



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 4, October-December 2024

Fall Schwingfest

Aelpler Gruppe's fall schwingfest was held on the last day in August. Volunteers arrived early to set out the Sägemehl for wrestling, as well as the tables, chairs, and canopies. The day started off with the Swiss and American national anthems sung by Gabby Sonnberger and a few songs played by an alphorn quartet. The wrestling began and after a short while, lunch was served. Ann Crevelt was a big help in getting the BBQ area ready, and Joe Beeler from Ripon was part of our wonderful crew who made us lunch. Attendees had a choice of cervelat or bratwurst alongside potato salad, bread, and grapes.



Midway through the wrestling was a demonstration on whip cracking. After wrestling had finished, we had a record number of Steinstossen sign-ups especially in the adult category. The competitors all received ribbons for their best throws. In the end, the Schwingen König Grant Widmer was awarded with a beautiful painted cowbell. Monogrammed Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Army



knives were also given as awards. The wrestlers and other helpers cleaned up the Schwingplatz before heading into the hall for an evening of dinner, music, and

awards. A delicious dinner of BBQ chicken and creamy, cheesy Älplermagronen was served. After dinner, the Schwingers were crowned and people joined the dance floor to close the evening. It was a very fun event, and we thank all the volunteers and attendees for a great day.

Watch Tom Coroneos' video of the event on youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cPZOPZ9eXxg>



Master of Cheese Film Showing

October 13

Swiss Park Newark

See more info on page 3



November 3rd Annual Member's Meeting

Please attend to make sure your opinions are heard about the future of our club. Event will be held both in person and on Zoom

November 9th Metzgete Dinner and Dance Featuring the Gruber Family Band

December 7th Members' Christmas Lunch Doors open at 12pm Lunch Served at 1:30pm

Upcoming Jass Tournaments: October 27th - Newark November 10th - Ripon

Save The Dates!

February 23rd: Jass Party & Fondue Dinner

April 13th: Folklore/ Spring Dance

May 4th: Semi-Annual Members 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/>



President's Message By Arnold Ambiel

Dear Aelplers,

Fall has arrived. Schwingfest season is over. The USS auction is closed. The summer travelers have returned. 'Off to the Wild Wild West' is released. And the Fall events are planned. Thank you to everyone who made this happen.

Read the event reviews inside for all the details and photos. And check the included articles and flyers for the upcoming free movie about Swiss cheesemaker, Willi Schmid, we are co-sponsoring, also the Fall Jass Party, Metzgete, Election and Christmas Party events.

The book, 'Off to the Wild Wild West' will be released and is available for sale online. There's a little bit of all of us in those stories about Franz, Gummel and Konrad. I love the stories they tell about Steinen, families leaving Giswil and Picabo Street.

We are still recruiting a committee to plan our 100th Anniversary next year. If you'd like to be involved, just let us know. We need every member to make this a success.

Any interest in running Swiss Park or helping Bob as an understudy? We are still recruiting a Manager. Consider it. Know anyone who might be interested? Let us know.

And a special thank you to all the Young Swiss who joined our tour this year. I've met many of you and appreciate all of your feedback. Stay in contact with each other and let others know how much fun you had. And if anyone else wants to go next year, let us know via email.

Next Trivia Question: What's the name of the new train running through the Swiss Alps and what makes it an engineering marvel?
Call/text me the answer to 510-936-2523. No one guessed the correct answer last time. See that question and answer below.

Ich wünsche euch alles Gute,

Arnold

July Trivia question: Which two international sporting events will start and end the Summer of 2025 in Switzerland?

Answer: Women's Soccer Euro Cup & Eidgenössisches Schwing- und Älplerfest in Glarnerland

Winner: No correct guess

2024 Aelpler Gruppe Schwingfest Rangliste

SENIORS	Name	Hometown	Score
1	Widmer, Grant	Manteca, CA	58.25
2	Treat, Connor*	Portland, OR	57.25
3	Betschart Andrew	Ripon, CA	56.75
4	Richardson, Patrick	Frances, WA	56.25
	Above with Crowns		
5A	Hernandez, Carlos	Modesto, CA	55.00
5B	Spahr, Brenden	Portland, OR	55.00
5C	Lujan, Morgan	Elk Grove, CA	55.00
5D	Berchtold, Mike	French Camp, CA	55.00
6	Widmer, Steven	Manteca, CA	54.75
7	Silva, Barrett	Modesto, CA	52.50
GROUP A			
1	Calhoun, Holden	Manteca, CA	39.25
2	Maendly, Adrien	Davis, CA	35.00
	* Schoenschwinger		
	Steinstossen Results		Total
1	Widmer, Grant	Manteca, CA	27' 12"
2	Spahr, Brenden	Portland, OR	25' 1"
3	Betschart Andrew	Ripon, CA	24' 0"



AELPLER GRUPPE'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY & FALL & SCHWINGFEST

September 12-14, **2025** at Swiss Park, Newark.

Please consider working with us on planning this large event in a leadership role or by being on one of the following teams:

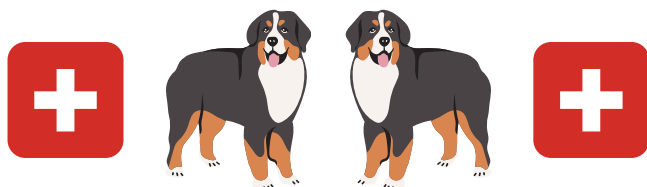
Fest Chair, Wrestling Chair, Volunteer Chair, Event Program, Entertainment, Transportation from other clubs & Food Chair

It takes a village – please let us know which area you'd like to help with and we can start planning!



Swiss National Day Celebration

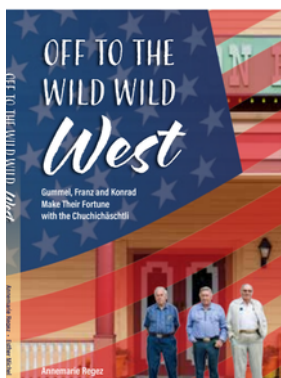
The United Swiss Societies hosted Swiss National Day at our Swiss Park in Newark, CA. Highlights of the event included the Swiss Flag Parade led by Art Brogli, Music from Art Nicola, Dennis Sartori, Golden Gate Boys Choir and The Internationals band, Alphorns, a rock-climbing wall, Bernese Mountain Dogs, corn hole, Swiss heritage exhibit, and family fun zone. New this year was the Swiss dairy farmer exhibit, showcasing how the Swiss in California were a large part in the booming dairy business. Our shopping area included souvenirs, wines, whiskey, heritage items, and baked goods. Our online auction was also a success, with many donated items going to the homes of people all over the Swiss community.



Emigration! Three Swiss Living the American Dream: The Story of a Lifelong Friendship.

In the mid-1950s, three adventurous Swiss men from the narrow confines of central Switzerland set off on a journey to the land of unlimited possibilities. Franz Auf der Maur, Konrad Rickenbach and Franz (Gummel) Schmidig found themselves in California. With some luck and by dint of hard work, the three of them became prosperous selling "Chuchichäschtli" (from Swiss German: "kitchen cabinets") from their shop. Their closely interwoven life stories are characterized by their common Swiss origins and an extraordinary friendship.

The book will still be for sale at our next events, or you can go to aelplergruppe.com to find the ordering form and we will ship it directly to you.



Willi Schmid – Master of Cheese
Documentary by Simon Steuri and Myriam Zumbühl

Join us for a showing of **Master of Cheese**, a movie about the story of Swiss Cheesemaker Willi Schmid from Toggenburg who, just by the taste of the milk, knows what the cow ate. He makes his cheese in a dairy the size of a living room, knows every cow by name, every plant in his valley and produces cheese with pure intuition. The documentary highlights a powerful model of Swiss Artisanism and sustainable food production.
Sunday October 13, 2024 - Doors open at 3pm



Swiss Park Manager

Our long time and top-notch Swiss Park Manager, Bob Fuchslin, has decided it's time to retire and step back from his daily involvement of managing the bar, hall, and park at the end of this year.



The Swiss Park Board of Directors are reaching out to anyone that would be interested in taking on the role of Swiss Park Manager. If interested, please contact Tom Imholz @ [510-517-8312](tel:510-517-8312), any member of the Swiss Park or Aelpler Gruppe Board of Directors, or by email to aelplergruppe@gmail.com



Carl Ramsell



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

Jennifer Guzman	Tom Coroneos	Kaelin Betschart
Megan Ott	Mitchell Gander	Hartley Silva
Angela Freitas	Bobby Gander	Aspen Silva
Beat Henzen	Emily Joseph	Sally Arabi
Heidi Britschgi	Eloise Fassler	Rosemary Nieto
Jim Rezzonico	Lori Kaiser-Rezzonico	Cindy Kappen



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

Milly G.	Alice D.	Lois U.
Rene M.	John S.	Bill B. Jr.
Heidi A.	MaryAnn R.	Eleanor S.
Frank S.	Joe R.	Rosalie M.
Chuck K.	Margrith F.	Karen D.

Aelpler Gruppe 2024 Calendar of Events

www.facebook.com/aelplergruppesswissclub

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

2025 Events:

February 23rd	Jass Tournament & Fondue Dinner
April 13th	Folklore/ Spring dance
May 4th	Semi-Annual Member's Meeting
May 25th	Swiss Benevolent Spring Picnic
June 8th	USS Swiss Kids Camp
August 2nd	USS Swiss National Day
September 13th	Fall Schwingfest
October 26th	Fall Jass Tournament
November 2nd	Annual Member's Meeting
November 8th	Metzgete Dinner
December 6th	Member's Christmas Lunch



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

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

www.sjvsciponswiss.com Chris Portmann, President

October 5th	Oktoberfest
November 2nd	Swiss Echoes Concert/ Dinner
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

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/>

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:
October 13 - October 27 - November 10



Obituary

Jean Allgauer

1936 – June 2024

Jean Allgauer passed away peacefully at home. She was a Life Member of Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club along with her beloved husband Joe Allgauer who preceded her in death. They attended many Swiss events and loved to dance! Jean was happy to meet Joe and become involved with the Swiss Club.



Together they spent many happy days at the club eating delicious Swiss food, listening to the music of Joe's youth, visiting with friends, and dancing the evenings away.

Her hobbies included painting ceramics and making miniature doll house décor. Jean also enjoyed gardening and had a large area at their home in San Jose full of flowers, vegetables, and a variety of plants, especially roses. She is missed at the Swiss club.



Whom to contact when a Swiss Club member is deceased:

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

Passing of individuals in the greater Swiss community:

Isabella Zumstein, member of SJSVC, Ripon, CA
Robert A. Blattler, member of SJVSC, Ripon, CA
John Strang, member of SJVSC, Ripon, CA
Milga Buehlmann, member of SJVSC, Ripon, CA
Sepp Rosenast, member of Portland Swiss Club
Rosaly (Bauer) Divens of Vancouver, WA passed away
Lyle Schaefer of Washington passed away

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 **Leo Ott**

Karen and Conrad Grass

Theresa & Joe Beeler

Dave & Margrith Reichmuth

Gene & Jon Ramsell

Kurt & Linda Clausen

Agnes Reed

Antoinette Betschart

Dan & Lynn Vogt

Mary & Bob Montonye

Gerri Betschart

Les Spichtig

Gery & Rosemary Wagner

Kristi & Mike Gemperle

Pete & Jackie Zuger

Arnold & Suzanne Ambiel

Heidi Ambiel

Margaret & Rob Peter

In memory of **Shirley Gabhart**

Theresa & Joe Beeler

Dave & Margrith Reichmuth

Antoinette Betschart

Arnold & Suzanne Ambiel

Heidi Ambiel



Obituary

Fred Kaslin

July 1965 – August 2024

Fred Kaslin, son of member Rosmarie Tanner (father was Jost Kaslin), and brother of Life members Helen Kaslin and Rose Satariano passed away unexpectedly at the end of August in his hometown of Auburn, CA.



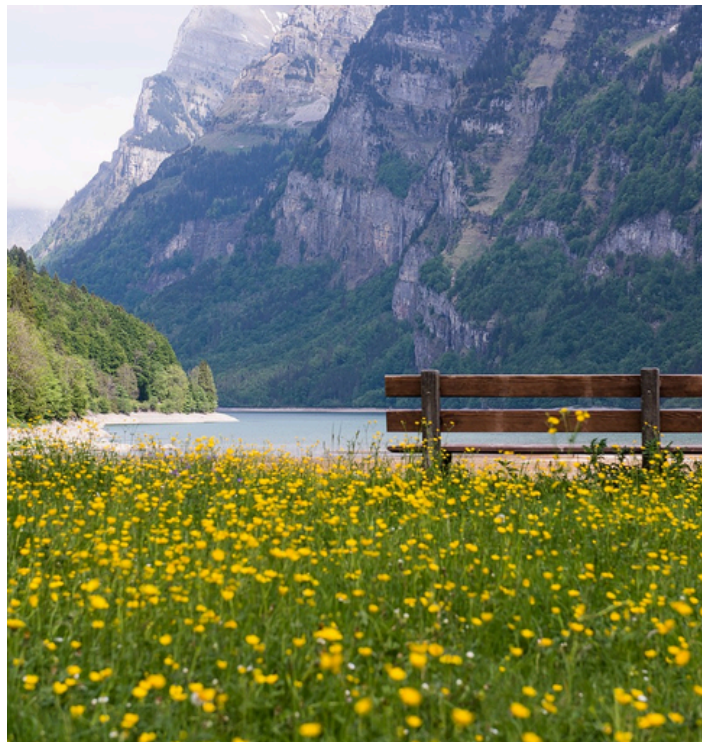
Fred grew up in the Tri-Valley and enjoyed riding his bicycle, skiing, hiking and swimming. Later Fred joined Home Depot where he worked for over 30 years. He was a forklift driver and was skilled at unloading the large trucks coming in with deliveries of wood, sand, crates full of building materials and hardware.

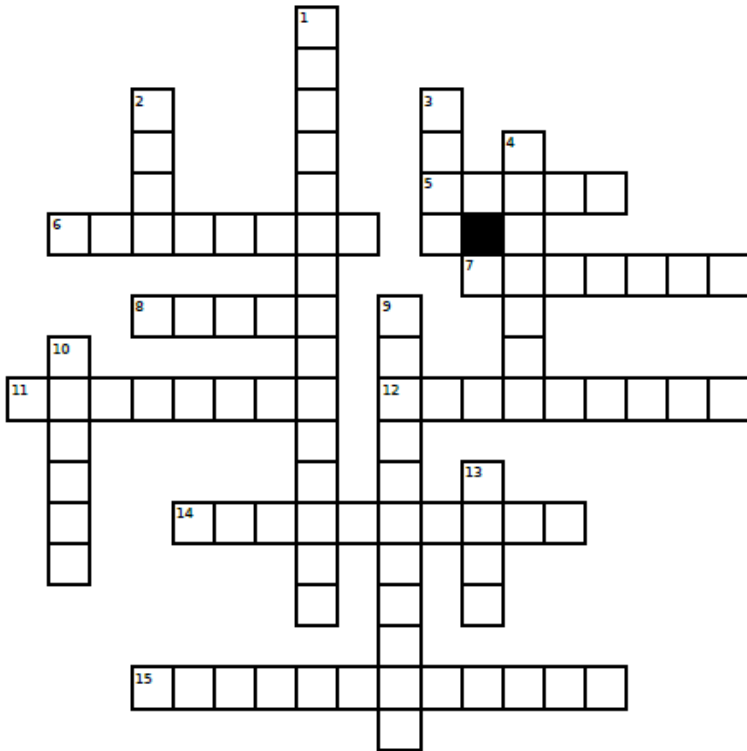


Fred is remembered for his kindness, quiet nature, and being a friend to all. He was always a hard worker and greatly valued by his managers and coworkers with his strong work ethic and integrity. Fred was happy to meet another Kaslin from his dad's hometown of Beckenried, Switzerland who was

in Truckee to wrestle a couple of summers ago. Fred tried wrestling when he was young but soon realized that this wasn't the sport for him and instead spent his weekends camping and hiking in summer and skiing in the winter.

Fred leaves behind his wife Shane, daughter Leslie (Riley), and son Kevin, mother Rosmarie Tanner, sisters Helen Kaslin and Rose Satariano, mother-in-law Paula along with nieces Alicia, Nicole, Lauren and nephew Adam. Fred was preceded in death by his father Jost Kaslin (1975). He is sorely missed by his family and friends.






Down:

1. The Swiss-German word for kitchen cupboard
2. World's leading particle physics laboratory in Switzerland

3. Capital city of Switzerland
4. Traditional Swiss instrument
9. Longest railway tunnel located in Switzerland
10. Largest lake in Switzerland
13. Number of official languages spoken in Switzerland


Across:

5. Most sold watch brand in Switzerland
6. This famous physicist created his famous formula for Mass-energy equivalence while living in Bern
7. Last name of the first person to climb the Matterhorn
8. This type of wooden seat in Geneva is 120 meters long and is thought to be the longest in the world
11. The Swiss flag is mistakenly used for this organization
12. Number of cantons
14. Not the tallest, but the most recognizable mountain in Switzerland
15. Tallest mountain in Switzerland



COLONY

Edward L. Ott
President
ed@colonylandscape.com



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Hosts: Steve & Monika Ambiel



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6074 Giswil
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Tel. 041 676 00 36

www.ediths-alpenrösli.ch/



Chasa Berggold



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

www.chasaberggold.com

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The Golden Gate Boys Choir and Bellringers
A Regional Choir for Boys ~ S.F. Bay Area

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San Francisco, Alameda, Hayward, Oakland

Boys, age 7 to 12 may audition.
No prior experience needed.

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





Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club **Metzgete - Schlachtfest**

Saturday, November 9, 2024

at Newark Swiss Park

5911 Mowry Avenue, Newark, CA 94560

Doors open at 5:00 p.m.

Dancing to the Gruber Family Band

Dinner served at approximately 6:00 p.m.

\$30.00 per person, prepaid reservations only

**Dinner includes choice of two meats: Bratwurst, smoked pork loin, Leberwurst,
* German style blood sausage (if available) with sauerkraut, potatoes, roll, dessert
OR Vegetarian mushroom Bourguignon over polenta.**

Accommodations next door to Swiss Park: please reserve early by calling Wyndham Garden Inn at (510) 795-7995 and asking for the Swiss Park discount.

Prepaid reservations are due by October 15, 2024

Name(s): _____

Phone #: _____ **Email:** _____

Mark "2" meat choices OR 1 Vegetarian for each person :

of Bratwurst _____ **# of Smoked Pork Loin** _____

of Blood Sausage _____ **# of Leberwurst** _____ **OR Vegetarian:** _____

Please mail reservation and check by October 15, 2024

**Please send a check payable to Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club
Mail the Reservation form and check to:**

**Attn: Charlene Ott Attn: Metzgete
609 Stardust Lane, Los Altos, CA 94024**

Aelplergruppe@gmail.com (408) 687-7708



venmo

@Aelpler

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



Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club
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510-936-2523