	Dominick Reichmuth
Sennenmutter	Heidi Ambiel
Sennenvater	Pete Zuger
USS Delegate	Arnold Ambiel



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

Scan the QR Code to learn more

Fun Facts About the Swiss Alps

People have lived amid the Alp's soaring peaks since prehistoric times, and the range is also home to some 13,000 types of plants, myriad minerals and crystals, and about 30,000 wildlife species that range from marmots to brown bears to snow fleas.

By the numbers: Constructed in 1910, the Bernina Railroad encompasses 38 miles, 13 tunnels, and 52 viaducts. It travels at a seven percent incline in parts—without rack and pinion—making it one of the naturally steepest tracks in the world.

Of might and men: Between 1898 and 1903, a total of 1,316 men built the 3.6-mile-long Albula Tunnel, mostly by hand. The project claimed 16 lives. Part of the Rhaetian Railway—a UNESCO World Heritage site—the Swiss tunnel is the highest underground mainline railway passage in the Alps.

Natural compass: Each face of the pyramid-shaped Matterhorn aligns with a different cardinal direction—north and east toward Switzerland, south and west toward Italy.

On the right track: With stunning views of the Alps, Switzerland's Gornergrat made history when it opened in 1898 as the world's first electrified cog railway. Today the railway makes headway with an energy-saving braking system that generates electricity on the descent.

Read the full article at: [National Geographic - 10 Fun Facts About The Swiss Alps](#)

Your favorite coffee was probably made by a Swiss machine:

After the First World War, Swiss companies active in other sectors saw an opportunity to branch out into coffee machines, which were all the rage across the Alps in Italy. One such firm was Schaerer, which began life as a small retail shop in 1892. Founder Maurice Schaerer used his engineering skills to develop and design surgical instruments, disinfection devices and operating tables that were much in demand during the First World War. However, Schaerer sensed a change in public sentiment and used his experience in metal processing and the application of steam to develop a steam-operated coffee machine. Schaerer developed the PIC manual doser in 1957 that is now considered one of the first automated coffee machines. Today Swiss brands such as Thermoplan, Franke, Schaerer, Cafina, Rex Royal and Egro are among the largest manufacturers of professional fully automatic coffee machines in the world.

Read the full article at www.swissinfo.ch

